

Alabama Public Charter School Commission
May 11, 2021 10:00 A.M.
Via Zoom/In Person

MINUTES

The Alabama Public Charter School Commission (APCSC) meeting May 11, 2021, at 10:00 A.M. in a Zoom and in person meeting at the Gordon Persons Building Montgomery Alabama to consider matters relevant to duties of the Alabama Public Charter School Commission outlined in the *Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act* for public charter schools in Alabama.

Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Agenda and Minutes

David Marshall welcomed everyone to the meeting. Roll call was taken by Mrs. Logan Searcy. Seven members were present which represented a quorum. Members of the Commission who participated:

David Marshall	Sydney Raine
Marla Green	Kim Terry
Dick Brewbaker	Paul Morin
Henry Nelson	Vernet Nettles (Rotating Commissioner)

Chairman Marshall asked for a motion to approve today's agenda and the minutes from the April 29, 2021 meeting. Sydney Raine made a motion to accept today's agenda and the minutes. Henry Nelson seconded. The vote was unanimous. Seven of nine members were present. One rotating commissioner also participated. Minutes and agenda were accepted.

Consideration of the Language for the Changes to the Bylaws

Mr. Marshall introduced the first item on the agenda. Consideration of making changes to the formal language of the commission bylaws. Mr. Lane Knight sent suggested changes to each commissioner via email. Chairman Marshall asked for questions or debate. Marla Green made a motion to accept the language changes suggested by Mr. Knight. Dick Brewbaker seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

Consideration of the Resolution Upholding the Denial from the Birmingham City School Board as the Local Authorizer

Chairman Marshall introduced the item regarding a resolution upholding Birmingham City's denial of Alabama Aerospace and Aviation High School. A proposed resolution had been sent to each commissioner. There was a request from commissioners for an explanation of vote process. Lane Knight explained the voting process. Motion to approve resolution was made by Paul Morin and seconded by Allison alexander. The vote was 2 yes and 5 nos. The resolution failed. Lane Knight then explained that by law there must be a resolution upholding the vote. There could be changes made to the language and the resolution could be tabled until the next meeting. Dick Brewbaker made a motion to table the resolution and Henry Nelson seconded. The vote was 6 yes 0 nos to table the resolution. One commissioner did not vote. The motion to table the resolution passed.

Presentation of Renewal Timeline

Commissioner Marshall asked Logan Searcy to present and explain the Renewal Timeline and process to the commissioners. Acceleration Day and Evening Academy is first charter school to reach the five-year renewal process. The process and the timeline were explained and are proceeding. Results will be complete in July and Acceleration Day and Evening Academy will be given an application for renewal that will be due to the Commission October 1, 2021. The timeline will be posted on the commission website and the commissioners will all be given a copy.

Consideration of the Appeal of the Denial of I Dream Big Academy (Montgomery)

Chairman Marshall introduced the next item. The appeal of the denial of I Dream Big Academy's charter application by the local authorizer. Mr. Marshall allowed representatives and supporters of I Dream Big Academy to make a presentation in support of their appeal. After I Dream Big's presentation Commissioner Marshall asked for each commissioner be given the opportunity to speak with each one being called in order. The rotating commissioner representing the local authorizer was called first. Each commissioner was called and allowed to ask questions or make comments. Discussion followed the questions. Commissioners asked for clarification on what legally should the vote be based. Lane Knight read the requirements of the vote. Dick Brewbaker made a motion to overturn the denial. Marla Green seconded the motion. The vote was 2 yes -6 nos to overturn the denial. Overturning the denial is voted down. The denial is upheld.

Consideration of the Application of Empower Community School (Bessemer)

Chairman Marshall moved to the item to consider the application of Empower Community School located in Bessemer. Mr. Marshall allowed the representatives of Empower Community School to make a presentation in support of their charter school application. After the applicant's presentation Commissioner Marshall requested commissioners to ask questions or to make comments. Commissioners were called by roll call to ask questions and make comments. Discussion followed. Dick Brewbaker made a motion to accept Empower Community School's charter school application. Henry Nelson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 7 yes. The motion to accept Empower Community School's charter school application passed.

Recognition of Service of Commissioners whose Terms Expire

Chairman Marshall sends best wishes and may thanks to Kim Terry who will no longer be on the commission. He voiced appreciation from all for her service.

Adjourn

Chairman Marshall adjourned the meeting at 11:44 A.M.
Next commission meeting May 20, 2021 via zoom.