

JUMOKE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Mission: To prepare children to successfully compete in the global marketplace despite the social and economic challenges they may presently face. The academy is dedicated to rigorous academic and social standards achieved by holding high expectations for all students during challenging instruction.

“Loving Scholars, Nurturing Minds, and Empowering Futures”

Regular Board Meeting - Minutes

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Meeting ID: 850 8358 5459

Passcode: 5A5h6D

Board Members In attendance:

Myron Stewart
Latisha Acosta
George Sutherland
Dr. Kerwin Low
Sonserae Cicero

Board Members on Zoom:

Sam Gray
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown

Faculty & Staff in Attendance:

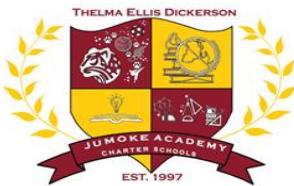
Superintendent Troy A. Monroe
Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall
Sheryl Deloso
Ana Marcil
Sharron Solomon-McCarthy
Lawrence Jeune
Robert Howard
Dr. Latoya Johnson
Principal Bobby Gibson Jr.
Dean Pamela Barry
Principal Danielle Ramiz

OPENING

Dr. Troy A. Monroe, CEO/Superintendent

- Superintendent Monroe opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and confirmed a quorum with seven board members present.
- Welcome/Public Comments; Superintendent Monroe welcomed parents, scholars, board members, faculty, and staff, noting that he was opening the meeting temporarily until the chair was elected. Superintendent Monroe explained that, per Charter Board Statutes, the board must annually elect a chair before proceeding with the agenda.
- Board member Suzette DeBeatham-Brown recommended reappointing the current board chair, Mr. Sam Gray, at 6:02 p.m. The recommendation was seconded by board member Myron

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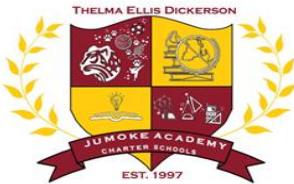
Stewart and moved by board member Sutherland. Superintendent Monroe restated the motion to reinstate Mr. Gray as Board Chair for the 2025–2026 academic year. With no questions or objections, the motion carried unanimously. Congratulations were extended to board chair Gray on his reappointment.

BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS

Sam Gray, Board Chair

- Opening Remarks: Board Chair Sam Gray thanked board members, faculty, staff, scholars, and families for their participation and apologized for not being present in person. He invited public comments, but none were posed.
- Appointment of Committees: Board Chair Gray outlined the evening's focus on governance, resource development, and student outcomes. He noted that committee confirmations and CEO goals would occur at a future meeting. Per by-laws and governance committee recommendations, he proposed two appointments for the 2025–26 school year: Board member Myron Stewart as Vice Chairman and Finance Chairman, and board member Latisha Acosta as Jumoke Academy Liaison to Achievement First. A motion from board chair Gray, to approve these appointments was requested at 6:05 p.m., moved by board member Suzette DeBeatham-Brown and seconded by board member George Sutherland. With no objections, the motion was carried unanimously. Motion requested by board chair Gray at 6:05 pm, moved by board member Debeatham-Brown, seconded by board member Sutherland. Board chair Gray asks for any discussion. All in favor, no objections, motion carried
- Proposed New Board Members: Board Chair Gray recommended electing Mr. Orlando A. Lawrence and Mr. Rodney A. Nedd to the board, citing their expertise in finance, legal, education, and fundraising. After prior review of their bios and Zoom discussions, a motion to elect both candidates were requested at 6:07 p.m., moved by board member George Sutherland and seconded by board member Suzette DeBeatham-Brown. The motion passed unanimously. Board chair Gray directed Superintendent Monroe and Ms. Best to schedule onboarding and complete required disclosures before the November meeting, which Superintendent Monroe confirmed.
- Board Member Committee Assignments: Board Chair Gray reported that most board members had submitted their committee preferences. He will follow up with those who have not responded and send out finalized assignments by Friday or early next week.
- CEO Goals: Board chair Gray shared that he is working with Superintendent Monroe to finalize smart CEO goals aligned with governance and outcomes, incorporating priorities from the board retreat such as student enrollment and marketing communications. These goals will be presented before the November meeting, enabling the CEO evaluation committee to set milestone dates and dashboard metrics for midyear and year-end reviews. Board chair Gray thanked members for their leadership and confirmed that committee appointments, new board member onboarding, and CEO goals will position the academy for disciplined execution this school year. With no questions posed, he concluded his remarks and turned the meeting over to Superintendent Monroe for the CEO and Superintendent Report.

