



Sankofa Montessori

Minutes

Academic Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday January 14, 2026 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

M. Davis (remote), Parent (1) (remote)

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 Jan 14, 2026 at 2:05 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

E. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from Academic Committee Meeting on 12-10-25.

Monika Davis seconded motion. Motion with contingent to amend minutes to reflect correct total/% of SPED student population.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Leadership Team Updates

1. Enrollment status- Current enrollment status and efforts for enrollment

fundraising & School Attendance - K (41), 1st (28), 2nd (19), 3rd (16), 4th (14) *Total enrollment 118 (down from 125 previous mth). Withdrawals to date-23 (#1 reason- Student needs more restrictive setting; #2 reason -Move; #3 reason-Disagree GaDOE requirements; #4 reason-Not like model).*

Student Attendance for December: K88.9% (up 4%), 1st 93.7 % (up 3%), 2nd 94.67 (down 2%), 3rd 96.4% (down 8%), 4th 96.08 (down 3%)

2. Personnel Updates- Updates on staffing and updates regarding professional development of staff. Staff Attendance. Staff Absences decreased overall in December.

3. Updates on school suspensions/expulsions by grade *Out of school suspensions for December K(1), 1st (2), 2nd (2), 3rd and 4th (0). Main reason- physical aggression*

4. Standardized Testing and Screening Data Updates- Any outstanding outcome data per grade from fall assessments if applicable. Updates/Preliminary Results if applicable (I.e. IXL and Lexia data; data on low performing 2nd-4th graders.

Students have completed MAP, Dibels, IXL, and Lexia data. Review pending for upcoming Academic Task Force meeting (Feb. 2).

5. Discuss School-Parent (PTO)-any updates for upcoming SY25-26. *Jan. 16-100 days of school celebration. Jan. 21 -Staff team building event. Jan. 26 Parent/Teacher conferences*

6. SCSC Follow Ups- CCRPI data review; Title I meeting for parents (submission of parent/family engagement policies/plan and compacts)- N/A. Will determine during Academic Task Force meeting.

E. Special Education

Discuss student enrollment #/% of student population with suspected and/or identified special needs- Total 19, 16%

ESOL 5, 504 plans 6, MTSS 13 for Academics, anticipate 5 qualifying for SPED services

- Any updates on staffing for Special Needs and progress of Special Ed classroom
-N/A

- Any updates on classroom integration of special needs and updates on external supports for special needs (ie Speech, ABA, OT/PT) - N/A

- Any updates on psycho-educational testing for students- plans/progress N/A

F. Gifted Student Services

Discuss student enrollment #/% of student population with suspected and/or identified for gifted services Total 9, 7.6%

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

- Shared proposal for Calendar for SY25-26, Start time and end times discussed- changed to eliminate early dismissal on Wednesdays and have dismissal everyday at 2:30 pm

Any outstanding items or updates on grants/funding/external partnerships for next school year

- *Lanier Family Foundation Literacy Grant Update (Krista and Co-Guides attending Orton-Gillingham (OG) training this week*
- *OG Fellow (PhD student from GA State) coming to supervise work and progress monitor of students*
- *Discussed questions/concerns from board member(s) around accountability and ensuring program success with correlation to Lanier Family Grant funded OG training for teachers/staff; will monitor improvements in student reading scores.*

II. Public Comments/Questions

A. Public Comment

Public Comment 5 m- Speakers please limit questions/comments to 2 minute.

- *NO public comment*

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 2:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Allen-Thames