

Alabama Public Charter School Commission
May 4, 2026, 3:00 P.M.
In Person and Via Zoom

MINUTES

The Alabama Public Charter School Commission (APCSC) meeting took place May 4, 2026, at 3:00 P.M. in the Gordon Persons Building, 50 North Ripley Street, Montgomery, AL. and via Zoom 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: Chairman Dr. Shelia Austin

The following commission members were present:

Dr. Shelia Austin – In Person

Mrs. Deborah Alvis – Absent

Mrs. Terri Collins – In Person

Mrs. Marla Green - On Zoom

Dr. Faron Hollinger – On Zoom

Dr. Dorothy Huston – On Zoom

Mr. Ryan Kendall - In Person

Dr. M Javed Khan – On Zoom

Mr. Charles Knight – On Zoom

Mrs. Terry Lathan – In Person

Dr. Cynthia McCarty – In Person

Dr. Sharon Porterfield – On Zoom

Mrs. Joslyn Reddick – On Zoom

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

Mr. Lane Knight, Esq.

On motion by Commissioner McCarty and seconded by Commissioner Kendall the commission voted 10 – Yes, 0 – No, 2 Abstain, to approve today’s agenda and the minutes for the March 9, 2026, meeting.

The vote was as follows: The motion was approved.

Austin – Yes

Khan – Yes

Collins – Abstain

Knight – Yes

Green – Yes

Lathan - Abstain

Hollinger – Yes

McCarty – Yes

Huston – Yes

Porterfield – Yes

Kendall – Yes

Reddick – Yes

Public Comments

Two public comments were scheduled.

Dr. Mike Daria spoke regarding Tuscaloosa City’s application review.

Mr. Cedric Tatum spoke regarding Birmingham City’s applications reviews.

Consideration of Charter School Application and Resolution for Time Leadership Academy (Dothan)

Time Leadership Academy's Founder and Executive Director, Nate Patterson, shared a presentation of Time Leadership Academy's charter school application. On motion by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Lathan, the Commission voted unanimously to accept Time Leadership Academy's charter school application with an opening in 2027. The vote was as follows: 12– Yes, 0 – No. The motion was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan – Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes

The resolution confirming the vote accepting the charter school application for Time Leadership Academy was shared with all commissioners. On a motion by Commissioner Lathan and seconded by Commissioner Knight, the commission voted unanimously to accept the resolution confirming the approval of Time Leadership Academy's charter school application.

The vote was as follows: 12- Yes, 0- No. The resolution was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan – Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes

Consideration of Charter School Application and Resolution for X.S.T.R.E.A.M. Minds Academy (Birmingham)

X.S.T.R.E.A.M. Minds Academy founder Melisa Capehart shared a presentation of X.S.T.R.E.A.M. Minds Academy's charter school application with an opening in 2028. On motion by Commissioner McCarty and seconded by Commissioner Lathan, the Commission voted to accept X.S.T.R.E.A.M. Minds Academy's charter school application with a 2028 opening, and 80% enrollment 6 months prior to the opening date. The Vote was as follows: 11 – Yes, 1 – No. The motion was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – No
Green – Yes	Lathan – Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes

The resolution confirming the vote of accepting the charter school application for X.S.T.R.E.A.M. Minds Academy was shared with all commissioners. On a motion by Commissioner Lathan and seconded by Commissioner Kendall, the commission voted unanimously to accept the resolution confirming the approval of X.S.T.R.E.A.M. Minda Academy's Charter School Application.

The vote was as follows: 12- Yes, 0- No. The resolution was approved.

Austin – Yes	Huston – Yes	Lathan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Kendall – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Green – Yes	Khan – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Hollinger – Yes	Knight – Yes	Reddick – Yes

Consideration of Charter School Application and Resolution for Floreecer Community School (Birmingham)

Floreecer Community School leadership shared a presentation in support of Floreecer Community School's charter school application with a 2028 opening date. On motion by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Lathan, the commission voted unanimously to accept the charter school application for Floreecer Community School with an opening date of 2028 and 80% enrollment 6 months prior to the opening date. The vote was as follows: 12 – Yes, 0 – No. The motion was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan - Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes

The resolution confirming the vote accepting the charter school application for Floreecer Community School was shared with all commissioners. On a motion by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Lathan, the commission voted unanimously to accept the resolution confirming the approval of Floreecer Community School's charter school application.

The vote was as follows: 12- Yes, 0- No. The resolution was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan - Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes

Consideration of Charter School Application and Resolution for Pathways in Education (Tuscaloosa)

Pathways in Education leadership shared a presentation of Pathways in Education charter school application with a 2027 opening. On motion by Commissioner Reddick and seconded by Commissioner Huston, the commission voted to deny the charter school application for Pathways in Education. The vote was as follows: 1 – Yes, 11 – No. The motion failed. The application was denied.

