

**Minutes  
Charter Authorizing Panel  
August 16, 2017**

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Wednesday, August 16, 2017, in the auditorium of the Department of Education building. Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

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

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.

**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: Prolific Learning Arts Academy at Little Rock, AR**

Dr. Edmond Davis, Executive Director, presented the Prolific Learning Academy request.

A question and answer period followed.

Mr. Michael Poore, Superintendent of Little Rock School District, provided public comments in opposition of the request.

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

**A-2 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Weiner Academy of Agriculture and Technology, Weiner, AR**

Dr. Pfeffer acknowledged special guests including State Representative Mary Bentley and State Representative Dwight Tosh. She then yielded the floor to Representative Tosh and Representative Bentley.

Ms. Greta Greeno, President of ASSET Foundation, and Dr. Karen Ballard, Professor Program Evaluation at University of Arkansas System, Division of Agriculture and Cooperative Extension Services, presented the Weiner Agriculture and Technology Academy request.

Superintendent Danny Sample of Harrisburg School District spoke in opposition of the request.

Dr. Ballard rebutted the opposition.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Ms. Newton, seconded by Dr. Hernandez, passed with a five-to-one vote to deny the application request.

### **Adjournment**

It was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Owoh, and carried unanimously to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 1:26 P.M.

*Minutes recorded by Freddie Scott*

  
Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, Charter Authorizing Panel Chair