

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, May 12, 2026
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Board Members in Attendance:

Sam Gray
Myron Stewart
George Sutherland
Leticia Acosta
Vera Smith-Winfree
Orlando Lawrence

On the Zoom:

Rodney Nedd
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown
Sonserae Cicero

Faculty and Staff in Attendance:

Dr. Troy Monroe
Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall
Sheryl Deloso
Sharron Solomon McCarthy
Nakitha Crossley
Principal Kashay Green
Principal Danielle Ramiz
Summer Myles
Natalie Best

Faculty and Staff on Zoom:

Lawrence Jeune
Kimberly Renton
Leslie Rosemond

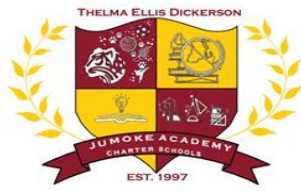
OPENING

Mr. Sam Gray, Board Chair

- Welcome/Public Comments

Board Chair Gray opens the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and asked whether any members of the public had signed up or requested to provide a public comment. Superintendent Monroe confirms that there are no members of the public that have signed up or requested to provide a public comment.

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BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS

Mr. Sam Gray, Board Chair

- Opening Remarks

Board Chair Gray continued the meeting by welcoming scholars, families, staff, leadership, community partners, and fellow board members, and acknowledged the ongoing commitment of the Jumoke Academy community to supporting and preparing scholars for success. The Chair highlighted that the evening's agenda reflected this commitment, including scholar recognition, district updates, and an academic presentation focused on "From Access to Achievement: Empowering All Scholars for Excellence," emphasizing the importance of ensuring meaningful outcomes for all scholars. Appreciation was extended to Superintendent Monroe, Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall, Director of Finance Mrs. Deloso, and all staff for their leadership and dedication, as well as to families and community members for their partnership. The Chair concluded by thanking board members for their continued service and transitioned the meeting to Superintendent Monroe for the CEO/Superintendent's report, Part A.

CEO/SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Troy A. Monroe, CEO/Superintendent

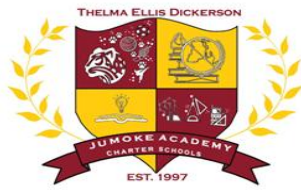
PART A

Superintendent Monroe welcomed parents, community members, faculty, staff, and special visitors and introduced Part A of the agenda, which focused on scholar recognition. Noting that he was under the weather, Superintendent Monroe shared that building-based staff would assist with the presentation. He also highlighted that the evening's agenda included a comprehensive discussion and presentation from the business and finance department regarding the budget. The recognition would begin with Scholars of the Month from TED, followed by JAH-SMaRT and JAH-HC, along with an additional special recognition. Executive Assistant Best will assist with the presentation to the students, and scholars were invited to come forward with their families when their names were called.

- March Scholar of the Month Recognition
 - Nasira Gueye - TED-JAH; presented by Principal Danielle Ramiz
 - Oriana Lawrence - JAH-SMaRT; presented by Principal Kashay Green
 - Nyla Watson - JAH-HC; presented by Dean Summer Myles
- Hartford Creative Contest
 - Aniyah Pryce (JAH-HC); presented by Dr. Latoya Johnson

The Educational Specialist, Dr. Latoya Johnson recognized Aniyah Price, a Jumoke Academy scholar, for being selected as a finalist in the Hartford Creative Contest, an annual art and writing competition for students in grades 4 through 12 across Hartford and the Greater Hartford area. Although Aniyah was not present, her accomplishment was highlighted as a reflection of her creativity, critical thinking, and strong engagement with this year's theme of integrity. Under the guidance of JAH-HC art teacher Ms. Strom, Aniyah submitted a compelling drawing of Malcolm X along with a reflective essay, demonstrating both artistic talent and meaningful connection to the theme. Superintendent Monroe noted that being named a finalist is a significant achievement and expressed pride in Aniyah for representing Jumoke Academy, with plans to celebrate her at the upcoming recognition event at the Mark Twain House.

