

Minutes
Charter Authorizing Panel Meeting
September 19, 2023

I. Call to Order

The Charter Authorizing Panel (CAP) met on September 13, 2023. Panel Chair Dr. Matthew Sutherlin called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Members Present: Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Dr. Sonja Wright-McMurray, Karli Saracini, Kim Davis, Dr. Tina Moore.

The transcript and recorded 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

II.I Dr. Wright-McMurray made a motion to pass the consent agenda. Karli Saracini seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Action Agenda

III.I Consideration of Responsive Ed of Arkansas, Premier High Schools. Mr. Felton of Responsive Ed presented. Responsive Ed is seeing to add two additional campuses, Russellville and Fayetteville. Member Saracini asked Mr. Felton about graduation rates. Mr. Felton did not have data in front of him. Member Davis moved to table Responsive Ed's request for additional campuses for up to sixty days to allow Mr. Felton to return with additional information requested by the CAP. Member Saracini seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III.II Presentation by Pinecrest Charter Schools. Legal review by ADE Attorney, Mr. Reynolds. Discussion of waivers requested. Pinecrest high schools typically consist of 60-65% of students on free or reduced meals. Member Davis asked, "Why Arkansas? Why now?" Pinecrest indicated the opportunity for growth. Ms. Cassandra Barnett of Library Services asked about waiver of media personnel in school. CMO responded that they will not have a single designated person, but will team teach material and will have library staff. Member Saracini moved for approval of Pinecrest application. Member Davis seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III.III Presentation by Civica Charter Schools. Civica Charter Schools discussed academies: Criminal Justice, firefighting, law and legal, mass communication, and medica. Discussed the certification that they have available for students so that they

graduate with specific credentials ready to work or explore further after graduation. 25% graduate with an associates degree. 99% are College or Career Ready (CCR). 100% of Civica graduates in Florida passed at least one Advanced Placement examination. Member McMurray moved for approval of the Civica application. Member Saracini seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- IV. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn by Member Saracini. Member Moore seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

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

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