

**Minutes
Charter Authorizing Panel
August 15, 2017**

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Tuesday, August 15, 2017, in the auditorium of the Department of Education building. Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:45 A.M.

Present: Dr. Ivy Pfeffer; Chair, Dr. Mike Hernandez, Toyce Newton, Dr. Jeremy Owoh, Kathi Turner, Mike Wilson

Absent: Dr. Naccaman Williams

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/2017>

Reports

Dr. Pfeffer welcomed the new members of the Panel and the audience.

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

Dr. Pfeffer recognized special guests including Lt. Governor Tim Griffin, State Representative Bragg, State Representative Wing, and City Director Lance Hines. She then yielded the floor to Lt. Governor Griffin and City Director Hines.

Consent Agenda

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

Items included in the Consent Agenda:

- CAP Minutes- July 19, 2017
- Proposed 2018 Charter Authorizing Panel Meeting Calendar
- Rockbridge Montessori School Probationary Report

Action Agenda

Staff Attorney Jennifer Davis provided the Panel with directions for the proceedings. She also explained the public voting procedures to the Panel and the audience.

A-1 Hearing of Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Einstein Charter School at Little Rock, AR

State Representative Mark Lowery provided public comments in support of the Einstein application.

Ms. Shawn Toranto, Chief Executive Officer of Einstein, presented the Panel with the Einstein request.

Mr. Michael Poore, Superintendent of the Little Rock School District, spoke in opposition of the request.

Ms. Toranto rebutted the opposition.

A question and answer period followed.

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

A-2 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Focus STEM Academy, Bentonville, AR

Ms. Micah Cummings, Executive Director presented the Panel with the Focus STEM Academy request.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Ms. Newton, seconded by Dr. Hernandez, and passed with at three-to-two vote to deny the application request.

A-3 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: ScholarMade Achievement Place, Little Rock, AR

Dr. Phillis Anderson, Executive Director, presented the Panel with the ScholarMade Achievement Place request.

Mr. Michael Poore, Superintendent of Little Rock School District, spoke in opposition of the request.

Dr. Anderson rebutted the opposition.

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-4 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: P3 Academy Charter School, McGehee, AR

LaDanan W. Emerson, Marketing/Business Director, presented the Panel with the P3 Academy request.

Mr. Chris Ferrell, Superintendent of McGehee School District, and Ms. Kristi Ridgell, Superintendent of Dermott School District spoke in opposition of the request.

Ms. Emerson rebutted the opposition.

A question and answer period followed.

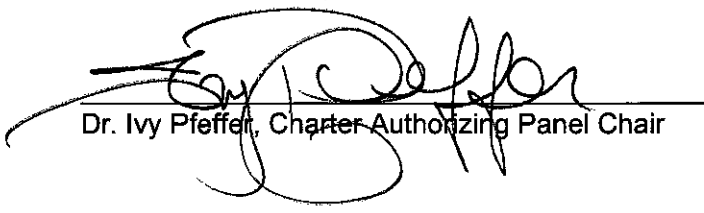
It was moved by Ms. Turner, seconded by Dr. Owoh, and carried unanimously to deny the application request.

Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Newton, and carried unanimously to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Minutes recorded by Freddie Scott


Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, Charter Authorizing Panel Chair