



Charter School Review Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: August 27, 2025

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Held Electronically via Microsoft Teams meeting

Members Present:

- John-Anthony (Jay) Boggess, Chair
- Suzanne Legg, Vice Chair
- Sara Clements
- Jim Murdaugh
- Frank Mingo

Call to Order

Chair John-Anthony Boggess called the meeting of the Charter School Review Commission (CSRC) to order at 9:03 a.m. A quorum was confirmed with the presence of Vice Chair Legg and Commissioners Bianca, Murdaugh, and Mingo.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Boggess led the Commission and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Remarks

Chair Boggess welcomed attendees and noted that, given the beginning of the school year and the size of the agenda, the Commission was meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams. He reminded participants that the meeting was being recorded.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Boggess requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Commission's February 26, 2025, meeting.

Vice Chair Legg moved to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2025, meeting. Commissioner Mingo seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Action Item

1. Consideration of the Charter School Application for Legacy Virtual School

Evaluation and Recommendation

Chair Boggess recognized Susie Miller Carello, Florida Charter Institute, to present the evaluation. Ms. Carello reported that the application had been submitted multiple times and was determined to be weaker with each submission. She emphasized significant deficiencies in both the organizational and financial plans.

Dr. Christine Noe provided a detailed review, noting that:

- The applicant failed to identify a Florida DOE approved virtual instruction provider, a statutory requirement for virtual charter schools.
- The application repeatedly referenced Common Core rather than Florida Standards.
- Graduation requirements, curriculum alignment, and required assessments were poorly understood or misrepresented.
- Staffing plans were unrealistic and severely underestimated personnel needs.
- Budget projections did not account for programs the applicant claimed it would provide.

Dr. Noe stated that the review team found no section of the application that fully met standards, with most rated as “partially met” or “did not meet.” The review team recommended denial of the application.

Applicant Response

No representatives of Legacy Virtual School attended the meeting or provided input.

School District Response

Ms. Bonnie Solinsky of Pinellas County Schools concurred with the evaluation team’s findings and reiterated concerns about the application’s fundamental flaws.

Commission Discussion and Vote

Chair Boggess highlighted the absence of an approved DOE virtual instruction provider as a central factor in his decision-making. Commissioners expressed agreement with the evaluation findings.

Commissioner Bianca moved to deny the application from Legacy Virtual School.

Commissioner Mingo seconded the motion, and the motion to deny the application was unanimously approved.

Announcements

Adam Emerson, Executive Director of the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, advised that no applications were scheduled for the November 2025 meeting, and therefore the Commission would not meet at that time. He reported that the next meeting would be held on February 11, 2026.

Mr. Emerson also informed the Commission that its February 2025 approval of the Newberry Conversion Charter School had been appealed by the district. The Charter School Appeal

Commission upheld the Commission's decision, recommending approval to the State Board of Education.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Boggess requested a motion to adjourn.

Vice Chair Legg moved to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Bianca seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.