

STATE CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMISSION INTERVIEW PANEL MEETING

June 13, 2019, 10:20 a.m.

**State Charter Schools Commission Conference Room
East Twin Tower, Room 1470B, Atlanta, Georgia 30334**

Meeting Minutes

1. The meeting convened at approximately 10:22am. The interview panel, consisting of Commissioner Buzz Brockway and Commissioner Paul Williams; Commission Staff, Gregg Stevens, Morgan Felts, Kristin Easterbrook, Terence Washington, and Lauren Holcomb; Alex Wiggins and Carolyn Bridges were present. Members of the public also attended.
2. The interview panel met with representatives of the Collegiate Academy of Albany. The governing board of the proposed charter school began by walking the panel through a day in the life of a student, providing an overview of the charter school's proposed college prep education model, and discussing the benefits of the chosen ESP. The panel asked representatives from the school to inform the panel about intended facilities and plans to finance the building. The proposed school then spoke about its plans to utilize student performance data to maintain proper supervision over the ESP. The interview panel also asked for clarification about proposed enrollment, the desire to open multiple campuses, and how the board plans to manage the multiple locations. Finally, the panel asked the board for clarification on the proposed ESP agreement, for the board to speak to its capacity to operate as an LEA, and for the board to outline its vision for the management of operations. The panel expressed concern regarding the proposed contract with the ESP and the board's capacity to effectively monitor the ESP. The interview concluded at approximately 11:41 AM. The meeting broke for lunch.
3. The meeting reconvened at approximately 1:22pm.
4. At approximately 1:22 PM, Sarah Beck and Caitlan Cole joined the interview panel. The interview panel then met with the governing board of Infinity Charter School. The governing board of the proposed school provided an overview of a day in the life of a typical student. The interview panel questioned the proposed school's governing board on how the school would implement their virtual and in-person educational model. Additionally, the panel questioned the school on their decision to use a state-wide attendance zone and how that would impact their proposed transportation plan. The interview panel then questioned the proposed school's governing board to determine its capacity to operate as an LEA, including ability to accommodate special education students and English-language learners. Additionally, the interview panel also asked about how the STEAM-infused elements will be included in the curriculum. The panel inquired about the proposed professional development opportunities and how the school will recruit high-quality teachers. The panel expressed concern about the school's dependence on fundraising and the proposed up-front costs associated with procuring the necessary technology. The interview concluded at approximately 2:46 pm. Interview panelist Sarah Beck left the meeting.
5. At approximately 03:21pm, Katie Manthey joined the interview panel. The interview panel then met with AIT Prep Academy. The governing board of the proposed state charter provided an overview of a day in the life of a typical student and the school's vision and plans for implementation. The panel questioned the school about the curriculum design and how STEAM

education will be integrated into the curriculum. Additionally, the panel asked about the school's recruitment strategy for both students and teachers. The panel then asked about the proposed grade-band configuration, the single-gender education model of the proposed charter school, how the school will serve at-risk students, and the rationale and student recruitment strategies of the proposed state-wide attendance zone. The interview panel also inquired about the ability of the proposed governing board's ability to perform LEA obligations, including capacity to serve special education and English-language learners. Finally, the interview panel asked about the student transportation fee and the Georgia residency status of the governing board. The panel expressed concern regarding the school's proposed student enrollment and budget. The interview concluded at approximately 04:29pm.

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