

CAP Minutes – November 14, 2023

- I. The Charter Authorizing Panel (CAP) met on November 14, 2023. Panel Chair, Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Members present were Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Mr. Phil Baldwin, Dr. Sonja Wright-McMurray, Dr. Tina Moore, and Mr. Kim Davis.

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/2023>

CAP Chair swore in all those who planned to speak.

- II. Consent Agenda. Dr. Sutherlin entertained a motion to pass the consent agenda. Dr. Wright-McMurray moved. Mr. Baldwin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- III. Action Agenda.
 - a. Procedural review – Stephen Reynolds from ADE Legal review the procedures for each part presented during the action agenda.
 - b. Presentation of the application for the Institute for the Creative Arts (ICA). Introduced by Dorie Summons, Director of Charter Schools for ADE. Dr. Rosilee Russell and Dr. Jennifer Feeny presented. ICA was asked to return with more information regarding a Library Media Specialist, classroom spaces, transportation, materials used, the 38 required courses, student tutoring, service, professional development, and board members. Mr. Reynolds from legal found no legal concerns regarding any of the requested waivers asked for by ICA. Mr. Baldwin made a motion to approve the application of ICA. Dr. Moore and Mr. Davis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - c. Consideration of Premier High School of Arkansas’ request for an amendment to their charter for two additional campuses. Ms. Dorie Summons introduced Mr. Dennis Felton, Jr. of Responsive Education. The new campuses requested would be situated in Fayetteville and Russellville. Mr. Felton also asked that their enrollment cap be raised to a total of 1,225 students. Mr. Davis moved to approve the amendment. Mr. Baldwin seconded the motion. Davis, Moore, Baldwin, and Wright-McMurray voted to approve. Dr. Sutherlin voted to deny. Motion passed.
 - d. Presentation of Public School Conversion of Mountainburg High School (MHS). Ms. Dorie Summons introduced. Principal Courtney Cristee presented. MHS seeks to have an online, in-person, and hybrid component for its regular and CTE students. Dr. Moore moved that MHS return in December with answers to questions posed by the CAP members. Dr. Wright-McMurray seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
 - e. Presentation of District Conversion Public Charter School Application for The Academies at Newport High School. Ms. Dorie Summons introduced. Application seeks to service grades 8 – 12 and follow a traditional college preparatory model, career and technical, and virtual option available to students. Superintendent Jon Bradley presented. Dr. Moore moved that the charter request be approved. Mr. Baldwin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. Adjournment
 - a. Mr. Davis made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Wright-McMurray seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes prepared by:
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Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Ph.D.
Charter Authorization Chairman