APPROVED

# 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 s*tudent 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