Austin – No	Khan – No
Collins – No	Knight – No
Green – No	Lathan - No
Hollinger – No	McCarty – No
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – No
Kendall – No	Reddick – No

The resolution confirming the vote denying the charter school application for Pathways in Education was shared with all commissioners. On a motion by Commissioner Lathan and seconded by Commissioner McCarty, the commission voted unanimously to accept the resolution confirming the denial of Pathways in Education charter school application.

The vote was as follows: 12- Yes, 0- No. The resolution was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes	Kendall – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes	Reddick – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan - Yes	
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes	
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes	

Consideration of Charter School Application and Resolution for C.A. Fredd Jr. Career and Technical Academy (Tuscaloosa)

C.A. Fredd Jr. Career and Technical Academy founder and CEO, Dr. Dominic Combs shared a presentation of C.A. Fredd Jr. Career and Technical Academy's charter school application with a 2028 opening. On motion by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner McCarty the commission voted unanimously to accept the charter school application for C.A. Fredd Jr. Career and Technical Academy with an opening in 2028 and 80% enrollment 6 months prior to opening date. The vote was as follows: 12 – Yes, 0 – No. The motion was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan - Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes

The resolution confirming the vote accepting the charter school application for C.A. Fredd Jr. Career and Technical Academy was shared with all commissioners. On a motion by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Lathan the commission voted unanimously to accept the resolution confirming the approval of C.A. Fredd Jr. Career and Technical Academy charter school application. The vote was as follows: 12- Yes, 0- No. The resolution was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan - Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes

Consideration of Charter School Contract Amendment for I Dream Big Academy

I Dream Big Academy leadership has applied to modify the charter contract to reflect the addition of an 8th grade in the opening year. The application also requests to add the high school grades one-year early respectively – adding the 9th grade in the fall 2026. On motion by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner McCarty, the commission voted to accept the motion approving the amendment for I Dream Big Academy to add an 8th grade in the opening year. Also, adding high school grades one-year early respectively – adding the 9th grade in fall 2026. The vote was as follows: 10 – Yes, 1 – No. The motion was approved.

Austin – Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan - Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – No	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick –

Consideration of Charter School Contract Amendment for Magic City Acceptance Academy

Magic City Acceptance Academy leadership spoke to the commission requesting permission to add an additional building to the Magic City Acceptance Academy campus. On motion by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Porterfield requesting the additional building for the Magic City

Acceptance Academy campus the commission voted unanimously to deny the motion requesting the additional building for Magic City Acceptance Academy campus.

The vote was as follows: 0 – Yes, 12 – No. The motion failed.

Austin – No	Khan – No
Collins – No	Knight – No
Green – No	Lathan - No
Hollinger – No	McCarty – No
Huston – No	Porterfield – No
Kendall – No	Reddick – No

Consideration of Charter School Contract Amendment for Freedom Prep

Freedom Pep leadership requested to amend Freedom Prep’s enrollment numbers in their charter contract to accurately reflect current enrollment and to also delay adding any middle school grades. On motion by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Lathan to deny the charter school contract enrollment number change and to allow delaying the middle school opening. The commission voted unanimously to accept the motion denying the charter school contract enrollment number change and allowing the delay in opening a middle school. The vote was as follows. 12 – Yes, 0 – No.

The motion was approved.

Austin –Yes	Khan – Yes
Collins – Yes	Knight – Yes
Green – Yes	Lathan - Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes

Consideration of Charter School Contract Amendment for Independence Preparatory Academy

Independence Preparatory Academy leadership requested lowering the enrollment numbers in their charter school contract to be aligned with current enrollment. On motion by Commissioner Kendall and seconded by Commissioner Knight to accept the requested amendment to Independence Preparatory Academy the commission voted unanimously to deny the motion lowering the enrollment numbers to align with current enrollment. The vote was as follows: 0 – Yes, 12 – No. The motion failed.

Austin – No	Khan – No
Collins – No	Knight – No
Green – No	Lathan - No
Hollinger – No	McCarty – No
Huston – No	Porterfield – No
Kendall – No	Reddick – No

Executive Director Update

1. Director Searcy shared that the CSP grant award winners will be announced May 11, 2026. There will be 5 grants awarded. All were chosen through outside peer review.
2. There will be a second round of grants this summer.
3. Information is coming soon on upcoming conference opportunities for commissioners.

Adjourn

Chairman Austin thanked everyone for their time and effort for the children. On motion by Commissioner Kendall and seconded by Commissioner McCarty, the commission adjourned by voice vote at 6:04 P.M.

Submitted : Peggy Haveard Printed Name: Peggy Haveard

Submitted : Sheila Austin Printed Name: Sheila Austin