

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Alabama Public Charter School Commission (the “Commission”) was established by the Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act of 2015 with a mission to authorize high-quality public charter schools in accordance with state law; and

WHEREAS, in evaluating and reviewing charter applications, the Commission is charged with the responsibility of employing procedures, practices, and criteria consistent with nationally recognized principles and standards for quality charter authorizing; and

WHEREAS, the application review process must include a thorough evaluation of each written application, an in-person interview with the applicant group, and a public forum for local residents; and

WHEREAS, the Commission may grant charters only to applicants that have demonstrated competence and are likely to open and operate a successful public charter school; is to base its decision on documented evidence collected through the application review process; must follow policies and practices that are transparent and based on merit; must avoid conflicts of interests or any appearance thereof; and must require significant and objective evidence of interest for the public charter school from the community the public charter school wishes to serve; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has engaged The University of Alabama, College of Education, Office of Evaluation Research and School Development (the “External Evaluator”) to assist with the evaluation process and to provide information, analysis, and recommendations to assist the Commission in determining whether the charter application has met the standards for approval under state law and nationally recognized principles and standards; and

WHEREAS, Covenant Academy of Mobile filed a public charter school application with the Commission on **December 17, 2021**; and

WHEREAS, a capacity interview of Covenant Academy of Mobile was conducted on **February 7, 2022**; and

WHEREAS, a public forum was held for local residents in Mobile County, Alabama on **February 7, 2022**; and

WHEREAS, the External Evaluator has evaluated the application, has assessed the applicant’s overall capacity to implement its proposal, and has issued an analysis to the Commission regarding the application; and

WHEREAS, Covenant Academy of Mobile was given an opportunity to respond and, in fact, did respond to the External Evaluator’s evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is most appreciative of the efforts of Covenant Academy of Mobile as reflected in the submitted application.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alabama Public Charter School Commission does hereby approve the application of Covenant Academy of Mobile to operate a public charter school in Mobile, Alabama.

Resolution adopted and approved by the Alabama Public Charter School Commission at its meeting of February 14, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as follows:

1. The applicant has demonstrated competence in each element of the Commission's established approval criteria and is likely to open and operate a successful public charter school.
2. The execution of a charter contract with the applicant shall be subject to the applicant's demonstration it is in good standing financially and that it is in good standing educationally.
3. The charter contract shall contain readiness-to-open provisions that shall serve as reasonable conditions that the applicant must satisfy before the charter school opens.
4. Within sixty (60) days of this approval, the governing board of the approved public charter school and the Commission shall execute a charter contract that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance expectations and measures by which the public charter school will be judged and the administrative relationship between the Commission and the public charter school, including each party's rights and duties and the Chairman of the Commission shall hereby be authorized to execute the contract on the Commission's behalf and submit it and related attachments to the Alabama State Department of Education, as provided by law.



Its Chairman