

Alabama Public Charter School Commission
January 12, 2026, 4:00 P.M.
Via Zoom

MINUTES

The Alabama Public Charter School Commission (APCSC) meeting took place January 12, 2026, at 4:00 P.M. 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: Chair Dr. Shelia Austin

The following commission members were present:

Dr. Shelia Austin

Ms. Deborah Alvis – Absent

Mrs. Marla Green - Absent

Dr. Faron Hollinger

Dr. Dorothy Houston

Mr. Ryan Kendall

Dr. M Javed Khan

Mr. Charles Knight

Dr. Cynthia McCarty

Mrs. Julie Ann McCulley – Absent

Dr. Sharon Porterfield

Mrs. Joslyn Reddick – Entered late

Mrs. LaKeisha Wheeler – Entered late

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

Mr. Lane Knight, Esq.

On motion by Commissioner McCarty and seconded by Commissioner Knight, the commission voted unanimously to approve today’s agenda and the minutes for the November 10, 2025, meeting.

Public Comments

No public comments scheduled. No Public comments made.

Consideration and Discussion of Extension of Freedom Prep - Montgomery

On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner Porterfield the commission voted unanimously to accept the request for an extension for Freedom Prep – Montgomery. The vote was 9 – Yes, 0 – No. The motion was approved.

Austin – Yes

Knight – Yes

Hollinger – Yes

McCarty – Yes

Huston – Yes

Porterfield – Yes

Kendall – Yes

Reddick -Yes

Khan– Yes

Presentations, Discussion and Consideration of School Model Capacity, Enrollment, Recruitment and Retention

Dr. Doug Riley presented each charter school’s data for their capacity numbers and Dr. Thacker shared data for each charter school’s retention data for the past three years. Discussion followed.

On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner Khan the commission voted unanimously to accept the school model capacity numbers. The schools that are under the enrollment numbers in their charter contract will work with charter commission staff to amend their charter school contract. The vote was 10 -Yes, 0 – No. The motion was approved.

Austin – Yes	Knight – Yes
Hollinger – Yes	McCarty – Yes
Huston – Yes	Porterfield – Yes
Kendall – Yes	Reddick – Yes
Khan– Yes	Wheeler – Yes

Alabama Public Charter School Commission Annual Report

Director Searcy reported the Charter School Annual Report was submitted and it is posted on the commission website for public viewing.

Introduction of New Staff and Executive Director’s Updates

1. New employees:
Academic Specialist - Madeline Jones, will begin in February
Grant Project Director – Jane Ivey, will begin next week.
2. Application for sub-grantees will be released in February.
3. Charter School Application available.
4. Charter staff and commissioners are making school visits.

Adjourn

Chair Austin thanked everyone for their time and effort for the children. On motion by Commissioner Austin and seconded by Commissioner Khan the commission adjourned by unanimous vote at 5:13 P.M.

Submitted : *Peggy Haveard* Printed Name: Peggy Haveard

Approved by: *Sheila Austin* Printed Name: Sheila Austin