



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA

AND

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THE JONESBORO EDUCATION TRUST (JET) PILOT PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

On June 8, 2026, the Jonesboro City Council approved the framework for the Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program and authorized the City of Jonesboro to pursue partnerships, develop operational agreements, and establish the infrastructure necessary to implement the program.

JET is a pilot civic engagement and educational opportunity initiative designed to promote educational aspirations, financial literacy, family engagement, civic participation, and long-term student success beginning in kindergarten.

The City of Jonesboro and Clayton County Public Schools recognize the importance of collaboration in supporting students and families and desire to establish a cooperative relationship to support the implementation of the Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program.

I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") establishes a collaborative partnership between the City of Jonesboro, Georgia ("City") and Clayton County Public Schools ("CCPS") to support the implementation of the Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program.

JET is a pilot civic engagement and educational opportunity initiative designed to promote educational aspirations, financial literacy, family engagement, civic participation, and long-term student success beginning in kindergarten.

The parties acknowledge that student success is strengthened through collaborative partnerships among local government, public education, families, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and community stakeholders.

The purpose of this MOU is to define the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of each party in support of the JET Pilot Program.

The parties acknowledge that the Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program Framework approved by the Jonesboro City Council on June 8, 2026, is incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A and shall serve as the guiding framework for implementation of the program.

II. TERM

This MOU shall become effective upon execution by both parties and shall remain in effect through June 30, 2028, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the provisions contained herein.

This MOU may be renewed or extended upon mutual written agreement of both parties.

III. CITY OF JONESBORO RESPONSIBILITIES

The City agrees to:

A. Coordinate and facilitate implementation of the Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program in accordance with the program framework adopted by the Jonesboro City Council on June 8, 2026.

B. Develop program guidelines, engagement calendars, family programming schedules, civic engagement participation opportunities, educational experiences and community engagement activities consistent with the approved JET Pilot Program Framework.

C. Coordinate parent communications, community outreach, event logistics, workshops, recognition activities and program communications, subject to coordination with CCPS for school-based communications and activities.

D. Provide opportunities for CCPS representatives to participate in planning discussions, family engagement activities and educational programming when appropriate.

E. Maintain records related to City-led program coordination, participation verification, community engagement activities and program evaluation, but not student education records maintained by CCPS.

F. Designate a City point of contact to coordinate with CCPS regarding implementation of the JET Pilot Program.

G. Conduct outreach and engagement efforts to eligible families residing within the City of Jonesboro, in coordination with CCPS where school-based communications are involved.

H. Coordinate program operations within the City's approved role as convener, facilitator and community partner, without assuming responsibility for CCPS student records, school operations, student supervision, or school-based eligibility determinations.

IV. CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS RESPONSIBILITIES

CCPS agrees to collaborate with the City in the following ways, subject to applicable Board policies, administrative procedures, facility availability, and legal requirements:

A. Designate a representative to serve as liaison between CCPS and the City regarding JET implementation.

B. Assist with distributing approved program information to eligible students and families through available communication channels, including but not limited to school newsletters, electronic communications, informational meetings, and other appropriate methods.

C. Assist in promoting awareness of the JET Pilot Program among eligible families residing within the City of Jonesboro.

D. Participate in planning meetings as reasonably necessary to support successful implementation of the program.

E. Collaborate with the City in identifying opportunities for family engagement, educational enrichment, and student success initiatives.

F. Support efforts to align JET programming with educational goals and student achievement outcomes when appropriate.

G. Upon request and subject to district policies, facility availability, scheduling requirements, and applicable fees, permit the use of CCPS facilities for approved JET-related activities, including but not limited to parent information sessions, orientations, workshops, financial literacy events, civic engagement activities, educational programming, community meetings, and other activities that support the mission and objectives of JET.

H. If the number of eligible applicants exceeds available program spaces, CCPS shall administer or oversee a fair, transparent and publicly accessible lottery or selection process for eligible applicants, subject to applicable Board policies, administrative procedures, parental consent requirements and applicable law. The City may provide program capacity information and participate in coordination discussions, but shall not administer the lottery or make school-based eligibility determinations.

I. Verify student enrollment status and other school-based eligibility information where legally permissible, subject to written parental consent and all applicable federal and state privacy laws.

J. Maintain responsibility for student education records, school-based verification processes, student privacy compliance, school facility access, school-based communications and any CCPS staff involvement in accordance with applicable law, Board policy and administrative procedures.

V. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY AND VERIFICATION

To determine eligibility for participation in the JET Pilot Program, the parties agree that:

A. The City may establish general program eligibility criteria consistent with the JET Pilot Program Framework approved by the Jonesboro City Council.

