

# 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, February 10, 2026**

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

**Meeting ID: 899 6957 5746**

**Passcode: 6dyM2h**

**Board Members Present:**

Sam Gray (Zoom)  
Orlando Lawrence  
George Sutherland  
Myron Stewart  
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown  
Leticia Acosta  
Soncerae Cicero  
Vera Smith-Winfree

**Staff & Faculty Present:**

Dr. Troy Monroe  
Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall  
Sheryl Deloso  
Dr. Latoya Johnson  
Ana Marcil  
Principal Bobby Gibson, Jr.  
Principal Danielle Ramiz  
Principal Kashay Green  
Ms. Powell-Hunt  
Ms. Haven  
Natalie Best

**OPENING**

Mr. Sam Gray, Board Chair

- Welcome/Public Comments

Board Chair Gray calls the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and invites public comments from anyone in the room, none posed.

Board Chair Gray welcomes and acknowledges all families, faculty, staff and community members.

**BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS**

Mr. Sam Gray, Board Chair

- Opening Remarks

Board Chair Gray extends a warm welcome to the new audit team from Zackin Zimyenski Sullivan CPA and Mr. Troy Zullivan CPA who will be presenting our annual audit report at this evening's meeting.

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## CEO/SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Troy A. Monroe, CEO/Superintendent

### PART A

- January Scholar of the month Recognition
  - Davion Gordon - TED-JAH – Principal Ramiz presents to the scholar
  - Kylie Burke - JAH-SMaRT – Principal Green presents to the scholar
  - Kylie Turner - JAH-HC – Principal Gibson presents to the scholar

Superintendent Monroe acknowledges the scholar of the month and presents them with their certificates and gift bags; he also encourages the scholars to continue their pursuit of excellence in all things.

- Spelling Bee Champion
  - Joel Patterson

Superintendent Monroe acknowledges and congratulates Joel Patterson and presents him with a certificate and the gift of a dictionary. The Spelling Bee Champion certificate states “The following award is given to Joel Patterson. We recognize you for your hard work, focus, perseverance, and dedication. Your love of words inspires us all.”

Board Chair Gray congratulates the Scholars of the Month and the Spelling Bee Champion. The meeting is adjourned at 6:16 pm for the families to transition from the room. Board member Debeatham-Brown makes the motion, seconded by Board member Sutherland, no discussion, all were in favor, no objections. Meeting adjourned.

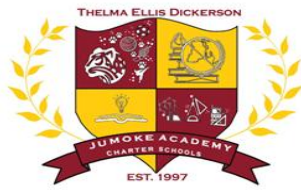
Board Chair Gray calls the meeting back to order at 6:20 p.m.

### PART B

- District Updates;
  - Board Self-Assessment Survey for Charter School Board Members

Superintendent Monroe explained this item relates to a board self-assessment survey for charter school board members. He noted that The Mind Trust, a nonprofit organization based in Indianapolis, has been partnering with Jumoke Academy since the start of the academic year. Their work focuses on improving education for underserved students by supporting innovative educational initiatives. They are currently assisting the elementary school with academic support in grades three and four, providing leadership coaching to Principal Ramiz, and facilitating a statewide charter school leadership cohort in which Superintendent Monroe participates. He informed the board that The Mind Trust will be sending a statewide survey that all board members—and he himself—are expected to complete. The survey will take about 20 minutes, and he will be sharing board member email addresses so the survey can be distributed. Superintendent Monroe emphasized that individual responses would remain confidential and only aggregate results will be reported statewide. If the board achieves at least a 75% participation rate, members will receive individualized reports outlining strengths and areas for improvement. He concluded by noting that the survey results will support both board development and the continued strengthening of Jumoke Academy’s work as a charter school.

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## ■ Gala update

Superintendent Monroe reminded everyone about the March 28th gala and shared that we are currently at 47% of our fundraising goal, thanks to strong support from sponsors and board members who have committed to tables. He noted that if anyone cannot fill their table, those seats can be made available to others. He confirmed that June Archer will host the event and will also promote it on his social media platforms. Superintendent Monroe will meet with him soon to finalize details to ensure the evening supports our goal of raising additional resources for scholar programs. So far, \$5,825 in tickets have been sold, and with four to five weeks remaining, he stressed the need for continued promotion. Tickets are \$145, sponsorships are still available, and auction items are being accepted; he is hopeful about securing a donated trip for the auction. The gala will follow a Harlem Renaissance theme, encouraging period attire, and will be held at The Society Room in Hartford with live music, a DJ, and recognition of scholars and community members. In response to questions, Superintendent Monroe shared that we are ahead of last year's pace in both funds raised and sponsorships, and the break-even point is approximately \$40,000. He concluded by emphasizing that we are moving in the right direction and must keep the momentum going.