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This concluded Part A of the Superintendent's report, Superintendent Monroe thanks all participants and congratulated the scholars, while expressing appreciation to parents for their continued support, and then returned the floor to Board Chair Gray for additional comments before proceeding to the next agenda item.

Board Chair Gray requests an adjournment at 6:16 p.m. so that the scholars and families can get refreshments and transition from the room if they choose to do so. Board Member DeBeatham-Brown moves to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Vice Chair Stewart.

Meeting reconvened at 6:19 p.m. with a motion made by Board Member DeBeatham-Brown and seconded by Board Member Smith-Winfrey

PART B

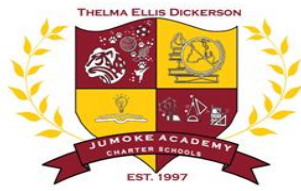
- District Updates;
 - Summer Engagement Strategies; Dr. Latoya Johnson

Educational Specialist, Dr. Latoya Johnson, presented several summer initiatives designed to support scholar learning, strengthen family engagement, and provide meaningful experiences beyond the traditional school year. These programs align with the district's improvement plan and instructional framework, focusing on literacy, writing, mathematics, and real-world connections to emerging industries through hands-on learning. The Jumoke Academy Summer Bridge Program, serving rising kindergarten through eighth grade scholars, aims to prevent summer learning loss while offering academic and enrichment opportunities, with 105 scholars currently enrolled, reflecting increased participation from the prior year. Additionally, the Jumoke Academy and Goodwin University Summer STEM Experience will provide scholars with exposure to science, technology, advanced manufacturing, aviation, and innovation, with registration remaining open. The district will also host "Discover Jumoke Day," a series of summer events designed to engage new and returning families through activities such as a family meet-and-greet, literacy-focused programming, uniform support, STEM and robotics experiences, and a summer arts event. These initiatives reflect the district's continued commitment to scholar achievement, family partnership, and meaningful engagement. Vice Chair Stewart raised a question regarding whether there are any challenges with parents being unable to pay the registration fee. Education Specialist, Dr. Johnson has only been made aware of one family.

A follow-up question was raised by Board member Smith-Winfrey regarding how the program is being promoted to attract additional students, particularly those outside of Jumoke. The Summer Bridge Program is free for all Jumoke scholars, with a \$50 fee for students outside of the Jumoke community. It was promoted through social media and word of mouth, with families helping to share information about the opportunity. Currently, fewer than ten participants are from outside Jumoke, while the majority attend the Academy. There was no formal cap on external participants; enrollment remained open until the application deadline, provided space was available. It was confirmed that the program is now closed to new applicants.

Board Chair Sam Gray paused the meeting agenda at 6:28 p.m., to acknowledge a student scholar, Aniyah Price, and invited Educational Specialist Johnson to present. Educational Specialist Johnson congratulated Aniyah for being a finalist in the Hartford Creative Contest. A certificate was presented in

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recognition of her achievement and representation of Jumoke Academy Charter School. Following the acknowledgment and congratulatory remarks, the meeting resumed with a return to the agenda, transitioning to curriculum and instruction with Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall.

The meeting resumed and returned to the agenda at 6:30 p.m.

PART C

Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall, Chief Academic Officer

- Curriculum & Instruction

Theme: From Access to Achievement Empowering All Scholars for Excellence

- Academic Update

Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall provided an update on testing, explaining that scholars in grades three through eight are currently participating in state testing, while students in kindergarten through grade two are completing benchmark assessments. She noted that once students in grades three through eight complete state testing, they do not take benchmark tests, and preliminary state results are expected on a rolling basis beginning in late May. Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall also shared that the school is preparing to review and purchase new instructional resources for all core subjects due to the conclusion of three-year contracts, with English Language Arts and middle school science remaining unchanged, while math and middle school social studies materials are under review with teacher input.

