

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, November 18, 2025

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

Meeting ID: 816 3513 6795

Passcode: 1LUjTA

OPENING

- Welcome/Public Comments; 6:03 pm, the meeting is called to order.

Mr. Sam Gray, Board Chair

BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS

Mr. Sam Gray, Board Chair

- Opening Remarks

Board Chair Gray starts the meeting with words of acknowledgement, welcoming and encouraging us to give our scholars nothing but the best we have to offer. Board Chair Gray also welcomes, Mr. Rodney Nedd, our newest board member.

CEO/SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall, Chief Academic Officer

PART A

- October Scholar of the month Recognition
 - Arianna Blidgen - TED-JAH; Dean Summer Myles introduces the scholar of the month for TED.
 - Trinity McBIRD - JAH-SMaRT; Principal Green introduces the scholar of the month for JAH-SMaRT
 - Skylanie Quinones - JAH-HC; Principal Bobby Gibson, Jr. introduces the scholar of the month for JAH-HC

Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall presented the scholars of the month certificates and gift bags and encouraged them to continue their pursuit of excellence in all things.

Recess at 6:10 pm; adjourned by Smith-Winfrey, Seconded by Leticia Acosta. Meeting was called back to order at 6:15 pm

PART B

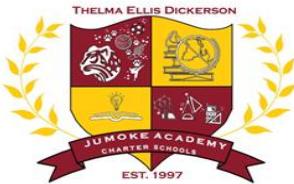
- District Updates

- Gala Update: Kimberly Renton, Communications Manager

The communications manager, Kimberly Renton, thanks the board for giving her the opportunity to share the update on our 28th Annual Heritage Gala. The theme for this year is Harlem Renaissance, and the event will take place on Saturday March 28th at the Society Room in Hartford.

Gala website is live, and tickets will go live on Black Friday at jumokeacademy.org/gala. This timing allows us to encourage early ticket purchases and capture momentum over the holiday weekend and will be offering limited time promotional pricing, so we hope that people purchase their tickets during that Friday sale and help us to spread the word. We have a sponsorship packet that provides information about our advertising opportunities, our impact document and save the date materials along with a letter from Superintendent Monroe which will be ready for distribution. If you would like any of these materials, whether printed or digital, please let us know so that we can help you share this with your networks. The most powerful support you can give us is helping open the doors to potential sponsors. Corporate partnerships and philanthropic organizations respond best when the introductions come from a board member. Your connections are essential in helping us expand and a sponsorship pipeline. I'm

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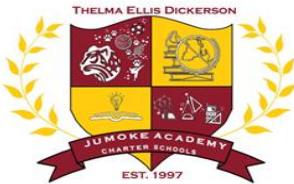
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going to stop right here to ask if there are any questions. Board member DeBeatham-Brown inquired about table captains and stated that she could help to plan the event. Vice Chair Stewart requested a copy of the link be sent to their emails. Board Member Smith-Winfrey is inquiring about the early bird pricing, couples pricing and VIP pricing. Board Member Smith-Winfrey requests that an email be provided regarding pricing/cost. A discussion was held regarding the breakdown of pricing for the tickets this year. We welcome any and all creative ideas from the board members regarding live entertainment, if you have suggestions for musical performances we've been doing research on different musical performances, scholar involvement or cultural elements that align with the theme please share them. For the VIP reception at 6 pm, we are intentionally creating a more intimate and elevated experience, if you have thoughts or preferences regarding that portion of the evening we would love your feedback. Our menu selections are under review. The Society Rooms AV system is outdated so we are working with IT and outside vendors to ensure that the production quality meets our expectations without exceeding our budget. The break-even analysis gives us a clear understanding of our revenue targets and how ticket sales and sponsorships align with those goals. As we move into the most important fundraising period your partnership is crucial so we will follow up after this meeting with the information you have requested and a short message you can send to your networks.

