APPROVED

Sankofa Montessori

Minutes

Full Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday May 28, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Location
Meeting ID: 601 495 1069

Through a culturally responsive, child and family-centered Montessori education, Sankofa Montessori ensures that all of our students develop the knowledge, skill, and agency to have a life of purpose.

Directors Present
A. Allen-Thames (remote), A. Grant (remote), E. Moore (remote), F. Sheffield (remote), G. Edward (remote), K. Karacalidis (remote), K. Williams (remote)

Directors Absent
A. Nash

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Karacalidis called a meeting of the board of directors of Sankofa Montessori to order on Wednesday May 28, 2025 at 6:35 PM.

C.

Meeting Minutes

E. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from Full Board and Budget Public Hearing Meeting on 04-30-25.
A. Allen-Thames seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
E. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from Full Board and Budget Public Hearing Meeting on 04-23-25.
A. Allen-Thames seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic

A. Highlights

Enrollment status- current status & School Attendance
Student enrollment- K 46, 1st 36, 2nd 22, 3rd 11. Withdrawals in March- 3 in 2nd grade, 1 in 3rd grade.
Currently, for SY 25-26, there are 124 applications, 99 applications submitted, 92 re-enrollment packets completed. SY 25-26- K 73, 1st 12, 2nd 6, 3rd 5, 4th 3.
Whole School Average Daily Attendance of 90.6%, 1% decrease from last month
Staff Absences (overall decreased from prior month; Flight Captains-7, Co-Captains-4, Staff support-1, Flight Control-1.

Personnel Updates- Updates on staffing and updates regarding professional development of staff. *23 Flight Crew Members (9 Flight Captains, 3 Co-Captains, 4 Staff Support, 4 Flight Control, 4 Contractors). Contractors include recruitment, SPED Para, gifted, and ESOL. For SY 25-26, hired 4th grade teacher, specials teacher, kindergarten teacher, and 1&2 teacher. Hiring ESOL contractor, EIP teacher, and K teacher (on pause).*

Updates on school suspensions/expulsions by grade- *Out of school suspensions with increases from previous month in K-2nd grades; K 8, 1st 4, 2nd 3, 3rd- 0. Most common reason of physical assault or combination*

Standardized Testing and Screening Data Updates- Any outstanding outcome data per grade from fall assessments if applicable. Updates/Preliminary Results of Spring
NWEA MAP (Math vs. Reading) and GA Milestones for 3rd Grade. *Awaiting results of GA milestones. Discussed Math MAP data in 3rd graders and gaps in achievement scores.*

Organizational Chart and Miscellaneous- *Shared about the Takeoff celebration on 4/30, scholar attendance awards for 40 students, Lower El trip on 4/23 to Braves game,*

and GA milestones pancake breakfast for 3rd grade students. Upcoming bridging ceremony for students on 5/21.

Special Education

B. Discussion of Special Education

• Discuss student enrollment number/% of student population with suspected and/or
identified special needs- *Total of 28 students. K-9, 1st-6, 2nd-5, 3rd-8; Six students with 504 plans (K-1, 1st-3, 2nd-0, 3rd-2).*
ESOL- Four students- one in each grade.

• Any updates on classroom integration of special needs and updates on external supports for special needs (ie Speech, ABA, OT/PT)- *Speech for 25 students. OT for 16 students*

Gifted Student Services

C. Discussion of Gifted Services

Discuss student enrollment #/% of student population with suspected and/or identified
for gifted services- *Total of 7 students*

B. Next Steps

III. Finance

A. April Financial Report

Budget Review

A.

Update from Purpose Capital

1. April Financials
    1. Negative cash flow for April
        1. Reason is Sankofa started to get trued up for October HC
            1. We projected a headcount of 180 but actuals reflected 145, lowered QBE

2. True up typically occurs in December but happened in March this year
3. They won't take money from us but they will decrease the amount they send in the future

2. Ending cash balance as of 04/30/25 = **$498K** (61.4 days cash on hand)
3. Projected end of year cash balance as of 06/30/25 = **$307K** (38 days cash on hand)

III. Executive Director's Corner

A.

Updates

1. Facilities -
    1. SCSC said they would not renovate, cannot knock down the gym for modulars, city doesn't allow modulars on property for more than 6 months so need a variance, call the mayor, get in front of zoning and commissions board on June 19th, have 192 seats filled
    2. Or do we stop at 160?
    3. In the spreadsheet, submitted for 200 kids
    4. SCSC is asking if we want to adjust our numbers
    5. Have to decide by 10am tomorrow morning
    6. Candace has started working on a 160 budget

IV. Governance

A. Board Members

This month's meeting was canceled, so there is no update.

B. Goodbyes

Two board members are stepping down next month (Alfie and Krystal).
Gregory to step down in December 2025.

V. Executive Director's Corner

A. School Highlights

No additional highlights were shared.

VI. Public Comment

A. Community Talk

No one was in attendance

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
K. Karacalidis