

**Minutes
Charter Authorizing Panel Meeting
Arkansas Department of Education
April 20, 2016**

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Wednesday, April 20, 2016. Deborah Coffman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

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

Absent: Annette Barnes

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

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

Consent Agenda

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

Items included in the Consent Agenda: Minutes – February 17-19, 2016.

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 District Conversion Public Charter School Amendments: Badger Academy

Superintendent Belinda Shook presented the Panel with Badger Academy's request for the amendment to the current charter.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Ms. Pfeffer, and carried unanimously to approve the amendment request.

Reports

Report-1 Chair's Report

Ms. Coffman recognized the Panel and State Board of Education members for their work and participation in the charter authorizer training provided by Nelson Smith from National Association of Charter School Authorizers held in both March and April.

Report-2 Application Cycle Updates

Director Alexandra Boyd stated that thirty letters of intent were submitted to the Charter Schools

Office in March. She also stated that open-enrollment applications are due April 28th and described the process for reviewing applications

Ms. Boyd provided the Panel with a draft of the Adult Education Charter School Application and Timeline for their approval.

Question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Gotcher, seconded by Dr. Saunders, and carried unanimously to approve the adoption of the Adult Education Charter School Application and Timeline with required grammatical edits.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Kelly McLaughlin.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Coffman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Deborah Coffman, Chair