Enrichment and Engagement Update: Dr. Latoya Johnson, Educational Specialist

As the Educational Specialist for the district, one of my key responsibilities is overseeing the district wide enrichment program. This includes the coordination of the R.I.S.E afterschool enrichment program. Tonight, I will be providing a brief overview of the RISE initiative and our aligned approach to extending learning beyond the school day through high quality engaging opportunities. This work supports the whole child by strengthening academic growth, creativity, STEM exploration, wellness and community connections across all of the campuses. There are four core pillars that align to our vision and mission here at Jumoke Academy Charter School, these are, reach, inspire, strengthen and enrich and that makes up the acronym RISE. Reach stands for helping our scholars to reach their full potential, Inspire is for creativity and leadership, strengthening mind, character and talent and enrichment is learning through exploration. Research shows us that scholars or students that participate in the after-school enrichment program such as RISE show improved attendance, motivation and academic achievement. There is also evidence that supports strengthen social and emotional skills as well as opportunities that expand equitable access to high quality extra-curricular activities. There are also components that support the building of family and community partnerships through enrichment programs. Here at Jumoke Academy there are four key areas that we focus our activities on. These include academic support, arts and music, sports and physical wellness and clubs and special interest. To date, some of our current wins relate to the first session include 100 scholars who are currently enrolled across all three of our campuses. This is an increase of 30 to 40 scholars from last school year. We also have 12 staff who are currently serving as facilitators or supporters helping to lead these programs. We have successfully launched our Lego league which is something we have had in the past. We were able to bring back along with our Chess club at the middle school level. Evidence also shows that families really have shown a strong interest in the areas of arts, sports, STEM as offerings that they would like to continue to see. A few program operations and logistics include the fact that our program runs Monday through Thursday, 4:15-5:30 pm. We have three sessions that are offered throughout the school year. One in the fall, winter and one in the spring. Right now, we are running at two of our campuses with TED and JAH-SMART but we are looking to increase offerings at our HC location in the winter. Right now, offerings are \$30 per activity for our families and that includes snacks. As it relates to next steps and future growth, we really want to expand the sports offerings, this is something that families have mentioned that they would like to see so competitive sports such as basketball and track. We also want to grow and will be growing in the winter our Lego League to include the TED campus so once we do, we will have the league happening across all three campuses which will be PreK through 8th grade. The significance of this is that this aligns our district improvement plan by way of supporting a vertical STEM pipeline that builds curiosity, problem solving and real-world engineering skills. We also want to increase middle school participation. This time around we maybe had 10-15 of our 100 scholars were middle school so we want to be able to support that with increasing middle school participation we do feel that increasing opportunities in sports and some participation in our middle school staff will help to increase that participation. We are also bringing on family showcase nights which are opportunities at the end of each session for

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families to come and learn what their scholars have been learning throughout the session. Finally, we would like to continue to build community partnerships, we believe that by doing so this will continue to meet our vision of the RISE program by providing high quality enrichment programs for our scholars.

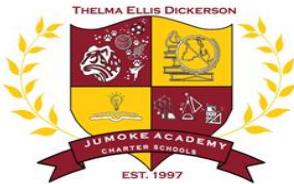
PART C

- Curriculum & Instruction

Theme: From Access to Achievement Empowering All Scholars for Excellence

- Academic Update: State released our accountability report, in that report we noticed that our overall performance index went from 43 to 47, however we did have some dips in Math growth and overall performance. We stayed the same with ELA, but we did show higher growth with ELA on the test. Our science scores went up a little, the state asks that all scholars from grades 3-6 participate in these assessments. When you look online, it is public information and you can see all of the districts, we do celebrate here at Jumoke that we had 100% participation in several areas, the state asks that we have at least 95% participation, so we have exceeded that threshold. Performance has not grown to where we want it to be. We were recently notified by the state that we are now a turnaround district. What we were not aware of is how they determine turnaround districts and so Superintendent Monroe and I did meet with the state representative who explains that every year the state has a cut score of what the performance index should be, and we fell one point below that. Now we are identified as a turnaround district and will remain in that category for three years. Some of the things affecting that are our partnership with Achievement First. The state used 12 indicators to score your performance, two of which are associated with high school Achievement First and so our access when they look at art and scholars taking art, that is on the high school level, not the middle school level. So, the scholars that are associated with us at Achievement First, if they're not taking arts classes, then we get hit with that. Achievement First didn't have any students taking arts classes, so we got zero points there. For Physical Education, the state looks at grade 4, 6, 8 and 10. All Jumoke Academy scholars in those grade levels participated in the test, however we didn't have any score for Achievement First in that area, so that's the one point that we could have had not have us on the turnaround list. We have been advised by the state to continue doing what we are doing regarding the CAP plan to continue our growth; we have completed our monitoring with the CAP plan. The state is open to providing us with more support as needed. We made a lot of growth with attendance in the CAP plan under the Director of Student Support Services, Sharron Solomon-McCarthy our attendance has gone from 30% of scholars being absent to 20%, that was a ton of growth thanks to Mrs. McCarthy and her team and the schools, so we are happy about that. We will continue doing the work to increase our SPI, we have already put a few things in place. Our principals now participate in a bi-monthly data meeting with district leadership and during those meetings we identify action plans that they put together, and they work towards the action plan. Our scholars come in very strong, and we have to keep them there. It is our job to make sure we challenge them, and rigor is a big focus for us, building leaders have been doing a good job in keeping up and supporting teachers to have more rigor in the classrooms. The state has advised that they are not very alarmed as they know we are taking the steps that we need to take and as long as we have the MOU at Achievement First, then we are responsible for those scholars until something changes. We have no control over what classes the students take at Achievement First and how they are performing and so that will always affect our school.

