

**Alabama Public Charter School Commission**  
**October 15, 2024 5:00 P.M.**  
**In Person and Via Zoom**

**MINUTES**

The Alabama Public Charter School Commission (APCSC) meeting took place October 15, 2024, at 5:00 P.M. in person at 230 49<sup>th</sup> Street North, Birmingham, AL and via a Zoom meeting to consider matters relevant to duties of the Alabama Public Charter School Commission outlined in the *Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act* for public charter schools in Alabama.

**Welcome, Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

**Presiding:** Mr. Charles Knight Co-Chairman

The following commission members were present:

Dr. Shelia Austin via Zoom  
Ms. Deborah Alvis via Zoom  
Mrs. Marla Green via Zoom  
Dr. Faron Hollinger via Zoom  
Dr, Dorothy Houston via Zoom  
Mr. Charles Knight via Zoom  
Dr. Cynthia McCarty in person  
Dr. Sharon Porterfield in person  
Mrs. LaKeisha Wheeler via Zoom  
Absent

Dr. M Javed Khan  
Mr. Ryan Kendall  
Mrs. Julie Ann McCulley

Also present: Mrs. Logan Searcy, Alabama Charter School Commission Executive Director  
Mr. Lane Knight, Esq.

On motion by Commissioner Hollinger and seconded by Commissioner Austin, the commission voted unanimously to approve today's agenda and the minutes for the September 20, 2024 meeting.

**Consideration Of FY26 Charter School Commission Budget**

On motion by Commissioner Hollinger and seconded by Commissioner Porterfield, the commission voted unanimously to approve the FY2026 Charter School Commission budget. The proposed budget was presented to the commission by Dr. Doug Riley.

**Consideration Of I3 Academy's Charter School Contract Renewal**

On motion by Commissioner Austin and seconded by Commissioner McCarty, the commission voted unanimously to approve I3 Academy's Charter School Contract renewal for five years.

**Consideration of Resolution for I3 Academy's Charter School Contract Renewal**

On motion by Commissioner Hollinger and seconded by Commissioner McCarty the commission voted unanimously to approve the resolution confirming the vote to approve I3 Academy 's Charter renewal for 5 year.

**Consideration of Freedom Prep's Progress Report**

Executive Director Searcy shared with the commission the areas of concern with Freedom Prep being in noncompliance with their charter contract, 1. Lack of communication 2. Compliance with state and federal regulations/laws 3. Financial disparities. The executive director requested a corrective action plan. Freedom Prep leadership shared how they planned to work on the concerns gonging forward. On motion by Commissioner Hollinger and seconded by Commissioner Alvis the commission unanimously approved Executive Director Searcy sending a letter on behalf of the commission to Freedom Prep explaining the corrective actions to be completed within 30 days. Additional discussion was had regarding Freedom being in breach of their charter contract. On motion by Commissioner Austin and seconded by Commissioner McCarty the commission unanimously approved an amendment to Freedom Prep's charter contract to allow enrollment of Kindergarten and First grade this school year and returning to the original contract conditions in upcoming school years.

**Executive Director Updates**

1. Director Searcy shared that she and several commissioners will be going to the National Association of Charter School Authorizers conference in Houston October 21-24.
2. New Schools for Alabama conference will be in November. The Executive Director encouraged all commissioners to attend if possible.
3. Annual reports for charter schools will be completed and shared with the commissioners soon.
4. Commission's November will be scheduled for the third Monday of the month.

**Adjourn**

Co-Chairman Knight thanked everyone for their time. On motion by Commissioner Houston and seconded by Commissioner Hollinger the commission voted unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

Submitted by Peggy Haveard

Printed Name: Peggy Haveard

Approved by: Shelia Austin

Printed Name: Shelia Austin