

CHARTER AUTHORIZING PANEL
Tuesday, December 19, 2023, 9:00 A.M.
Arch Ford Auditorium
Meeting Summary

- I. Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, ADE Special Advisor, Educator Effectiveness and Licensure, called the meeting to order.
- II. The Panel unanimously approved the Consent Agenda which consisted of the minutes from the November meeting.
- III. The Panel considered the Action Agenda.
 1. The Panel voted to rescind all waivers approved for Warren Middle School; the charter was rescinded in September 2023.
 2. The Panel voted to approve the proposed meeting calendar for 2024.
 3. The Panel voted to approve the application from the Mountainburg Public School District to convert Mountainburg High School to a district conversion charter serving students in grades 9-12 with a career and technical focus.
 4. The Panel voted to approve the charter amendment request from the Haas Hall Academy to relocate the existing campus at 121 West Poplar Street to The Peaks Development at 2807 Ajax Avenue.
 5. The Panel voted to approve a five-year renewal of the Academies of West Memphis, a district conversion charter in the West Memphis School District, with a report to be prepared collaboratively with Department of Education staff and to be presented to the Charter Authorizing Panel at the mid-point of the renewal period.
 6. Tiffani Grayer and Jeffrey Fetters, Arkansas Department of Education School Performance and Public School Accountability, discussed the 2023 State and Federal Accountability Report for Open Enrollment and District Conversion Charter Schools. The Panel requested additional data comparing charter performance to performance in non-charters with similar demographics. Also, a request from the Panel was made to hear from schools that are making strong progress and to learn from them.

The Panel voted to invite Friendship Little Rock Elementary, Friendship Southeast Pine Bluff, Jacksonville Lighthouse Elementary, Founders Online Elementary, Founders West Little Rock, eSTEM Elementary, eSTEM West Village, and LISA Academy to its February meeting to discuss student academic performance.

The Panel voted to adjourn the meeting.