

Alabama Public Charter School Commission
September 15, 2025, 12:30 P.M.
In Person and Via Zoom

MINUTES

The Alabama Public Charter School Commission (APCSC) meeting took place September 15, 2025, at 12:30 P.M. via Zoom and in person at 1 Grand Blvd., Fairhope, AL, 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, Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Presiding: Chair Dr. Shelia Austin

The following commission members were present:

Dr. Shelia Austin

Ms. Deborah Alvis

Mrs. Marla Green

Dr. Faron Hollinger

Dr. Dorothy Houston - Absent

Mr. Ryan Kendall

Dr. M Javed Khan

Mr. Charles Knight

Dr. Cynthia McCarty

Mrs. Julie Ann McCulley

Dr. Sharon Porterfield

Mrs. Joslyn Reddick

Mrs. LaKeisha Wheeler

Also present: Mrs. Logan Searcy, Alabama Charter School Commission Executive Director

Mr. Lane Knight, Esq.

On motion by Commissioner McCarty and seconded by Commissioner Hollinger, the commission voted unanimously to approve today's agenda and the minutes for the August 11, 2025, meeting.

Consideration of Commission Officers

Chair Austin turned the voting for the commission's officers over to Executive Director Searcy.

Treasurer nomination: Commissioner Kendall was nominated. Commissioner Kendall was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Vice-Chair nominations: Commissioner McCarty and Commissioner Knight were nominated. The vote was taken by ballot. Voting results were Commissioner McCarty – 7, Commissioner Knight – 4, abstained – 1.

Commissioner McCarty was chosen as Vice-Chair.

Chair nominations: Commissioner Knight, Commissioner Austin, and Commissioner Reddick were nominated. The vote was taken by ballot. Voting results were Commissioner Knight - 3, Commissioner Austin - 4, Commissioner Reddick – 5.

Runoff: Commissioner Austin, Commissioner Reddick; Voting results were Commissioner Austin - 7, Commissioner Reddick – 5, Commissioner Austin was chosen as Chair.

Consideration of Freedom Prep's Release from CAP

On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner McCarty, the commission voted unanimously to release Freedom Prep from their CAP. The motion was approved; Freedom Prep was released from the CAP. The vote was 12 – Yes, 0 – No

Austin – Yes	Knight – Yes
Alvis – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Green – Yes	McCulley – Yes
Hollinger – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes
Khan – Yes	Wheeler – Yes

Consideration of the Teacher of the Year Award

Chair Knight opened discussion on the Teacher of the Year Process. The nominations from the charter schools are due October 1, 2025. Director Searcy said a committee of commissioners were needed to read and evaluate nominations. Chair Austin asked for volunteers. Commissioner Reddick, Commissioner McCulley, and Commissioner McCarty volunteered. On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner McCarty, the commission voted unanimously to approve the process for the Teacher of the Year Awards.

The vote was 12 – Yes, 0 – No

Austin – Yes	Knight – Yes
Alvis – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Green – Yes	McCulley – Yes
Hollinger – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes
Khan – Yes	Wheeler – Yes

Consideration of Extension for Under the Oaks

Chair Austin called for discussion on the extension of the conditional approval of Under the Oaks charter application. Under the Oaks attorney and school leadership shared that the two conditions for the original conditional charter application approval have not been resolved. Under the Oaks leadership, Evelyn Hambrick asked for an added extension of the conditional approval of their charter application. On motion from Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner Alvis the commission voted to deny the motion requesting the extension of Under the Oaks charter application. The motion did not pass. The extension of Under the Oaks charter application was denied. The vote was 2 – Yes, 10 – No

Austin – No	Knight – No
Alvis – No	McCarty – No
Green – Yes	McCulley – No
Hollinger – No	Porterfield – No
Kendall – No	Reddick – No
Khan – No	Wheeler – Yes

Consideration of the Resolution for Under the Oaks

On motion by Commissioner McCulley and seconded by Commissioner McCarty the commission voted to approve the vote denying Under the Oaks request for an extension of their conditional charter application. The resolution passed and the resolution was approved.

The vote was 11 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Abstained

Austin – Yes	Knight – Yes
Alvis – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Green – Yes	McCulley – Yes
Hollinger – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes
Khan – Yes	Wheeler – Abstained

Executive Director Updates

1. Floretta P. Carson Visual and Performing Academy from Mobile will perform for the commissioners after the meeting.
2. Commissioner Knight requested another meeting with the charter schools' leadership and commission during this school year.

Adjourn

Chair Austin thanked everyone for their time. The Chair asked for a show of hands for a motion to adjourn. There was a unanimous show of hands to adjourn. The meeting ended at 1:59 P.M.

Submitted : Peggy Haveard Printed Name: Peggy Haveard

Approved by: Sheila Austin Printed Name: Sheila Austin