

**Minutes  
Charter Authorizing Panel  
Wednesday, February 18, 2015**

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Wednesday, February 18, 2015, in the auditorium of the Department of Education building. Mike Hernandez, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Vice Chair, Dr. Debbie Jones; Ivy Pfeffer; Annette Barnes; Deborah Coffman, Dr. Cody Decker and Dr. Eric Saunders

Absent: None

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

<http://www.arkansased.org/about-ade/charter-authorizing-panel/minutes/archive/2015>

**Reports**

**Report-1 Chair's Report**

Mike Hernandez welcomed the members of the panel and the audience.

**Consent Agenda**

**C-1 Minutes – November 19-20, 2014**

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Dr. Jones and carried unanimously to approve the minutes with minor revisions noted by Ms. Coffman.

**Action Agenda**

**A-1 Consideration of Fountain Lake Charter School High School-Requirement to Report on Progress**

It was moved by Ms. Pfeffer, seconded by Dr. Jones and carried unanimously to remove the requirement for Fountain Lake Charter High School to return in the spring with a report on progress.

**A-2 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment:  
Haas Hall Academy, Fayetteville**

Dr. Schoppemeyer presented the amendment requests for Haas Hall Academy to change locations, add the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and increase the enrollment cap.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Dr. Decker, and carried unanimously to approve the amendment requests.

**A-3 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: KIPP Delta Public Schools, Forrest City**

Mr. Shirey presented the amendment request for KIPP Delta Forrest City Campus to change locations.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Ms. Pfeffer, seconded by Dr. Jones and carried unanimously to approve the amendment request.

**A-4 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy**

Dr. Wimberly presented the amendment request for Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy to rescind the waiver of Section 3.03.4 of the ADE Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Dr. Decker, and carried unanimously to approve the amendment request.

**A-5 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Ozark Montessori Academy**

Dr. Silano presented the amendment request for Ozark Montessori Academy to change locations.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Decker, seconded by Ms. Pfeffer, and carried unanimously to approve the amendment request with an additional requirement that Ozark Montessori Academy provide the Charter Authorizing Panel with a 5 year financial report at a later date.

**A-6 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Renewal: Academics Plus Charter School**

Representatives of Academics Plus presented the renewal application for Academics Plus Charter School.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Jones, seconded by Dr. Decker, and carried in a 4-1 vote to approve the renewal application for a period of 5 years and without the waiver of section 10.02 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation regarding class size. Dr. Saunders stated the reason for his vote against the motion was because he would vote to grant the waiver of section 10.02 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards of Accreditation and grant a longer period of renewal.

**A-7 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Renewal: Arkansas Arts Academy**

Representatives of Arkansas Arts Academy presented the renewal application for Arkansas Arts Academy.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Ms. Coffman, seconded by Dr. Jones, and carried in a unanimous vote to approve the renewal application for a period of 3 years without the waivers of section 10.01.4 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation regarding Planned Instructional Day, and Section 9.03.4.1 Of the ADE Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation, and with an additional requirement that Arkansas Arts Academy return in October with a consent report addressing a plan for literacy and math curriculum, and elementary expertise .

**A-8 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Renewal: Arkansas Virtual Academy**

Representatives of Arkansas Virtual Academy presented the renewal application for Arkansas Virtual Academy.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Ms. Pfeffer, and carried in a unanimous vote to approve the renewal application for a period of 5 years without the waiver of Section 9.03.4.5 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation regarding Vocal and Instrumental Music.

**A-9 Request for District Conversion Public Charter School Renewal: Mountain Home High School Career Academy**

Representatives of Mountain Home School District presented the renewal application for Mountain Home High School Career Academies.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Ms. Barnes, seconded by Dr. Saunders, and carried in a unanimous vote to approve the renewal application for a period of 5 years with adjustments to the licensure waivers and without the waiver of Ark. Code Ann. §6-18-211 regarding Mandatory Attendance, and without the waiver to adjust the current Keystone curriculum.

### **W-1 Work Session**

The work session was rescheduled to the March 18, 2015 Charter Authorizing Panel meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Sky Bledsoe.*