

**Minutes
Charter Authorizing Panel
August 18, 2016**

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Thursday, August 18, 2016, in the auditorium of the Department of Education building. Deborah Coffman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Deborah Coffman, Chair; Dr. Mark Gotcher, Vice Chair; Stacy Smith; Bobby Lester; Jennifer Liwo; Ivy Pfeffer; Greg Rogers; Dr. Eric Saunders, Annette Barnes

Absent: None

The transcription of this meeting may be accessed on the Arkansas Department of Education website at the following:

<http://www.arkansased.gov/about-ade/charter-authorizing-panel/minutes/archive/2016>

Reports

Report-1 Chair's Report

Ms. Coffman welcomed the members of the Panel and the audience. She introduced the Panel members.

Ms. Coffman provided the audience with instructions pertinent to the proceedings.

Action Agenda

Staff Attorney Jennifer Davis provided the Panel with directions for the proceedings. She also explained the public voting procedures to the Panel and the audience.

A-1 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application: Paron Charter School, Paron, Arkansas

School representative, Jamie Mullins presented the Panel with the Paron Charter School, Paron, Arkansas applicant request for an open-enrollment charter school. Representative Mickey Cates spoke in favor of the proposal.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Ms. Pfeffer, seconded by Ms. Smith, and failed with 5-to-3 vote to table this application until the October meeting.

It was moved by Dr. Gotcher, seconded by Ms. Barnes, and carried 6-to-2 to deny the application.

A-2 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Future School of Fort Smith

The charter school withdrew this amendment request prior to the hearing.

A-3 Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Ozark Montessori Academy

Superintendent Dr. Christina Silano presented the Panel with Ozark Montessori Academy's amendment request.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Dr. Gotcher, and carried unanimously to approve the application.

Adjournment

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Rogers, and carried unanimously to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Kelly McLaughlin

Deborah Coffman, Charter Authorizing Panel Chair