Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Education with and emphasis in Educational Practice

Beverly Jackson

African Centered Education, The Maji Shujaa Online Academy:
A Descriptive Case Study

Date: October 29, 2019
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Place: TLC – Bayer Education Bio Lab

Abstract
The purpose of this descriptive case study framed by African centered theory, is to advance the knowledge about
the online African centered educational programming, Maji Shujaa Academy. The researcher is the Chief Executive
Officer( CEO) and lead teacher/lead developer of online educational media for the Academy. Considerable private
African-centered educators with enterpreneurial spirit have advanced and created online African centered global
educational programming for the students of Africa and African Diaspora population groups today. Yet the available
literature is shallow with regard to the workings of online African centered educational programming. This study
explores in which the online Academy makes use of technology enhanced programming within an African centered
cultural and ideological context aimed at social/cultural transformation and reconstruction. The study aims to
describe how African centered educational parental involvement, intergenerational community bridges, social
capital, and the building of information capital, make use of web based social networking and social media in an
African Centered platform. This social networking and media have been utilized to understand the ways in which
the Maji Shajuaa Academy incorporates a dialectical and dialogical stance. Such stance will counteract Eurocentric
cultural hegemony and facilitate self-determined, critical- creative examination, and discovery. All in all with a
commitment towards cultural self reflection through an incorporation of personal experience of students, parents,
and community in an online African centered Academy were included.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Phyllis Balcerzak, Ph.D., Committee Chair
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Theresa Coble, Ph. D.