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# "Loving Scholars, Nurturing Minds, and Empowering Futures"

Regular Board Meeting - Agenda Tuesday, June 10, 2025 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### **Board Members in attendance:**

Sam Gray, Board Chair

Myron Stewart, Finance Sub-Committee/Marketing Sub-Committee/Community Representative Leticia Acosta, Teacher Representative

Soncerae Cicero, Community Representative

George Sutherland, Community Representative/Marketing Sub-Committee

Suzette DeBeatham-Brown, Community Representative

#### Virtual:

Dr. Kerwin Low, Summer Planning Sub-Committee/Community Representative Janelle Lester, Finance Sub-Committee/Community Representative

## **Staff Present:**

Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall, Sharron Solomon-McCarthy, Sheryl Deloso, Nakitha Crossley, Lawrence Jeune, Robert Howard, Ana Marcil, Principal Latoya Johnson, Natalie Best

### **Guest Present:**

TED and SMaRT Scholars of the Month and Family

#### **OPENING**

Welcome/Public Comments

The Jumoke Academy Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Board Chair Gray. There were no public comments. During the roll call, Board Chair Gray welcomed members of the board, parents, scholars, and faculty/staff to the meeting. The abovementioned board members in attendance constituted a quorum. Board Chair Gray reported that Superintendent Monroe was not present, as he was attending a Fellowship Workshop in Washington, DC.

## **BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS**

Sam Gray, Board Chair

- Opening Remarks; Board Chair Gray asked if there were any open remarks, no remarks were made at that time.
- CEO/Superintendent Evaluation



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#### **CEO/SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall, Chief Academic Officer

#### **PART A**

- May Scholar of the Month Recognition
  - Nazharia Daley TED-JA

Nazharia Daley has been selected as our district scholar of the month for May. She is a vibrant and valued member of Mrs. Cotton's second grade classroom. Nazariah has demonstrated remarkable growth both academically and socially this school year. While our District Scholar of the Month is typically recognized by grade level teams, Principal Johnson personally chose Nazariah for this honor in recognition of the tremendous progress she has made from first to second grade. Nazharia has blossomed into a role model for her peers and exemplifies the values we strive to instill in all our scholars. Her growth, leadership, and consistent positivity have not gone unnoticed. Principal Johnson and the entire administrative team are extremely proud of Nazharia and all that she has accomplished. Congratulations, Nazharia!

 Kensi Hollis-Brown - JAH-SMaRT – Principal Johnson presents to the JAH-SMaRT scholar in Dean Barry's absence.

On behalf of SMaRT, Principal Johnson declares that she is very excited to present to a former scholar of hers from TED Elementary School. Per Principal Johnson, to see her receiving this award is extra special because it hits home for us at TED. Kensi is an outstanding scholar who consistently demonstrates respect, preparedness and a genuine commitment to learning. She arrives to class each day ready to engage, always meeting and often exceeding expectations. Kensi is hardworking, focused and takes every class seriously, treating her teachers and peers with the utmost respect. Although she is naturally more reserved, Kensi's presence is unmistakable. Her quiet confidence, kindness and calm demeanor creates a positive and grounded atmosphere in any room she enters. She leads by example through her actions, work ethic and thoughtful contributions. Kensi's maturity and steady dedication make her a pleasure to teach and a valued member of every classroom community. From JAH-SMaRT we recognize Kensi Hollis-Brown, Congratulations.

Board Chair Gray requests a motion to adjourn at 6:06 P.M., motion was called by Board Member Acosta and Seconded by Board Member Sutherland. The meeting was called back to order at 6:09 P.M.

### PART B

- District Updates
  - Marketing and Enrollment Initiatives

Per Dr. Gordon-Hall, we currently have several marketing initiatives underway, and school leaders were all charged with taking steps at their campus level. This week, at the TED promotion ceremony, Dr. Gordon-Hall observed that the leaders included a referral card in the promotion



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leaflet given to every family member in attendance. This was a nice touch and served as a real-time example of leadership-driven marketing initiatives.

In addition, we are planning for our Summer Engagement and what it will entail. We plan to utilize the 325 building to engage families in various enrollment initiatives.

