

STATE CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

August 26, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Virtual Access: (Webinar Link)



Attendees: Commissioners: Paul Williams -Chairman; Buzz Brockway -Vice Chairman; Carmen Dill; Jose Perez; Tom Lewis; Hunter Hill; and Dr. Lina Millan. SCSC Staff members: Lauren Holcomb – Executive Director; Morgan Felts – Chief Operations Officer; Cerrone Lockett – General Counsel; Kristen Easterbrook – Charter Development Manager; Rennie Laryea – Associate General Counsel; Sarah Beck – Associate General Counsel and Operational Accountability Manager; Terence Washington – Financial Accountability Manager; Darcy Callaway – Business Manager; Danielle Williams – Communications and Outreach Coordinator; and Michele Neely—State Charter Schools Foundation (SCSF) President. Approximately 50 members of the public attended remotely.

- I. **Call to Order** (Chairman Paul Williams)
 - The meeting called to order at 10:07 a.m.
 - All commissioners were present.
- II. **Approval of SCSC Meeting Minutes** (Chairman Paul Williams)
 - The July 29, 2020 meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
- III. **School Re-Start Update**
 - The SCSC Executive Director provided an update on the Georgia Department of Public Health's COVID-19 guidance, which replaces the "Georgia's Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools" guidance document and discussed staff review of state charter school back-to-school plans.
- IV. **State Charter Schools Foundation Update**
 - The SCSF President provided an update on SCSF initiatives put in place to support schools with reopening during the COVID-19 pandemic and shared ways that the public can support the SCSF.
- V. **Organizational Development**
 - The SCSC Charter Development Manager discussed recent SCSC trainings and shared the schedule for upcoming trainings.
- VI. **FY20 Administrative Withhold Grant Return Summary**
 - The SCSC Financial Accountability Manager provided an update on the FY20 administrative withhold return following the FY20 closeout.
- VII. **Action Items**
 - **Fiscal Year 2021 Administrative Withhold Reduction** (Chief Operations Officer)
 - By unanimous vote, the SCSC approved the SCSC staff recommendation to direct the Georgia Department of Education to reduce the SCSC's administrative withhold to **1.48%** of state funding allocated to state charter schools not currently in their first year of operation as authorized by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2089(b); and the withhold for state charter schools in the first year of operation shall be **0.00%**.
 - **2020 and 2021 Petition Cycles** (General Counsel)
 - By unanimous vote, the SCSC approved the SCSC staff recommendation to resume the 2020 petition cycle and initiate the 2021 petition cycle per the timeline presented by SCSC staff.

- **The Community Academy for Architecture & Design** (General Counsel)
 - By unanimous vote, the SCSC approved the SCSC recommendation to accept surrender of the charter authorizing the operation of The Community Academy for Architecture & Design (“TCAAD”).

VIII. **Additional Items from Commissioners**

- Commissioner Tom Lewis thanked the outgoing SCSC Financial Accountability Manager for his service to the SCSC.

IX. **Public Comment**

- Foothills Education Charter Academy Superintendent Sherrie Gibney-Sherman provided an update on the school’s virtual and in-person learning programs.

X. **Adjourn**

- The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.