## ■ Marketing/Engagement & Enrollment Initiatives

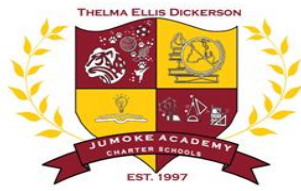
### ● Dr. Latoya Johnson, Educational Specialist

The Educational Specialist, Dr. Latoya Johnson shared that she would not present the full marketing, engagement, and enrollment update this evening but highlighted ongoing efforts focused on intentional, mission-aligned recruitment, enrollment, retention, and engagement. Enrollment materials and communication systems continue to be refined, and in January the Academy hosted its first virtual lottery to ensure accessibility and transparency; 29 seats were offered from 40 applications, with remaining seats pending due to incomplete documentation. A second lottery will take place in March, and the team is actively supporting families with confirmations and application completion. Dr. Johnson also described a recent middle school transition panel held through the Jumoke Academy Parent Association, where scholars shared insights on choosing middle schools, adjusting to fifth grade, and how Jumoke prepares them for high school. Their feedback emphasized the importance of belonging, consistent adult support, and structured transition practices, prompting ongoing collaboration between elementary and middle school teams.

Dr. Johnson celebrated districtwide engagement through the 2026 Jumoke Academy Spelling Bee, where classroom and schoolwide winners advanced to the district competition. Champion Joel Patterson will compete in the regional bee on March 8 at the University of Saint Joseph. Dr. Johnson also highlighted the Jumoke Academy drumline's performance at the University of Hartford's Martin Luther King Jr. observance, led by music teacher Mr. Monts. She then shared updates on the Academy's year-long partnership with Duncaster, supported by a foundation grant that provides intergenerational and career-connected enrichment. Next month, scholars from both middle schools will tour the community, participate in joint activities, and present performances, including theater and drumline pieces.

Finally, Dr. Johnson described several mission-driven enrichment opportunities, such as scholar participation in the Beta Sigma Lambda Martin Luther King Jr. Oratorical Contest, the Senator Chris

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Murphy MLK Essay Contest, and the Connecticut Arbor Day Poster Contest, which offer platforms for scholars to demonstrate academic, artistic, and expressive skills beyond the classroom.

## **PART C**

Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall, Chief Academic Officer

- Curriculum & Instruction

### **Theme: From Access to Achievement Empowering All Scholars for Excellence**

#### ■ Academic Update

The Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall summarized key items from the board packet, highlighting January's professional development focused on standards-based lesson planning, which teachers will continue refining at the school level. She provided an update on turnaround status, noting a recent meeting with CSDE where additional resources were discussed and will be shared soon. She also presented winter testing data, emphasizing that the numbers were generated last Friday and additional scholars have been tested since. The data focused on state-tested grades (3–8) and reflects the impact of ongoing instructional practices, including teacher participation in coaching, PLCs, lesson plan reviews, and analysis of student work. Dr. Gordon-Hall reported significant growth across campuses, particularly at JAH-SMaRT, where multiple grades in both math and ELA—along with grade 8 science—showed 50% or more improvement, including one seventh-grade group with 100% growth. At JAH-HC, grade 6 math and ELA, as well as eighth-grade algebra, showed strong gains, with algebra reaching 81% growth. At TED, grades 3 and 4 demonstrated substantial progress in math, ELA, and science. She credited staff for these results and specifically recognized Principal Green and several teachers across campuses for their instructional efforts. When asked what the growth translates to, she explained that the goal is to see these gains reflected in spring performance and Smarter Balanced scores. A more detailed report, including early-grade literacy results, will be presented by principals in March.

