

**Minutes
Charter Authorizing Panel
Wednesday, November 19, 2014**

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Wednesday, November 19, 2014, 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 and Dr. Eric Saunders

Absent: Cody Decker

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/2014>

Reports

Report-1 Chair's Report

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

Consent Agenda

C-1 Minutes – October 15-16, 2014

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

Action Agenda

**A-1 Continuation Hearing of Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application:
Redfield Tri-County Charter School, Redfield, Arkansas**

It was moved by Ms. Pfeffer, seconded by Ms. Barnes and carried unanimously to take the item off of the table.

Ms. Kight presented the application for Redfield Tri-County Charter School

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Ms. Pfeffer, seconded by Dr. Jones and carried in a 4-2 vote to deny the application. Dr. Jones voted in favor of the motion stating concerns with the development of the curriculum, the lack of technology in a STEM based model, and the lack of a plan for secondary education. Ms. Pfeffer voted in favor of the motion stating concerns with the lack of planning beyond the initial start-up year, the lack of technology and the plan for school lunches. Dr.

Saunders voted in favor of the motion stating concerns with financial stability and enrollment. Ms. Barnes and Ms. Coffman voted against the motion. Mr. Hernandez voted in favor of the motion stating concerns with planning and sustainability. It was moved by Dr. Jones, seconded by Ms. Barnes and carried unanimously to not allow resubmission of the application during the current application cycle.

A-2 Continuation Hearing of Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Rockbridge Montessori School, Little Rock, Arkansas

Ms. Knuckles presented the application for Rockbridge Montessori School.

A question and answer period followed. During the discussion the applicant agreed to rescind the waiver request of Ark. Code Ann. §6-21-304 concerning purchases of commodities.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Dr. Jones, and carried unanimously to approve the application.

A-3 Hearing of District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Career Academy of Siloam Springs, Siloam Springs School District

Representatives from the Siloam Springs School District presented the application for the Career Academy of Siloam Springs.

A question and answer period followed.

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

A-4 Hearing of District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Farmington Career Academies, Farmington School District

Representatives of the Farmington School District presented the application for the Farmington Career Academies.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Ms. Barnes, seconded by Ms. Coffman, and carried unanimously to approve the application.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Sky Bledsoe.