

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Alabama Public Charter School Commission (the "Commission") was established by the Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act 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 Cognia 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; and

WHEREAS, Independence Preparatory Academy filed a public charter school application with the Commission on **March 15, 2013**; and

WHEREAS, a capacity interview of Independence Preparatory Academy was conducted on **April 19, 2023**; and

WHEREAS, a public forum was held for local residents in Fairfield, Alabama on **April 24, 2023**; and

WHEREAS, Cognia 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; and

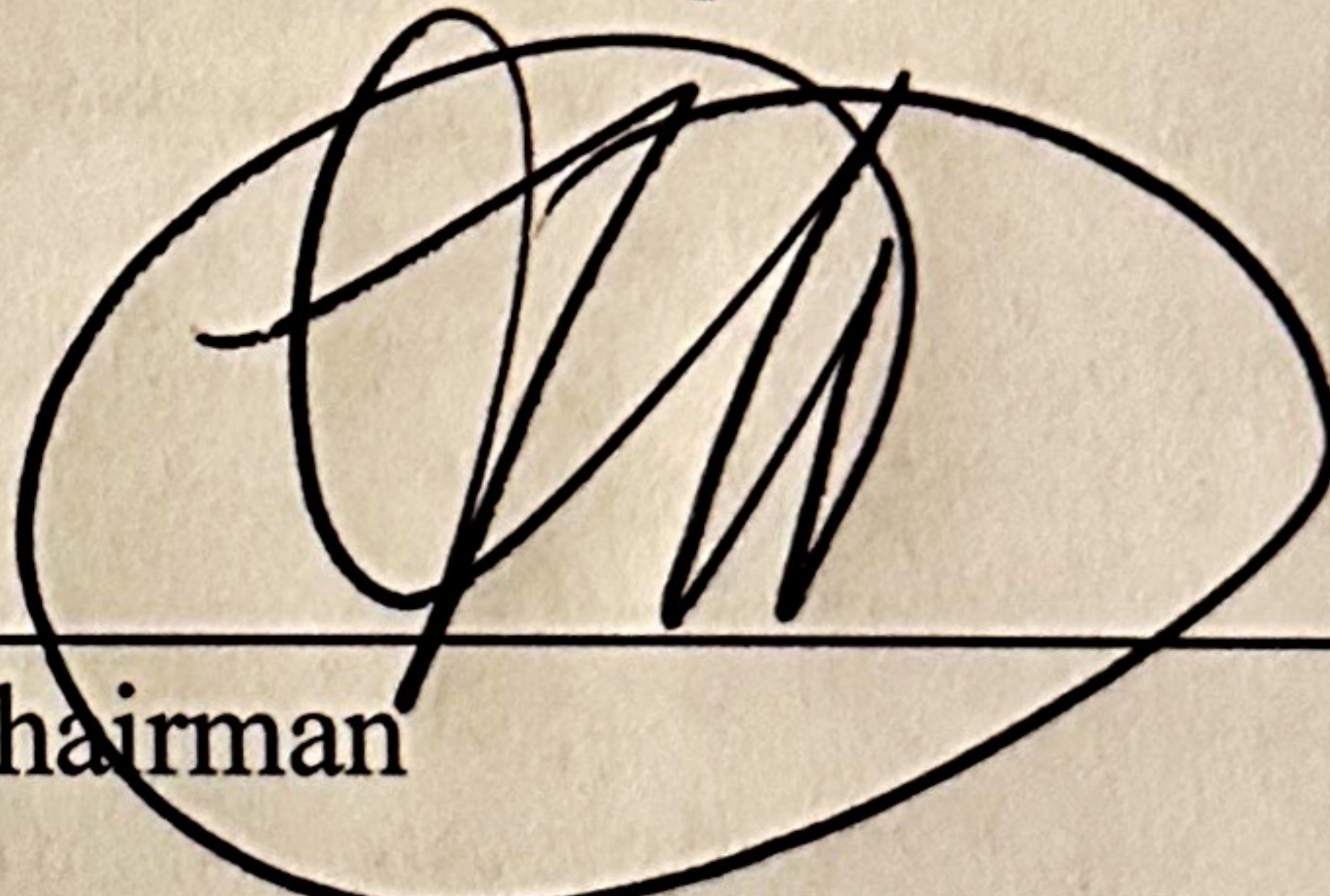
WHEREAS, the Commission is most appreciative of the efforts of Independence Preparatory Academy as reflected in the submitted application.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alabama Public Charter School Commission does hereby approve the application of Independence Preparatory Academy to operate a public charter school in Fairfield, Alabama.

Resolution adopted and approved by the Alabama Public Charter School Commission at its meeting of May 9, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as follows:

1. The applicant has demonstrated competence in each element of the Commission's established approval criteria and is likely to open and operate a successful public charter school.
2. The execution of a charter contract with the applicant shall be subject to the applicant's demonstration it is in good standing financially and that it is in good standing educationally.
3. The charter contract shall contain readiness-to-open provisions that shall serve as reasonable conditions that the applicant must satisfy before the charter school opens.
4. Within sixty (60) days of this approval, the governing board of the approved public charter school and the Commission shall execute a 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 Chairman of the Commission shall hereby be authorized to execute the contract, including any amendments to the approved template, on the Commission's behalf and submit it and related attachments to the Alabama State Department of Education, as provided by law.



Its Chairman