

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 and, when appropriate, renew the charters of high-quality public charter schools in accordance with state law.

WHEREAS, in evaluating and reviewing an application for charter renewal, the Commission is charged with the responsibility of grounding its decision in evidence of the school’s performance over the term of the charter contract in accordance with, among other things, the Performance Framework set forth in the charter contract.

WHEREAS, on or before July 9, 2026, the Commission provided certain information and charter renewal application guidance to Empower Community School (“Empower”) related to the school’s performance over the term of the initial charter contract, including, without limitation, a Performance Report and information related to state assessments and reports.

WHEREAS, Empower timely responded to the Commission’s charter renewal application guidance on July 17, 2026.

WHEREAS, Empower timely submitted a renewal application to the Commission on August 31, 2026.

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2026, the Commission held a public hearing on Empower’s renewal application at which additional evidence, materials, and information in support of renewal were presented to the Commission.

WHEREAS, the Commission is most appreciative of the efforts of Empower in the work it has performed over the course of its charter term and in the evidence submitted in support of its renewal application.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alabama Public Charter School Commission does hereby renew the charter of Empower to operate a public charter school in Bessemer, Alabama for an additional five (5) year charter term.

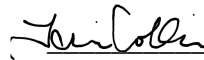
Resolution adopted and approved by the Alabama Public Charter School Commission at its meeting of September 14, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as follows:

1. Empower has demonstrated competence, capacity, and compliance in each element of the Commission’s established renewal criteria and has satisfactorily met or exceeded the performance expectations set forth in Empower’s charter contract (or where there was a deficiency or weakness related to Empower’s performance expectations, Empower has satisfactorily explained the reason for the deficiency and/or has provided the Commission with a satisfactory plan for improvement and compliance). The

Commission's findings in this regard are supported, in part, by the Performance Report, which is incorporated herein by reference.

2. Moreover, Empower has demonstrated additional indicators of strength and exceptional circumstances justifying the continued operation of the school, namely through its work with and service to a meaningful percentage of under-privileged and at-risk students who have often failed to succeed in the state's traditional school system.
3. Empower's charter to operate a public charter school is renewed for a five (5) year term, consistent with *Ala. Code* § 16-6F-8(c)(1). Based on the evidence before the Commission, the Commission finds that Empower's performance, demonstrated capacities, and particular circumstances warrant a renewal for a five (5) term.
4. The governing board of the public charter school and the Commission shall execute a renewal charter contract that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance expectations and measures by which the public charter school will be judged and the administrative relationship between the Commission and the public charter school, including each party's rights and duties, and the Chairperson of the Commission is hereby authorized to execute the renewal charter contract on the Commission's behalf, with any amendments to the approved renewal charter contract template deemed necessary and appropriate by the Chairperson in her discretion, and submit it and related attachments to the Alabama State Department of Education, as provided by law.



Its Chairman