AGENDA
CHARTER AUTHORIZING PANEL

November 3, 2026
Arkansas Department of Education
DESE Auditorium
4 Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
10:00 AM

DRAFT

I. **Call to Order**

The November 3, 2026, Special Meeting of the Charter Authorizing Panel (CAP) was called to order by Dr. Sonja Wright-McMurray, Chair, at 10:04 am.

Present in person was:

Dr. Sonja Wright-McMurray, Chair

Present virtually via Zoom were:

- Dr. John Bacon,
- Mr. Phillip Baldwin,
- Dr. Tina Moore,
- Ms. Edie Stewart,

Absent:

- Dr. Crystal Beshears-Duncan
- Ms. Toyce Newton

II. **Changes to Agenda**

None

III. **Action Agenda**

1. Voluntary Assignment of Charter for Imboden Area Charter School to Freedom Education Services, Inc.

On October 15, 2026, the Charter Authorizing Panel ("the Panel") accepted the Imboden Area Charter School Board's petition to voluntarily transfer its charter to Freedom Education Services, as unanimously approved by the Imboden Area Charter School Board on October 13, 2026; schedule the revocation hearing for November 3, 2026; and approve the transition agreement pending the Panel's November 3 action and final consideration by the State Board of Education on November 12, 2026.

The motion was made by Ms. Edie Stewart, seconded by Dr. John Bacon and passed unanimously.

On November 3, 2026, Mr. Phillip Baldwin moved to adopt the findings read into the record by the Division and approve the Joint Petition for Voluntary Assignment of the charter of Imboden Area Charter School, LEA 3840700, from Imboden Area Charter School, Inc. to Freedom Education Services, Inc., effective January 1, 2027, subject to the conditions set forth in the Division's written recommendation, Attachment A, which were incorporated into the motion by reference. Ms. Edie Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.

IV. **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

V. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 am.

The next meeting of the Charter Authorizing Panel is scheduled for November 19, 2026.

Minutes Prepared By:

Ms. Cheryl Y. Powell
Charter School Office Staff
Arkansas Department of Education

Minutes Approved By:

Dr. Sonja Wright-McMurray, Chair
Charter Authorizing Panel
Arkansas Department of Education

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