

Charter Authorization Panel Minutes, June 18, 2023

- I. Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman, Dr. Matthew Sutherlin. Members present: Chair, Dr. Matthew Sutherlin; Dr. Sonya Wright-McMurray; Mr. Freddie Scott; Mr. Phillip Baldwin; Dr. Tina Moore. Chair swore in all who planned to speak. The transcript and video of this meeting is available on the Arkansas Department of Education, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education website located at <https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/about/archived-minutesvideo/2024>
- II. Consent agenda motion by Mr. Baldin, seconded by Dr. Wright-McMurray. Unanimously approved.
- III. Stephen Reynolds, Attorney for ADE Legal Office, did legal procedural review.
- IV. Dorie Summons did introduction of Fountain Lake Middle School to rescind charter and all waivers. Motion by Freddie Scott to approve the rescinding of the charter. Dr. Wright-McMurray seconded. Unanimously approved.
- V. Fort Smith Virtual Academy. Requesting amendment to change grade level from K-12 to 6-12. Ms. Amanda Hall presenting on behalf of Fort Smith Virtual Academy. Dr. Wright-McMurray motion to approve. Dr. Moore seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- VI. Pinecrest Academy Fayetteville request to offset start time by one year to the 25-26 SY. Ms. Adrienne Lima presented via Zoom. They are still looking for a suitable location, but by timeline have not been able to identify a good site. Motion by Phillip Baldwin and seconded by Dr. Moore to approve request. Charter will come back with an update in October, 2024 concerning a possible location.
- VII. Civica Charter School requested same thing as Pinecrest. Dr. Wright-McMurray. Dr. Moore seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Will have to come back in October for update to Panel on location for school update. Adrienne Lima also presented for Civica.
- VIII. Founders Classical Academy. Susan Provensa presented for the amendment request. Asking to amend for grades offered. FCA online from K-12 to 7-12. FCA Bentonville from K-7 to K-8. And also requesting to change name for Bentonville campus. Bentonville was for have a feeder school to FCA Rogers high school. Bentonville and Rogers schools will both feed into rogers HS. Is also asking to change the school name of Founders Classical Academy Online to iSchool Virtual Academy of Arkansas. Dr. Wright-McMurray moved to approve the amendment request. Mr. Baldwin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- IX. Cabot Panther Academy. Requesting to add a new campus and grade level served from 5-12 to K-12. Mr. Michael Bird, deputy superintendent, presented for school. Cabot Panther Academy also asked that the waivers under the DLP also apply to the charter. Also asked to rescind the two waivers that applied to the waivers for laws that were repealed under the last legislative session. School withdrew request after a number of questions and concerns from the CAP.
- X. Motion to adjourn by Dr. Wright-McMurray seconded by Dr. Moore motion passed unanimously.

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

Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Ph.D.
Charter Authorization Panel Chairman