



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA

AND

THE CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

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.

The Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) is a community-based 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 the Clayton County Public Schools Foundation recognize the importance of investing in students and families through collaborative partnerships and desire to establish a cooperative relationship to support implementation of the JET Pilot Program through collaborative partnerships, charitable support, and long-term program sustainability.

I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") establishes a collaborative partnership between the City of Jonesboro ("City") and the Clayton County Public Schools Foundation ("Foundation") to support implementation of the Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program through charitable administration, philanthropic support, fiscal stewardship, and related nonprofit services consistent with the Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program Framework approved by the Jonesboro City Council on June 8, 2026.

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 approved by the Jonesboro City Council.

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. Conduct community outreach, family engagement, workshops, educational programming, civic engagement activities, and related program communications.

D. Develop collaborative relationships with businesses, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, governmental entities, and community partners that support the objectives of the JET Pilot Program.

E. Maintain records relating to City-coordinated program activities, participation verification,

community engagement, and program evaluation, but not charitable financial records maintained by the Foundation.

F. Designate a City representative to coordinate with the Foundation regarding implementation of the JET Pilot Program.

G. Submit requests for Foundation consideration of program expenditures that are consistent with the approved JET Pilot Program Framework and available charitable funds.

H. Coordinate program operations within the City's approved role as convener, facilitator, and community partner, without assuming responsibility for charitable fund administration or Foundation financial operations.

IV. FOUNDATION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Foundation agrees to:

A. Receive, administer, account for, and safeguard charitable contributions, grants, sponsorships, donations, and other resources designated to support the JET Pilot Program in accordance with applicable law, donor restrictions, Foundation policies, and generally accepted nonprofit accounting practices.

B. Maintain separate accounting records for charitable funds designated for the JET Pilot Program.

C. Process Foundation-approved program expenditures in accordance with Foundation financial policies, donor restrictions, and available funds.

D. Maintain appropriate accounting records, internal controls, and financial oversight consistent with nonprofit and charitable organization standards.

E. Provide periodic financial reports regarding JET charitable funds.

F. Collaborate with the City in identifying philanthropic, grant, sponsorship, and charitable giving opportunities that support the approved objectives of the JET Pilot Program.

G. Assist with donor stewardship, sponsor recognition, and community engagement activities related to Foundation-supported initiatives.

H. Maintain responsibility for the administration of charitable funds under its governance and policies.

I. Comply with all applicable nonprofit, charitable, accounting, tax, and reporting requirements.

J. Designate a Foundation representative to coordinate with the City regarding Foundation support for the JET Pilot Program.

V. POOLED FUND MANAGEMENT

The parties acknowledge and agree that:

A. The Foundation may receive, hold, administer, and account for charitable funds contributed in support of the JET Pilot Program in accordance with applicable law, donor restrictions, and Foundation policies.

B. Charitable funds administered by the Foundation shall not constitute City funds solely by virtue of this MOU.

C. The Foundation shall maintain accounting records sufficient to document receipts, expenditures, balances, and charitable financial activity associated with the JET Pilot Program.

D. The Foundation may approve expenditures for purposes consistent with the approved JET Pilot Program Framework, donor restrictions, available funding, and applicable Foundation approval processes.

E. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to create individual ownership interests or individual financial accounts for participating students unless established pursuant to separate written agreements.

F. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit future consideration of custodial accounts, educational savings products, scholarship vehicles, or other financial mechanisms through separate agreements approved by the appropriate parties.

VI. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT

The parties agree that:

A. All JET funds administered by the Foundation shall be used solely for purposes consistent with the approved JET Pilot Program Framework.

B. The Foundation shall maintain separate accounting records for JET funds.

C. Program funds shall not be commingled with unrelated program funds in a manner that prevents accurate accounting and reporting.

D. The Foundation shall maintain records sufficient to document receipts, expenditures, balances, and program-related financial activity.

E. The Foundation shall provide financial reports to the City no less than quarterly.

F. The Foundation shall make reasonable records available for review by authorized City representatives regarding JET-related charitable funds, subject to donor confidentiality, applicable law, and Foundation policies

G. The Foundation shall retain responsibility for the administration, accounting, investment, safeguarding, and reporting of charitable funds maintained under its control in accordance with applicable law and Foundation policies.

H. The City shall have no ownership, custodial obligations or fiscal responsibilities related to the maintenance or administration of the fund.

VII. FUNDRAISING AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The Foundation may identify, cultivate, receive, and administer charitable contributions, grants, sponsorships, philanthropic support, and other community investment opportunities that advance the approved objectives of the JET Pilot Program.

The City and the Foundation may collaborate in donor outreach, sponsor recognition, grant opportunities, and community engagement activities that further the approved JET Pilot Program Framework.

Nothing contained herein shall obligate either party to provide funding or fundraising commitments absent a separate written agreement.

VIII. PROGRAM INCENTIVES AND PARTICIPANT BENEFITS

Charitable funds administered by the Foundation may be used, subject to available funding, donor restrictions, and Foundation approval processes, to support:

- A. Civic engagement participation activities.
- B. Educational enrichment opportunities.
- C. Family engagement activities.
- D. Recognition activities.
- E. Scholarships.
- F. Educational programming.
- G. Program evaluation.
- H. Administrative support consistent with Foundation policies.
- I. Other charitable purposes consistent with the approved JET Pilot Program Framework.

The City shall remain responsible for program coordination and participation requirements. The Foundation shall remain responsible for the administration of charitable funds in accordance with applicable law, donor restrictions, and Foundation policies.

IX. REPORTING AND EVALUATION

The City shall provide periodic programmatic reports outlining participation, engagement, activities, and outcomes.

The Foundation shall provide periodic financial reports detailing revenues, expenditures, account balances, and fundraising activity.

The parties agree to collaborate on annual impact reports, donor reports, and program evaluation activities.

X. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

The parties agree to coordinate public announcements, fundraising campaigns, donor recognition efforts, 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.

XI. 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 upon race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, or any other protected classification.

XII. INDEPENDENT ENTITIES

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

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

XIII. LIABILITY

Each party shall be responsible for its own acts and omissions.

Nothing contained herein shall be construed as creating a fiduciary relationship between the City and charitable funds administered by the Foundation. The Foundation shall administer charitable assets in accordance with its governing documents, applicable law, donor restrictions, and Foundation policies.

XIV. TERMINATION

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

Termination shall not affect obligations expressly intended to survive termination, including confidentiality obligations, obligations relating to charitable funds already received by the Foundation, approved use of intellectual property, or obligations arising from activities completed before the effective date of termination.

Any charitable funds remaining after termination shall continue to be administered by the Foundation in accordance with applicable law, donor restrictions, Foundation policies, and any separate written agreement of the parties.

XV. 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 FOUNDATION

Executive Director
Clayton County Public Schools Foundation

and/or

Board Chair
Clayton County Public Schools Foundation

XVI. 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.

XVII. 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 FOUNDATION

Board Chair

Date: _____

Executive Director

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Authorized Representative

APPROVED AS TO FORM

City Attorney

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Foundation Counsel

Date: _____

EXHIBIT A

JONESBORO EDUCATION TRUST (JET) PILOT PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

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 the Foundation without the written agreement of both parties.