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CEO/SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Troy A. Monroe, CEO/Superintendent

PART A

Good evening and thank you Board chair Gray, and good evening to everyone again. We would like to move forward with part A of the Superintendent Report. That would be the September Scholar of the Month recognition.

- September Scholar of the Month Recognition
 - Principal Ramiz presented Kobe Brown-Hughes as the Scholar of the Month at TED-JAH. She described Kobe as a quiet and caring student and highlighted his qualities using the letters of his name. "K" stands for kind, noting that he is one of the sweetest souls in the building. "O" represents optimistic, emphasizing his positive attitude and character. "B" signifies that he is one of the best helpers in fourth grade, recalling how he stepped up as a leader during a challenging moment at lunch. Finally, "E" stands for ethics, recognizing Kobe as a hardworking student. Principal Ramiz expressed her excitement and invited everyone to give a warm round of applause for Kobe.
 - Dean Barry, from JAH-SMaRT, introduced Niarihe Durant as an eighth-grade scholar and praised her growth throughout her time at JAH-SMaRT and Jumoke Academy. She described her as one of the school's role model scholars who advocates for herself and others, actively participates in class, and consistently completes her work. Niarihe demonstrates a curious mindset in all subjects and is recognized as an overall amazing person and scholar who is very respectful. She exemplifies the three R's—respectful, responsible, and ready to learn—and consistently uses polite expressions such as "yes ma'am" and "no ma'am." Dean Barry emphasized that Niarihe embodies the values of JAH-SMaRT and proudly presented her as the eighth grade and district Scholar of the Month.
 - Principal Gibson introduced Chassidy McNish as the 7th Grade District Scholar of the Month at JAH-HC, noting that she is new to Jumoke Academy and has made an immediate positive impact. In her first term, Chassidy distinguished herself as an outstanding student and a valued member of the school community. She exemplifies the values and vision of Jumoke Academy by earning strong grades, asking thoughtful questions, and remaining consistently attentive in class. Chassidy demonstrates the 3R's—respectful, responsible, and ready to learn—and shows genuine compassion toward her peers. Her love of theater adds depth to her contributions, as she brings energy, empathy, and collaboration both onstage and off. Teachers praise her for participating thoughtfully in discussions and supporting classmates academically and socially. In a short time, Chassidy has embodied what it means to be a Jumoke scholar: hardworking, kind, and engaged. Principal Gibson expressed pride in celebrating her as the District Scholar of the Month.

Superintendent Monroe presented the scholars of the month certificate and gift bags along with The McDonald's Jumoke Jaguar Award, a certificate and gift card for a meal deal, which was provided by an associate of board member Sutherland. Superintendent Monroe also encouraged scholars to continue their pursuit of excellence in all things.

Motion to recess at 6:22 pm to allow scholars and parents to transition from the room and resumed at 6:25 pm.

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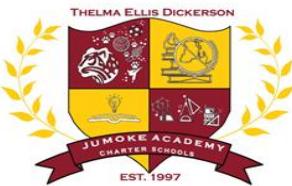
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PART B

- District Updates

- Superintendent Monroe provided a brief recap of the board retreat held on September 13, 2025, and expressed appreciation to the board members for attending despite scheduling conflicts. He also thanked the leadership team for their strong presence and support in keeping the board informed and equipped for the upcoming academic year. Superintendent Monroe shared highlights from the "A Year in Review" and presented an overview of the "State of the Academy," which included data on curriculum, instruction, and other operational areas. He distributed copies of the District Improvement Plan and discussed strategic roadmap accomplishments and their implications for the next three years. A revised strategic roadmap and an overview of his goals will be provided soon. Additionally, he shared the status of the corrective action plan, offering a high-level summary of progress. For members who were unable to attend, Superintendent Monroe assured that all materials would be made available before the end of the evening.
- Superintendent Monroe provided an update on the upcoming gala, announcing the theme as "Harlem Nights: A Dandy Affair," which reflects cultural brilliance, resilience, and dignity inspired by the Harlem Renaissance. He shared plans to spotlight scholars more prominently during the event and improve the visibility of the live auction, while also making the evening more comfortable based on prior feedback, including additional seating. Entertainment and program details are being finalized to align with the mission and theme. Superintendent Monroe noted that the fundraising goal has been increased, with a stretch target, and emphasized the need for board members' support in securing new sponsors and making warm introductions to potential donors. He encouraged members to assist through outreach, social media posts, and providing auction items or experiences. The gala will feature tiered sponsorship levels with special recognition for contributors, and greater scholar and staff involvement to personalize donor impact. The event is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, with the venue still under review among several Hartford locations. Superintendent Monroe invited board members to join the small gala subcommittee, which meets via Zoom every Friday at 1:00 p.m.
- Enrollment Update: Superintendent Monroe reported that as of October 1, 2025, enrollment stands at 607 scholars, reflecting a positive increase compared to the previous year. He noted that more than 200 new families have joined the academy, attributing this growth to extensive engagement efforts by board members, district leaders, principals, and deans. These efforts included community outreach and meeting families where they are, which has been well received.
- Staffing Update: Superintendent Monroe also provided a staffing update, stating that most classes are fully staffed, with 16 new teachers hired and 85% of classrooms having assigned teaching staff. While a few teachers left early in the year, coverage is being maintained through academic assistants serving as

