



MINUTES

Charter Authorizing Panel

September 19, 2025

Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium

4 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201

9:00 AM

I. Call to Order

The September 19, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Charter Authorizing Panel (CAP) was called to order by Dr. Sonja Wright-McMurray (Chair) at 9:03 AM.

Present in person were:

- Chair Dr. Wright-McMurray,
- Dr. John Bacon,
- Mr. Phil Baldwin,
- Dr. Tina Moore,
- Dr. Crystal Beshears-Duncan, and
- Ms. Edie Stewart.

Toyce Newton was absent.

II. Action Agenda

II.1. Dr. Darrell Smith introduced the Action Agenda, consisting of hearings for two charter applicant groups.

II.1. a.

Arkansas Virtual Tech Academy

Representatives of the Arkansas Virtual Tech Academy and Stellar Virtual provided a presentation to the panel about the proposed charter. Questions and answers followed.

After the question and answers, Arkansas Virtual Tech Academy Board Member Locke Adair requested that the Charter Authorizing Panel defer its vote on the charter application until the group can return in January 2026, with additional details.

It was moved by John Bacon and seconded by Phil Baldwin, to approve the applicant's request that the Charter Authorizing Panel defer its vote on the charter application until the January 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

II.1. b.

Arkansas Executive Prep Academy-Harrison

Representatives of the Arkansas Executive Prep Academy provided a presentation to the panel about the proposed charter. Questions and answers followed.

It was moved by John Bacon and seconded by Phil Baldwin to approve the charter application for the Arkansas Executive Prep Academy. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Consent Agenda

Minutes from the August 7, 2025, Charter Authorizing Panel Meeting

It was moved by John Bacon and seconded by Crystal-Beshears Duncan, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

V. Adjournment

It was moved by Edie Stewart and seconded by Crystal-Beshears Duncan to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 12:52 PM.

Minutes Prepared By:

Mary Perry, Board Liaison
Office of the Secretary
Arkansas Department of Education

Minutes Approved By:

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

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