APPROVED

Sankofa Montessori

Minutes

Academic Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday September 10, 2025 at 2:00 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.

Committee Members Present
A. Allen-Thames (remote), E. Moore (remote), S. Harvey (remote)

Committee Members Absent
None

Guests Present
Sankofa Parents (~3-4)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Allen-Thames called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee of Sankofa Montessori to order on Wednesday Sep 10, 2025 at 2:04 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

E. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from Academic Committee Meeting on 08-13-25.
A. Allen-Thames seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Leadership Team Updates

Leadership Team Updates (PPT slide)

1. Enrollment status- Current enrollment status and efforts for enrollment fundraising & School Attendance

Total 131 students (Goal 158-160). K- 43, 1st & 2nd- 56, 3rd & 4th- 32
Withdrawals K -7, 1st -3, 3rd- 1
School Attendance (from July 31 -Aug. 30)- K 94.4%, 1st 98.5%, 2nd 94.2%, 3rd 95.7%, and 4th 90.2%

2. Personnel Updates- Updates on staffing and updates regarding professional development of staff.

No current hiring. Science teacher departed (open position)

3. *Updates on school suspensions/expulsions by grade*

(August data)- K -3, 1st-1 (Total 4). No expulsions

4. Standardized Testing and Screening Data Updates- Any outstanding outcome data per grade from fall assessments if applicable. Updates/Preliminary Results if applicable.

Completed G kids, pending data from GaDOE
Completed and shared DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Literacy Skills) data- {Red =well below benchmark; Orange=below benchmark; Green=on grade level; Blue= exceptional well} Total school data with 47.3% below expectation (Red & Orange)
K had 10.3% Red, 23.1% Orange
1st had 14.3% Red, 28.6% Orange
2nd had 0% Red, 25% Orange
3rd had 7.1% Red, 21.4% Orange
4th had 20% Red, 30% Orange
NWEA MAP DATA- 30% of students are below average grade levels {approximately 3rd and 4th graders are ~25 points below national average compared to K-2nd ~8-15 points below national average}
Discussed as a committee to discuss better ways to keep tabs on standardized testing data for all grade levels according to assessment calendar as well as lowest performing

2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders. Plans to follow up more details on data for committee moving forward.
Leadership shared the utilization of ANET (GA milestone PREP) as part of Redefine Ed grant that will take place October 2025 & February 2026 for 3rd and 4th graders.

5. Discuss School-Parent (PTO)-any updates for upcoming SY25-26

PTO hosting spelling bee (Classroom on Oct. 29 & Winners compete Nov. 19); goal to enter Scripps Spelling Bee

6. Commission Meeting Next Steps and Follow Ups

Submitting all requested data to SCSC and monitoring coming up 3rd week of October

Quality school review by 3rd party pending end of September

7. Curriculum Status- updates on progress for implementing new curriculums

Discussed that unit assessments will take place for 3-4 weeks long-Curriculums of Wonders & Lexia for literary, Open Up Resources & IXL for Math

8. Assessment Calendar

Pending review

9. Professional Development Calendar

Pending review

E. Special Education

• ***Discuss student enrollment #/% of student population with suspected and/or identified special needs***- SPED total 21 students; 504 plans for 4 students
ESOL students - 2 total

• *Any updates on staffing for Special Needs and progress of Special Ed classroom* - None

• ***Any updates on classroom integration of special needs and updates on external supports for special needs (ie Speech, ABA, OT/PT)***- 15 students requiring Speech services, 8 students requiring OT services

• ***Any updates on psycho-educational testing for students- plans/progress***- 10 students on list for psycho-educational evaluation requests

F. Gifted Student Services

Discuss student enrollment #/% of student population with suspected and/or identified for gifted services - 3 current students with 18 auto referrals from MAP testing (pending CoGAT on those students)

Discuss plans for data tracking/allocating #/% of students for appropriate funding per student for special services or gifted services - N/A

G. SY 25-26 Goals

Any updates or changes to the short term and long term goals for next school year Any outstanding items or updates on grants/funding/external partnerships for next school year- Overview for academic and cultural goals for SY25-26 reviewed during leadership updates

II. Public Comments/Questions

A. Public Comment

Speakers please limit questions/comments to 2 minutes.

None

III. 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 3:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Allen-Thames