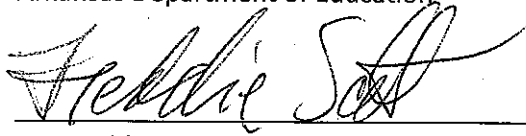


Charter Authorization Panel

October 15-16, 2024

- I. Meeting called to order by Acting Chair, Freddie Scott at 9:00 am. Motion to approve consent agenda. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Members present: Acting Chair Freddie Scott, Kim Davis, Phillip Baldwin, Toyce Newton, and Dr. Tina Moore.
- II. Kaylee Haywood, Attorney for ADE, gave legal process review.
- III. Dorie Summons, Charter Director, introduced IOTA Leadership Academy.
  - a. Jocquell Rodgers, IOTA (F.K.A., Green Dot Schools) Community Schools presented overview.
  - b. Chief Operations Officer, Chad Everett, presented on demographics that school focuses on.
  - c. Christina Austin, Chief of Innovation, presented on graduation rates and progress on reading and math scores.
  - d. Daniel Peñaranda, Chief Financial Officer, presented on facilities and finances.
  - e. Dr. Moore asked about counseling waiver. Ms. Austin said that they would be employing social workers rather than school counselors, but adhering to ratio. Dr. Moore also asked why only 50 students would be placed into STEM Explorers program. Ms. Austin said that it would be premised on test scores and interest in the program. Dr. Moore also asked about board size and what the "sweet spot" was since application indicated 3 to 25.
  - f. Mr. Scott asked about composition of skill set of existing board.
  - g. Mr. Davis asked about chronic absenteeism rate of Bluff City High School that applicant operates in Memphis.
  - h. Dr. Moore moved to approve the application. Ms. Newton seconded. Motion contingent upon budget and location. K-5 motion. Motion passed unanimously.
  - i. Dr. Moore moved to approve request for a 6-8 school contingent upon budget and location. Ms. Newton seconded. Motion approved 4-1. Kim Davis voted nay.
- IV. Meeting adjourned until October 16, 2024.
- V. Dorie Summons, Charter Director, introduced Unbound Academy's application for a virtual charter school.
  - a. Applicant presented a plan for a virtual charter school premised on their Alpha Private School headquartered in Austin, Texas.
  - b. School plan uses an adaptive A.I. for shorter time in core content classes.
  - c. Panel had several questions about facilitation of learning for students in remote areas.
  - d. Motion to deny application by Toyce Newton. Seconded by Kim Davis. Motion passed unanimously. Application denied.
- VI. Dorie Summons, Charter Director, introduced New International Charter School's application for a virtual charter school.
  - a. Newman presented by Dr. Sheeba George.
  - b. Partnering with Red Comet as a curriculum partner.
  - c. Applicant would utilize A.I. and V.R. for facilitation of content. Would also have drop in centers around state for individual attention to students as students need.
  - d. Dr. Moore said that she sees a considerable amount of potential, but needs refinement.
  - e. Motion and second to deny application. Ms. Newton abstained. All others voted no.
- VII. Motion to adjourn, seconded, passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by:  
Dustin Scott Wood, J.D.  
State Director of School Choice  
Arkansas Department of Education

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Freddie Scott", written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Freddie Scott  
Charter Authorization Panel  
Acting Chairman