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substitutes, ensuring full classroom coverage. He acknowledged the statewide teacher shortage originally noted from the state of CT and asked board members to share any potential teacher candidates from their networks for recruitment.

PART C

- Curriculum & Instruction Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall, Chief Academic Officer
Theme: From Access to Achievement Empowering All Scholars for Excellence
 - Academic Update: Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall provided several updates from the academic department. She shared that Jumoke Academy has a group of six educators, including herself, participating in the Science of Reading improvement community with the State of Connecticut, supported by WestEd, a research-based organization. The statewide goal is for every student to be a proficient reader by grade three. The team has attended two workshops, and the next step will be a full-day school visit to observe literacy instruction and develop action plans. This initiative is part of a year-long professional development series.
 - Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall also discussed fall assessment testing. Previously, scholars only took one literacy test, but last year the requirement to include NWEA testing was added based on the CAP plan. To avoid overwhelming students, the testing window was extended. At the elementary level, scholars were first screened using DIBELS, and as of October 12, 93% of K-3 scholars have been tested, with 48% scoring at benchmark or above compared to the national average of 51%. NWEA results are not yet complete due to ongoing testing and technical issues at the middle school level, which have been confirmed as errors by NWEA. Updated results will be shared at a future board meeting.
 - Finally, Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall emphasized the importance of data-driven decision-making. School leaders will participate in bi-monthly data chats with district leaders, the instructional coach, and the reading interventionist. In October, leaders will present fall data, identify trends, and create action plans to address learning gaps, ensuring scholars receive the support needed to improve

CONSENT AGENDA

Board chair Sam Gray requests for a board member to make a motion to accept the consent agenda items that include the board retreat minutes, and May, June 2025 financial statements and July and August 2025 financial statements. Moved by board member Suzette DeBeatham-Brown at 6:53 pm, seconded by Board member Leticia Acosta, all are in favor. Board Chair Gray asks if any discussions or objections, none so the motion is passed

- Board Retreat Minutes
- MAY-JUNE 2025 Financial Statements
- JULY-AUGUST 2025 Financial Statement

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT

Sheryl Deloso, Director of Finance

Director of Finance, Mrs. Sheryl Deloso, Director of Finance began her report by noting that the finance subcommittee met on the Wednesday before October 8th with board member Myron Stewart and Mr. Lawrence Jeune present. She shared that work has started with the new auditor, initial documents have been submitted, and their staff visited on September 2nd and 3rd. One additional on-site day is planned, after which most work will be handled remotely. Fraud inquiries were sent to Superintendent Monroe and Board Chair Sam Gray.

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and governance letters were distributed to all board members. Confirmation letters were also sent to all agencies that provided grants, including state, federal, and private sources.

Director of Finance, Mrs. Deloso then presented the budget and financial update, reviewing total revenue, expenditures, and deposits. She clarified that construction costs and principal payments on long-term loans are categorized as balance sheet items since they are part of assets that will depreciate over time. She shared financial updates for the 2025–26 year, including a discussion of the current surplus and a visual breakdown of expenditures: 44% for instructional expenses, 24% for school-based administration, and 16% for plant services operations and maintenance. Salaries and wages account for 54% of total expenditure. She also presented financial metrics such as total assets, liabilities, net assets, and equity ratios.

Director of Finance Deloso concluded with investment strategies, comparing CD options across six banks, including terms, rates, and potential earnings. She recommended a strategy for board approval. After discussion, a motion was made by board member Suzette DeBeatham-Brown at 7:09 p.m. to approve the financials and the plan to invest in a CD with Liberty Bank and move additional funds to On Demand Checking with Bank of America. The motion was seconded by board member Myron Stewart and carried unanimously.

Before closing, Board Chair, Sam Gray asked if there was any new business. Superintendent Monroe reminded board members to use their Jumoke Academy email accounts instead of personal accounts, as advised by legal counsel.

BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- None

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:13 pm; Board Chair Gray asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, board member Acosta seconded, moved by board member DeBeatham-Brown, no objections, all in favor.

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