### • New Enrollment Update

To date, I can share our new enrollment numbers for the upcoming school year. We have 342 seats available, with 178 offers extended so far, and 141 accepted. We currently have 2 students on the waiting list, both for Pre-K-4. As usual, we receive significantly more applications than we can accept for the lower grades. These numbers are consistent with previous years.

#### Corrective Action Plan Update

Every trimester, we are required to provide the State of Connecticut with an update on our CAP. We are completing the final monitoring document this week. Although the document is due on June 15, all individuals responsible for submitting information are expected to provide it to Ms. Best this week, by tomorrow at the latest.

#### MOU Update

As a reminder, each year Dr. Monroe re-signs our MOU with Achievement First. We review and sign this contract annually; previously, it was signed every three years. A meeting is scheduled with representatives from Achievement First on June 24, which will include Superintendent Monroe, Director of Finance, and Shannon Miller from Achievement First. Our legal team has already reviewed the document.

The Chief Academic Office asked if there were any questions. No questions were made at that time.

#### • Grant Updates

We have received three grants to support initiatives this summer and throughout the next school year:

- o **Duncaster:** for scholar enrichment and summer programs
- Liberty Bank: also, for summer programs
- o **Private Grant:** for general operating funds



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#### PART C

Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall, Chief Academic Officer
Theme: Leveling the Playing Field for Scholars' Success

Every scholar from rising Kindergarten through 8th grade finishes out the school year with a summer learning packet filled with activities for them to work on over the summer. We also include the Commissioner's Math Challenge in the packet. Typically, we would include the Governor's Reading Packet; however, the Governor has not yet released this information to the public. Currently, we have the learning packet and the Commissioner's Math Challenge available on our HUB for parents to access, and we will include the Governor's Reading Packet once it becomes available. Our packet also includes reading materials for the scholars.

• Summer Programming Update:

We have 82 scholars signed up for our summer programming for rising Kindergarten through 8th grade scholars. We have had to close enrollment for kindergarten through first grade as we cannot take any more scholars in those grades.

For the STEM program at Goodwin, we were allotted 30 scholar seats, and all 30 have been filled with payments received. We also have three scholars on the waiting list for this program.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Board Chair Gray requested a motion to approve the consent agenda items, which included the May Regular Board Meeting Minutes, the April 2025 Financial Statements, and the Auditor Recommendation Report. Board Member DeBeatham-Brown moved to approve the consent agenda, and Board Member Sutherland seconded the motion. Board Chair Gray noted that the motion had been properly made and seconded and inquired if there were any objections. Hearing none, the motion was carried unanimously.

- May Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- April 2025 Financial Statements
- Auditor Recommendation Report



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#### **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT**

Sheryl Deloso, Director of Finance

• 2024-2025 Financial Update

The Finance Sub-Committee meeting was held on June 4, 2025. Board Members Myron Stewart and Janelle Lester were in attendance, along with the Chief Financial Officer, Mrs. Deloso. The committee focused on reviewing the financial reports and selecting a new auditor.

The Chief Financial Officer presented key updates for the April 2025 financial statements. As of April, revenue is 88.18% of the budget, and expenditure is 83.23%, resulting in a surplus of 5% for the month.

The Chief Financial Officer reviewed the next slide entitled June 2024-April 2025 Financial Report, which outlined actual financial expenditures versus budgeted amounts. Highlights include:

Educational Instruction: 38%

Plant Services/Maintenance: 12%School-Based Administration: 25%

Facilities Acquisition: 7%All other categories: 18%

The succeeding slide showed a comparative financial report for 2023, 2024, and 2025. There were surpluses in both 2023 and 2024, and the CFO projects a surplus for 2025 as well.

The CFO also discussed the revenue breakdown for each year from 2023 to 2025, including the percentage of total revenue. The breakdown included sources such as per pupil funding, government grants, grants and contributions, program-related income, and rental and other income.

According to the comparative financial report, assets, liabilities, and equity (net assets) have remained consistent from 2023 to 2024, with a reduction in assets over time due to depreciation and reduced funding. Equity continues to rise each year due to the annual surplus.



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### **BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

None

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board Chair Gray reported that Superintendent Monroe's annual evaluation needs to be discussed. Board Chair Gray and Superintendent Monroe are scheduled to meet regarding his evaluation this Friday.

### **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

• Potential Retreat dates for September

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Gray moved to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was seconded by Board Member DeBeatham-Brown. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 P.M.