

STATE CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMISSION MEETING
October 30, 2019 10:00 a.m.
SCSC Meeting Room
SCSC Board Room, Suite 512, West Tower GA 30334

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Lewis at approximately 10:02 am.
2. Commissioners Tom Lewis, Paul Williams, Jose Perez, Carmen Dill, and Tony Lowden via Teleconference and staff members Lauren Holcomb – Executive Director, Morgan Felts – Chief Operations Officer, Kristen Easterbrook – Charter Development Manager, Katie Manthey – Director of Research and Evaluation, Rennie Laryea – Associate General Counsel, Sarah Beck – Associate General Counsel and Operational Accountability Manager, Terence Washington – Financial Accountability Manager, and Darcy Callaway – Business Manager were present.
3. Approximately 20 members of the public were also present, including charter school staff and representatives, charter school education service provider representatives and their attorney representatives, and Georgia Charter Schools Association representatives.
4. Chairman Lewis called for an approval of the meeting minutes from the September 26, 2019 meeting. The minutes were approved.
5. Chairman Lewis called for an approval of the 2020 SCSC Meeting Calendar. The Calendar was approved.
6. Ms. Lauren Holcomb provided an update to Commissioners on recent staff changes. Cerrone Lockett will join the Commission as General Counsel, and Michele Neely will join as the President of the State Charter Schools Foundation. Lauren Holcomb also provided an update on school visits and stated that Commissioners are in progress of visiting the nine schools that are up for renewal over the next few months.
7. Ms. Easterbrook provided an updated on last month’s petitioner bootcamp held at Georgia Tech. There were around 50 people in attendance, and there will be two additional follow-up webinars. The links on posted on SCSC’s website. SCSC will hold the first of two governance trainings at Callaway Gardens next week. The second governance training will be in February in Athens. SCSC also has contracted with a facilities support specialist to help new schools’ facilities needs during the pre-opening year.
8. Ms. Manthey updated the Commissioners on the recent CCPRI scores for SCSC schools. The CCRPI is the official state accountability metric for public schools in Georgia. A school will be considered meeting standards if it outperforms using either of the two comparison calculations. Based on CCRPI scores, 17 of 29 state charter schools (59%) are meeting the SCSC’s academic expectations. There may be more schools who meet academic standards based on Value-Added Impact or Beating the Odds when those results become available.

9. Mr. Washington reminded schools of the upcoming audit deadline that is November 1st. He has received 75% of schools audits thus far. Mr. Washington believes the remaining schools will submit their audits by the deadline. He also reminded schools that schools must submit their audit reports to SCSC and the Department of Education.
10. Ms. Beck provided an update to the Commissioners about the on-going monitoring visits. The Commission will send Monitoring Letters to schools on December 12th, 2019.
11. Ms. Manthey, Mr. Washington, and Ms. Beck presented the proposed changes to the Comprehensive Performance Framework. SCSC staff reviews the CPF annually to consider changes based on research, feedback, and changes in GaDOE's Charter Division. Following this meeting, SCSC staff will hold a webinar to share the proposed changes with school leaders and board members. The amendments will be open for public comment and feedback for 45 days. The Commissioners will vote on the changes at the January SCSC meeting.
12. Ms. Manthey reviewed a school's renewal eligibility and presented the renewal application and timeline to the Commissioners for their approval. Renewal interviews will take place in January 2020. SCSC staff anticipates bringing renewal recommendations to the Commissioners for a vote at the February SCSC meeting.
13. Commissioner Lewis moved to approve renewal application and timeline. Commissioner Perez Seconded. The Motion passed.
14. Chairman Lewis asked if there was public comment. There were several people who were signed up for Public Comment. Artesius Miller shared several updates from Utopian Academy.
15. The meeting adjourned at 11:33 am.