At 6:46 pm Board Member Smith-Winfrey moves that the board accept the Consent Agenda for January and December 2025 Financial Statements. Board Member DeBeatham-Brown seconded, there was no discussion, all were in favor, no objections, motion was passed.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- January Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- December 2025 Financial Statements

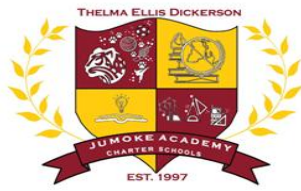
## **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT**

Sheryl Deloso, Director of Finance

- Budget/Financial Update

The Director of Finance, Mrs. Sheryl Deloso reported that the Finance Sub-Committee met on February 4, 2026, with board members and auditors present. She reviewed the December financial statement, noting strong revenue performance driven primarily by per-pupil funding received for the third quarter, as well as Title I and Title II funds that support academic assistance and professional development. Special education billing remains current and continues to contribute positively to revenue. Expenditures through December exceeded the target of 48% by 6%, prompting continued monitoring and tightening of plant

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services, student support, and instructional improvement expenses. Plant services showed significant over-pacing at 84%, increasing 16% from the previous month; student services were slightly over-paced at 54%, rising 2%; and special education expenses were under target at 44%, offering flexibility. Revenue overall exceeded the monthly target due to the timing of per-pupil funds. Grant utilization as of December was 72%, with Title I and prior-year Title II nearly fully used, and remaining funds from Title II and ARPA school mental health grants expected to be fully expended by year-end. ARPA funds are being used to support staffing and programming, including hiring for a BCBA, an RBT, and services from The Missing Piece. She concluded by noting that all grant funds are on track for full utilization and invited questions.

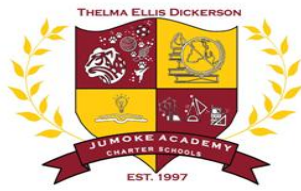
- Audit Status & Findings
  - To be reported by Zackin Zimyenski Sullivan CPA LLC

The auditors, Keith and Troy Sullivan, summarized their work with Jumoke Academy, noting that the staff was cooperative and that an overall clean, unmodified audit opinion was issued. They explained that a management letter was required due to a material weakness identified in the year-end accrual process: summer payroll had not been accrued for several years because the outside accountant stopped recording it. Working with management, the auditors corrected the issue and implemented a prior-period adjustment, with new procedures now in place to prevent recurrence. They reviewed the financial statements, noting year-over-year shifts such as decreased cash due to investment in facility improvements, consistent receivables, reduced lease liabilities, timing-related changes in payables and payroll accruals, and continued reductions in long-term debt. They reported that per-pupil revenue was lower due to enrollment declines, a trend seen statewide, while government grants tapered as ARPA funding decreased. Program revenue increased due to significantly higher special education billing. Although the school reported a net loss, cash outflow from operations was substantially lower because depreciation is a non-cash expense. The auditors stated that liquidity remains strong, with healthy unrestricted cash and receivables projected for the upcoming year. They also confirmed that the school was out of compliance with a debt-service covenant but is in the process of obtaining a standard waiver from the bank, which they do not anticipate will be an issue. A prior-year restatement was completed to correct accrued expenses, and the auditors confirmed that the corrective action plan provided by management was appropriate. Finally, the federal and state single audits reflected the same required reporting of the accrual issue but no compliance concerns, and prior-year findings from 2023 were confirmed as resolved.

Board Chair Gray thanks Superintendent Monroe, the auditors, Mrs. Deloso, Mr. Stewart, and the Finance Committee for their work on the audit. After reviewing the report, they noted that it reflects strong financial reporting practices at Jumoke Academy, with one significant internal control issue already resolved. They emphasized that the clean audit opinion demonstrates the Academy's commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship of public resources, and expressed appreciation for everyone's involvement and dedication to the school's financial health.

Board Chair Gray called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Keith Sullivan from the audit team advised that the board should approve the audit report—unless there are further questions—so it can be submitted to the state. They clarified that if the board chooses to approve it tonight, the approval should

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be conditional on receiving the required waiver, since the financial statements would need to be revised if the waiver is not granted.

Board Member DeBeatham-Brown makes a motion that we approve the audit as presented with the consideration to obtain the waiver. Smith-Winfrey Board Member: seconds the motion all were in favor, there were no objections or discussions, and the motion was passed.

Board Member DeBeatham-Brown makes a motion to close the meeting at 7:09 p.m., which was seconded by Board Member Smith-Winfrey, all were in favor, there were no objections or discussions, and the motion was passed.

## **BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

- None

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- None

## **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

- None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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