B. CCPS shall remain responsible for verifying student enrollment status and any school-based eligibility information requested for program participation, provided that the parent or legal guardian has supplied any written authorization required by law or CCPS policy.

C. No student education records protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA, shall be released to the City except as permitted by law and authorized by the parent or legal guardian.

D. Any information shared with the City shall be limited to information reasonably necessary for program eligibility confirmation, participation coordination and program evaluation.

E. CCPS shall not be required to disclose confidential student information, education records, disciplinary records, academic records, or other protected student information except as permitted by law, authorized by required consent and approved through applicable CCPS procedures.

VI. PARTICIPANT SELECTION PROCESS

The parties acknowledge that participation in specific JET Pilot Program cohorts may be limited based on available program capacity and resources.

If the number of eligible applicants exceeds available program spaces, CCPS shall administer or oversee the lottery or selection process for eligible applicants in accordance with applicable Board policies, administrative procedures and legal requirements.

The lottery or selection process shall:

- A. Be open, fair and transparent.
- B. Be conducted in a manner that promotes public confidence.
- C. Be limited to applicants who have met applicable eligibility requirements.
- D. Be documented and maintained in accordance with applicable CCPS procedures and record retention requirements.
- E. Include a waiting list for eligible applicants not selected through the initial lottery, if appropriate.

The City may provide information regarding program capacity, residency requirements and the approved JET Pilot Program Framework, but shall not administer the lottery, control the selection process, or assume responsibility for school-based eligibility verification.

VII. DATA PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The parties agree to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws governing confidentiality, privacy, and student information.

CCPS shall retain responsibility for student education records and school-based student information maintained by CCPS. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed to designate the City as a custodian of education records maintained by CCPS.

Nothing in this MOU shall require CCPS to disclose confidential student information or education records to the City except as permitted by law, authorized by the parent or legal guardian and approved through applicable CCPS procedures.

The City shall use any student or family information received under this MOU only for authorized JET Pilot Program purposes and shall not disclose such information except as permitted by law.

VIII. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

This MOU does not obligate either party to provide funding to the other.

Each party shall remain responsible for its own personnel, operational, administrative, facility, and programmatic costs unless otherwise agreed to in writing.

Nothing contained herein shall be construed as creating a financial obligation on behalf of either party except as expressly set forth in a separate written agreement executed by the parties.

IX. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

The parties agree to coordinate public announcements, press releases, marketing materials, and public communications regarding the partnership when appropriate.

Neither party shall use the name, logo, trademarks, branding, or likeness of the other party without prior written approval.

X. NON-DISCRIMINATION

The parties shall comply with all applicable federal and state non-discrimination laws and regulations.

Participation in JET shall be administered without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, or any other protected classification.

XI. INDEPENDENT ENTITIES

Nothing contained in this MOU shall be construed to create a partnership, joint venture, agency relationship, or employment relationship between the parties.

Each party shall remain an independent entity responsible for its own operations, personnel, and obligations.

XII. TERMINATION

Either party may terminate this MOU with thirty (30) days' written notice to the other party.

Termination shall not affect obligations expressly intended to survive termination, including confidentiality obligations, approved use of intellectual property and obligations arising from activities completed before the effective date of termination.

Termination shall not create any obligation upon either party to continue funding, sponsorship, educational programming, school-based activities, facility use, student verification support, volunteer activities, or other future program activities unless separately agreed to in writing.

XIII. POINTS OF CONTACT

CITY OF JONESBORO
Mayor Donya L. Sartor
1859 City Center Way
Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

and

Councilman Alfred Ray Dixon III
c/o Jonesboro Education Trust
1859 City Center Way

Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

With a copy to:
Blue Cole, City Manager
City of Jonesboro
1859 City Center Way
Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent or Designee, Clayton County Public Schools
1058 Fifth Avenue Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

XIV. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This MOU constitutes the entire understanding between the parties regarding the subject matter herein and may only be amended through a written agreement executed by both parties.

XV. SIGNATURES

CITY OF
JONESBORO

Donya L. Sartor, Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk
(CITY OF JONESBORO SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM

LaTonya Nix Wiley, City Attorney

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Authorized Representative

(CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM

CCPS Legal Counsel

Date: _____

EXHIBIT A

JONESBORO EDUCATION TRUST (JET) PILOT PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

The Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program Framework, approved by the Jonesboro City Council on June 8, 2026, is attached hereto and incorporated by reference into this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Framework shall serve as the operational guide for the implementation of the JET Pilot Program. The City of Jonesboro may update administrative procedures, program operations, timelines, workshops, civic engagement participation structures, recognition activities, engagement activities, and implementation methods as necessary to support the objectives of the program, provided such updates remain consistent with the purpose of this MOU and do not materially alter the responsibilities of Clayton County Public Schools without the written agreement of both parties.