

Minutes
Charter Authorizing Panel Meeting
July 13, 2021

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Panel Chair Deborah Coffman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chair Deborah Coffman, Dr. Naccaman Williams (Zoom), Mr. Phil Baldwin, Ms. Sonja Wright-McMurray, Karlie Saracini, Dr. Eric Flowers

The transcription of this meeting may be accessed on the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education website at the following: <https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/about/archived-minutesvideo>

II. Consent Agenda

Ms. Wright-McMurray moved to approve the CAP minutes from June 15, 2021. Seconded by Ms. Saracini. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Action Agenda

III.1. Consideration of Charter Digital Learning Programs and Charter Amendments

III.1.a. Consideration of Digital Learning Program and Charter Amendment for Cabot Academic Center for Excellence (ACE)

Aaron Randolph, Executive Director of K-12 Curriculum/Instruction and Gifted/AP Programs presented information related to both amendment requests. Cabot Academic Center for Excellence submitted an amendment for a Digital Learning Program in grades 7-12. The school will offer asynchronous and synchronous instruction with virtual and blended options through the use of an approved digital provider.

Cabot Academic Center for Excellence requested an amendment to relocate the existing campus and increase the enrollment cap to 2,500.

Ms. Wright-McMurray moved to approve both amendments as presented. Ms. Saracini seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III.2. Consideration of Charter Amendment

III.2.a. Consideration of Charter Amendment – Friendship Aspire Academy Pine Bluff

Friendship Aspire Academy Pine Bluff requested an amendment to add an additional campus, and increase the enrollment cap to 880 by school year 2023-2024.

Mr. Baldwin moved to approve the amendments as presented. Dr. Flowers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III.3. Consideration of Charter Amendments for Digital learning Plans

III.3.a. Consideration of Charter Amendment for Digital Learning Program – Friendship Aspire Pine Bluff

Friendship Aspire Academy Pine Bluff submitted an amendment for a Digital Learning Program in grades K-5. The school will offer Asynchronous and Synchronous instruction virtually through the use of an approved digital provider and licensed district staff.

Ms. Wright-McMurray moved to approve the amendment. Dr. Williams seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III.3.b. Consideration of Charter Amendment for Digital Learning Program – Cross County Elementary

Cross County Elementary submitted an amendment for Digital Learning Program in grades 3-6. The school will offer asynchronous and synchronous instruction virtually through the use of an approved digital provider.

Mr. Baldwin moved to approve the amendment. Dr. Flowers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III.3.c. Consideration of Charter Amendment for Digital Learning Program –Cross County High School

Cross County High School submitted an amendment for Digital Learning Program in grades 7-12. The school will offer asynchronous and synchronous instruction virtually through the use of an approved digital provider.

Dr. Williams moved to approve the amendment for three years. Ms. Wright-McMurray seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III.3.d. Consideration of Charter Amendment for Digital Learning Program – ScholarMade Achievement Place of Arkansas.

ScholarMade Achievement Place of Arkansas submitted an amendment for Digital Learning Program in grades K-9 for all campuses. The school will offer asynchronous and synchronous instruction in a blended format through the use of an approved digital provider.

Ms. Wright-McMurray moved to approve the amendment. Dr. Flowers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III.3.e. Consideration of Charter Amendment for Digital Learning Program – Premier High School Little Rock

Premier High School Little Rock submitted an amendment for Digital Learning Program in grades 9-12. The school will offer asynchronous instruction virtually through the use of an approved digital provider and licensed district staff.

Dr. Williams moved to approve the amendment. Ms. Wright-McMurray seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III.3.f. Consideration of Charter Amendment for Digital Learning Program – Premier High School of North Little Rock

Premier High School of North Little Rock submitted an amendment for Digital Learning Program in grades 9-12. The school will offer asynchronous instruction virtually through the use of an approved digital provider.

Dr. Williams moved to approve the amendment. Mr. Baldwin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III.3.g. Consideration of Charter Amendment for Digital Learning Program – Batesville High School Charter

Batesville High School Charter submitted an amendment for Digital Learning Program in grades 9-12. The school will offer asynchronous and synchronous instruction with virtual and blended options through the use of an approved digital provider.

Mr. Baldwin moved to approve the amendment for three years. Dr. Flowers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Adjournment

Ms. Sonja-Wright McMurray moved to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Flowers. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.



Ms. Deborah Coffman, Charter Authorizing Panel Chair