

STATE CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMISSION

MEETING AGENDA

May 25, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia Board Room
512 Twin Towers West
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Meeting Link: <https://meet.goto.com/257522381>

Phone: +1 (408) 650-3123 Access Code: 257-522-381



I. Call to Order

- Chairman Brockway called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
- The following commissioners attended the meeting: Commissioners Brockway, Lowden, and Perez attended the meeting in person. Commissioner Dudgeon attended the meeting virtually. A quorum was formed.
- Commissioner Milan joined the meeting in person at 10:11 a.m.
- The SCSC Executive Director introduced SCSC's summer interns.

II. Approval of SCSC Meeting Minutes

- Vice-Chairman Lowden made a motion to approve the April 27, 2022, meeting minutes. Commissioner Perez seconded the motion. The April 27, 2022, meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

III. Legislative Update

- The SCSC Executive Director shared that the bill review period has concluded, and all legislative implementations will go into effect on July 1, 2022. Upon conclusion of the bill review period, the SCSC sent legislative implementation guidance to state charter schools to make the schools aware of charter-related legislation.

IV. Organizational Development

- The SCSC Director of Charter Development provided an update on past and upcoming trainings. All FY22 Governance Training must be completed by June 30, 2022. There will be an LEA Reporting Training on July 13.

V. Pre-Opening Schools

- The SCSC Director of Charter Development provided an update on SCSC's pre-opening schools. The SCSC currently has eight new schools and one replication school in our pre-opening pipeline; two of these schools have elected to defer their opening until Fall 2023.

VI. Petitions

- An SCSC Associate General Counsel gave an update on the FY22 Start-Up Petitions Cycle. The SCSC received 11 petitions for the FY22 petition cycle and has disqualified 3 of those petitions. Petition interviews will be scheduled for the weeks of June 21 and June 27.

VII. Action Items

- Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics Replication
 - The SCSC General Counsel recommended that the replication application for Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics at Augusta (GSIC at Augusta) be approved by authorizing the SCSC Chair to execute a five-year charter contract for the operation of a state charter school.

- Vice-Chairman Lowden made a motion to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Perez seconded the motion. The recommendation was approved unanimously.
- **Museum School of Avondale Estates Transfer Petition**
 - The SCSC General Counsel recommended that the petition for Museum School of Avondale Estates to transfer to the SCSC be approved by authorizing the SCSC Chair to execute a five-year charter contract for the operation of a state charter school.
 - Representatives from the school provided comments.
 - Commissioners Brockway, Lowden, Dudgeon, and Perez thanked the school for their hard work and patience.
 - Vice-Chairman Lowden made a motion to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Perez seconded the motion. The recommendation was approved unanimously.
- **Atlanta SMART Academy Grant Award**
 - The SCSC Chief Operations Officer recommended that the State Charter School Commission award a grant of \$150,000.00 for Emergency School Operations to Atlanta Smart Academy.
 - Representatives from the school provided comments expressing their gratitude toward SCSC staff.
 - Chairman Brockway, Vice-Chairman Lowden, Commissioner Milan, and Commissioner Perez asked clarifying questions about the need for the grant.
 - Vice-Chairman Lowden made a motion to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Milan seconded the motion. The recommendation was approved unanimously.
- **FY22 Administrative Withhold Return**
 - The SCSC Chief Operations Officer recommended that the SCSC direct the Georgia Department of Education to **return** the unexpended portion of the SCSC's FY22 1.73% administrative withhold, including additional funding provided by the Amended FY22 allotment, to state charter schools upon satisfaction of the SCSC's FY22 budgeted expenses. She further recommended that upon approval from the Chairman, SCSC staff may specifically designate the use of returned funds for state charter schools not meeting Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) standards.
 - Vice-Chairman Lowden stated that he appreciates how much money the SCSC gives back to schools.
 - Vice-Chairman Lowden made a motion to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Perez seconded the motion. The recommendation was approved unanimously.

VIII. **School Performance Reviews**

- Atlanta Unbound Academy, Delta STEAM Academy, Cherokee Charter Academy, and Yi Hwang Academy of Language Excellence presented school improvement plans.
- **Atlanta Unbound Academy**
 - Atlanta Heights presented its improvement plan for operations.
 - Vice-Chairman Lowden and Commissioner Millan asked various questions to ensure the success of the school's improvement plan.
- **Delta STEAM Academy**
 - Delta STEAM Academy presented its improvement plan for operations.
 - Vice-Chairman Lowden asked various questions to ensure the success of the school's improvement plan.
 - Commissioner Millan suggested that Delta STEAM Academy seek consistency in medical staff to help make Delta STEAM Academy's improvement plan more successful.
- **Cherokee Charter Academy**

- Cherokee Charter Academy presented its improvement plan for academics.
- Chairman Brockway, Vice-Chairman Lowden, Commissioner Millan, and the SCSC Executive Director asked various questions to ensure the success of the school's improvement plan.

- **Yi Hwang Academy of Language Excellence**

- Yi Hwang Academy of Language Excellence presented its improvement plan on operations.
- Chairman Brockway and Vice-Chairman Lowden asked various questions to ensure the success of the school's improvement plan.
- Commissioner Perez thanked Yi Hwang representatives for their further recommendations for the SCSC Commission.

IX. **Additional Items from Commissioners**

- Vice-Chairman Lowden encouraged schools to increase safety and security measures in light of the Robb Elementary School shooting.

X. **Public Comment**

- There was no public comment.

XI. **Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.