Additionally, she highlighted ongoing summer learning initiatives, including the distribution of summer learning packets and opportunities for scholars to participate in the Governor's Reading Challenge and the Commissioner's Math Challenge, with materials provided in both print and online formats. In response to a question from Board Member Lawrence, Chief Academic Officer Gordon-Hall clarified that benchmark testing occurs at the beginning, middle, and end of the year to measure progress based on curriculum, while state testing is the Smarter Balanced assessment administered only to grades three through eight.

CONSENT AGENDA

- April Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- March 2026 Financial Statements

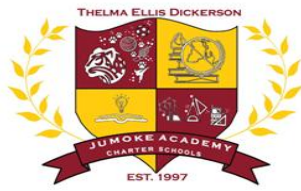
Board Chair Sam Gray directed the meeting to continue with the agenda and move to the consent agenda, which had been previously distributed to board members. He requested a motion to approve the April regular board meeting minutes and the March 2026 financial statement. Board Member Smith-Winfrey made the motion, and Board Member Sutherland seconded the motion. All were in favor, no objections.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT

Sheryl Deloso, Director of Finance

- 2025-2026 Budget/Financial Update; total revenue is provided
- 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

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Director of Finance Deloso reported that the Financial Sub-Committee met on May 6 with several board members present. She provided an update on the third-quarter financials, noting that total revenue as of March 2026 was at 74% of the budget, slightly below expectations due to a shortfall in ARPA mental health grant billing, while expenditures reached 77.65% of the budget, resulting in a deficit of 3%. She explained that the deficit was anticipated due to decreased per-pupil funding and that a budget freeze will remain in place through the end of the year. She also shared a grant update, indicating that 76% of the total allocation has been utilized, with the remaining balance yet to be requested. Additionally, she provided an update on investments, reporting accumulated interest across accounts, and then invited questions before proceeding to the second part of her report.

Director of Finance Deloso revisited a prior question regarding proposed federal grant changes, explaining that Title One funding will remain level with no impact, while Title Four funding is part of a broader reduction of consolidated grants by approximately 70%, resulting in only a minimal effect on the Academy's budget. She also reviewed the originally presented budget, which projected a deficit based on current enrollment and expenditures.

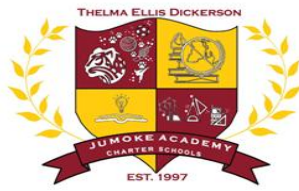
She then presented four budget scenarios for the upcoming fiscal year. The first, a conservative approach based on projected enrollment growth of approximately 2–3%, includes reductions in force, contracted services, and delayed capital projects, resulting in a balanced budget with no deficit or surplus and an overall reduction of 6.6%. The second scenario assumes moderate enrollment growth of 5%, allowing for similar cost reductions while maintaining balance and including a contingency. The third scenario, labeled aggressive growth, assumes a 10% increase in enrollment, which could generate a surplus but may require reinstating some staff and expanding resources, though its feasibility is uncertain. The fourth scenario incorporates a potential increase in Educational Cost Sharing funding, which could support staff reinstatement, maintain planned projects, and produce a modest surplus.

Director of Finance Deloso recommended adopting the conservative scenario as the primary plan due to its sustainability, with the fourth scenario as a backup pending confirmation of additional funding. Board members discussed the uncertainty of funding timelines, the importance of enrollment projections, and the impact of staffing adjustments, noting that reductions primarily affect non-classroom positions and that staffing needs may shift depending on enrollment and program demands.

Board Chair Sam Gray thanked the Finance Committee and Director of Finance Deloso for their work in developing the budget scenarios and called for a motion to approve the recommended fiscal year 2026–2027 budget. A motion was made to adopt scenario one by Vice Chair Stewart, the conservative budget approach, and was seconded by Board Member DeBeatham-Brown. After confirming votes from members present and, on the call, the motion passed with no opposition.

With no additional reports or items for discussion, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Board Member DeBeatham-Brown at 6:55 p.m. and seconded by Board Member Smith-Winfrey. The board unanimously approved the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

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BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- None

ADJOURNMENT

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