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- Board Chair Gray inquires if there is anything we can do to revise the partnership with Achievement First or at least make them aware of the deficiencies on our side of the partnership. He advised that we need to have a conversation with Achievement First about the contract and the MOU. Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall advises that we used to have monthly meetings with Achievement First, as they have had a great deal of leadership changes, the meetings may have been missed due to the changes. Board Vice Chair Stewart mentions that it is difficult to entice students to come to Jumoke without a sports program. Board member Smith-Winfrey asks what other institutions do in this situation and suggests we partner with other facilities that are already established and that deal with sports. The Chief Academic Office confirms that Dr. Johnson is working on some community partnerships with athletics right now. Our students have Physical Education, and they take the test. We are not sure how Achievement First conducts the template, if the template is not taking the test over there then there is no point. We have no control over how Achievement First runs their templates.
- Black Genius: Infinite Possibilities Series. We sent the flyer out; we are putting on a Black Genius series. In collaboration with one of our community partners, we are putting on a Black Genius series celebrating brilliance, creativity and community. The first event is Thursday, December 4th and it's going to be at TED. It's for the whole district, at 5:30 pm and we are going to include dinner. We are asking families to come out, so join us for our first Black Genius, Infinite Possibilities Series where scholars and families will explore critical thinking, creativity and togetherness to engage in activities where engineers, innovators and professionals from a variety of fields. We are very excited about this, part of rigor is critical thinking and so we are trying to push our scholars to think critically and understand that they are geniuses all over the world, some of them are sitting in our schools and they look like them. We want to ignite that passion in the scholars to do this work and so we are hoping that it is a well-attended event. It's the first one we are doing and we plan to do two more throughout the year. That concludes the academic update

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Chair Gray states that we would like to move forward with the consent agenda for the October Regular Board Meeting Minutes as well as September 2025 Financial Statements. If we could have someone make a motion to accept the consent agenda.

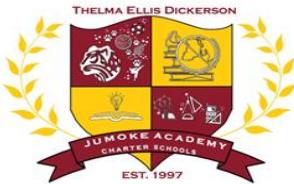
- Board member Smith-Winfrey votes that we accept the consent agenda at 6:42 pm. Leticia Acosta seconds the motion. Board Chair Gray asks if any discussion and if all in favor, all board members say aye. Board Chair Gray asks if there are any objections? None posed, the motion is passed.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT

Sheryl Deloso, Director of Finance

The Director of Finance starts her report by stating that the finance subcommittee meeting was held on November 5th, present at the meeting were Vice Chair Myron Stewart and Board Member Janelle Lester and the Director of Finance. Included in my report tonight are key updates related to the audit, financial performance for September and update on investments. For audit we recently submitted to our auditors the following document's updated trial balance, updated general ledger, mortgage agreement, rental agreement, revenue report and we still have outstanding to submit to them as I am waiting for additional information. Our auditor also performed and completed the fraud inquiry. I also just received recent information from them yesterday; they have requested me to file an extension for our single audit. The deadline is normally December 31st, but they wanted to get an extension for one month which is the hard deadline for the state is January 31st. They may still try to finish the single audit by December 31st but to be on the safe side they wanted to file the extension. Financial update: the slide shows our year-to-date results for September

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compared to the approved budget for the fiscal year 2025-26. Total revenue and other supports stand at 4M, which is 43.5% of the annual budget. Contributions include the funding we receive from a private grant, 500k which is 91% of our budget, indicating strong donor support. Special education revenue is 78k which is 12% of our budget so far so this is the income that we bill to other districts monthly so you will see it increasing every month. Our total expenses is 2M, which is 25% of our annual budget. Educational instructional expense is still the largest category with 1M or 23% of our budget. Student support as well is at 18%, which is 160k of our annual budget. As of September 30th, we have a surplus of 1M, which means that revenues exceeded by this amount over expenses which indicates strong financial health for our first quarter. Over all our revenues are starting out well, especially the per pupil and contributions, expenses are within the expected ranges which I estimated to be always 8% per month. Planned services and maintenance has a percentage of 24% which I am keeping an eye on, also instructional services equipment. This next slide compares our first quarter revenue for this year and previous year. Total revenue decreased by 4.54%. Our major driver on this is the per pupil funding which dropped by 7.87%. Contributions increased by 3.68%. Last year we received less than this year. Special Education, we have a positive change due to the timing of our billing to school district. The Director of Finance goes on to show another chart which highlights Jumoke Academy's revenue for the first quarter. We have had a negative impact as our state funding has decreased, the positive is we have an increase in our special education revenue. Overall, our revenue has decreased by 4%. An expenditure comparison slide was viewed next showing the first quarter for this year and last year. Education instructional services remain our largest expense category; it is slightly higher than last year. Planner services and operations show a modest increase, special education and student support remain stable. Overall, our expenditure for the first quarter decreased to 7.2%, we still have a healthy equity overall. Update on our investment, if you can recall we opened two CD accounts, as of October 31st both have earned interest.

- Annual Audit Update: Finance meeting was held on Nov 5.
- Budget/Financial Update: YTD actuals, total rev was discussed,
- Investment Update

BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- None

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Leticia Acosta adjourned at 6:50 p.m. which was seconded by Board Member Vera Smith-Winfrey, no discussions or objections.

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