

**Minutes
Charter Authorizing Panel
August 15, 2018**

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Wednesday, August 15, 2018, in the auditorium of the Arkansas Department of Education. Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Present: Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, chair; Dr. Mike Hernandez; Dr. Jeremy Owoh; Dr. Angela Kremers; Dr. Naccaman Williams; Mike Wilson

Absent: Toyce Newton

The transcription of this meeting may be accessed on the Arkansas Department of Education website at the following:

<http://www.arkansased.gov/about-ade/charter-authorizing-panel/minutes/archive/2018>

Dr. Pfeffer introduced the members of the Panel and welcomed all in attendance.

Dr. Pfeffer provided the audience with instructions pertinent to the proceedings.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Dr. Hernandez, seconded by Dr. Williams, and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

Item included in the Consent Agenda:

1. CAP Minutes- May 16, 2018

Action Agenda

A-1 Request for Open-Enrollment Charter School Amendments: Standards for Accreditation

Dr. Alexandra Boyd, Charter Schools Office Director, and Deborah Coffman, Assistant Commissioner of Public Schools Accountability, provided an overview of Arkansas Public Schools Standards for Accreditation.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Dr. Owoh, and carried unanimously to approve the process of hearings on waivers of Standards for Accreditation.

Staff Attorney Mary Claire Hyatt provided the Panel with directions for the proceedings. She also explained the public voting procedures to the Panel and the audience.

A-2 Hearing of Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Focus Academy of Arts and Sciences, Bentonville, AR

Dr. Jessica Thompson, volunteer, and Dan Foshee, board member, presented the application request to serve students from grades K-8 with a maximum enrollment of 900 to begin operation in the 2019-2020 school year within the Bentonville School District.

Dr. Boyd and Staff Attorney Hyatt provided an overview of remaining concerns with the application.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Owoh, seconded by Dr. Williams, and carried on a 4-to-1 vote to deny the application request.

A-3 Hearing of Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Pioneer School, North Little Rock, AR

William Thomas-Felton, Head Education Director, presented the application request to serve students from grades K-9 with a maximum enrollment of 1,000 to begin operation in the 2020-2021 school year within the North Little Rock School District.

Dr. Boyd and Staff Attorney Hyatt provided an overview of remaining concerns with the application.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Kremers, and failed on a 2-to-3 vote to approve the application request. It was moved by Dr. Hernandez, seconded by Dr. Owoh, and carried on a 4-to-1 vote to deny the application request.

A-4 Hearing of Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Premier High School of North Little Rock, AR

Steven Gast, Superintendent for ResponsiveEd Solutions Arkansas, and Dennis Felton, Principal, presented the application request to serve students from grades 9-12 with a maximum enrollment of 250 to begin in the 2019-2020 school year within the North Little Rock School District.

Dr. Boyd and Staff Attorney Hyatt provided an overview of remaining concerns with the application.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Owoh, and carried unanimously to approve the application request.

A-5 Hearing of Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Prolific Learning Arts Academy, Little Rock, AR

Edmond Davis, Executive Director, presented the application request to serve students from grades 9-12 with a maximum enrollment of 350 to begin in the 2019-2020 school year within the Little Rock School District.

Dr. Boyd and Staff Attorney Hyatt provided an overview of remaining concerns with the application.

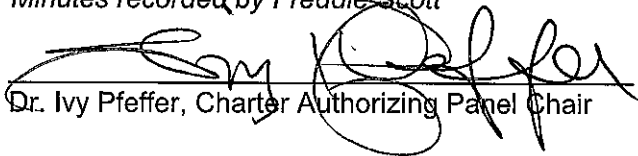
A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Hernandez, seconded by Dr. Kremers, and carried on a 4-to-1 vote to deny the application request.

Adjournment

It was moved by Dr. Hernandez, seconded by Dr. Owoh, and carried unanimously to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:47 PM.

Minutes recorded by Freddie Scott


Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, Charter Authorizing Panel Chair