

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Alabama Public Charter School Commission (the “Commission”) was established by the Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act of 2015 with a mission to authorize high-quality public charter schools in accordance with state law; and

WHEREAS, in evaluating and reviewing charter applications, the Commission is charged with the responsibility of employing procedures, practices, and criteria consistent with nationally-recognized principles and standards for quality charter authorizing; and

WHEREAS, the application review process must include a thorough evaluation of each written application, an in-person interview with the applicant group, and a public forum for local residents; and

WHEREAS, the Commission may grant charters only to applicants that have demonstrated competence and are likely to open and operate a successful public charter school; is to base its decision on documented evidence collected through the application review process; must follow policies and practices that are transparent and based on merit; must avoid conflicts of interests or any appearance thereof; and must require significant and objective evidence of interest for the public charter school from the community the public charter school wishes to serve; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has engaged SchoolWorks to assist with the evaluation process and to provide information, analysis, and recommendations to assist the Commission in determining whether the charter application has met the standards for approval under state law and nationally-recognized principles and standards:

WHEREAS, Magic City Acceptance Academy filed a public charter school application with the Commission on **July 13, 2020**; and

WHEREAS, in-person interviews of Magic City Acceptance Academy were conducted on **August 11, 2020**; and

WHEREAS, public forums related to Magic City Acceptance Academy were held on **July 29, 2020** and **September 8, 2020**; and

WHEREAS, additional in-person interviews of Magic City Acceptance Academy were conducted in a public meeting of the Commission on **September 10, 2020**; and

WHEREAS, SchoolWorks has evaluated the application, has assessed the applicant's overall capacity to implement its proposal, and has issued an analysis to the Commission regarding the application;

WHEREAS, Magic City Acceptance Academy was given an opportunity to respond and, in fact, did respond to SchoolWorks' evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is most appreciative of the efforts of Magic City Acceptance Academy as reflected in the submitted application.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alabama Public Charter School Commission, after review of the charter school application, and after applying procedures, practices, and criteria consistent with nationally recognized principles and standards for quality charter authorizing does hereby deny the application submitted by Magic City Acceptance Academy and determines at this time as follows:

Magic City Acceptance Academy failed to garner enough affirmative votes of the Commission in favor of its application for the application to be approved in accordance with the requirements of the Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act of 2015 and the Commission's Bylaws. The Commission's debate on this issue, including reasons for opposition to approval articulated by certain Commissioners, is memorialized in the duly approved and adopted minutes of the Commission meetings of September 10, 2020 and September 17, 2020, respectively, which are incorporated herein by reference.

The applicant is invited and encouraged to make further refinement to its application and program and to submit an updated application during the 2021 submission process.

Resolution adopted and approved by the Alabama Public Charter School Commission at its meeting of September 28, 2020.



Its Chairman 9.29.20