



**Department of Education
Charter School Accountability Committee Meeting**

**April 25, 2014
Modification Application Process
Final Meeting - Minutes**

Odyssey Charter School

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. For the purpose of the record, introductions were made:

Voting Committee Members of the Charter School Accountability Committee

- David Blowman, Deputy Secretary, DDOE (Chair to the Committee)
- Kim Wheatley, Director, Financial Reform Resources, DDOE
- Rich Heffron, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Delaware State Chamber of Commerce
- Tasha Cannon, Deputy Officer Talent Recruitment, Selection and Strategy, Teacher & Leader Effectiveness Unit (TLEU), DDOE
- Michelle Whalen, Education Associate, Exceptional Children Resources Workgroup, DDOE
- April McCrae, Education Associate, Science Assessment and STEM, DDOE

Ex-officio Members (Non-voting)

- Kendall Massett, Executive Director, Delaware Charter Schools Network
- Donna Johnson, Executive Director, Delaware State Board of Education

Staff to the Committee (Non-voting)

- Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General, Counsel to the Committee
- Jennifer Carlson, Education Associate, Charter School Office, DDOE
- Brook Hughes, Education Associate, Financial Reform Resources, DDOE
- Chantel Janiszewski, Education Associate, Charter School Office, DDOE
- Jennifer Nagourney, Executive Director, Charter School Office, DDOE

Representatives of the Charter School

- George Chambers, Board President

Meeting purpose: To review and discuss the Odyssey Charter School application for a major charter modification.

Meeting between the CSAC and Odyssey Charter School: Mr. Blowman reviewed each major section of the application, identified below, and invited CSAC members to raise any concerns

that remained. CSAC members also had the opportunity ask clarifying questions directly of the applicant for each of those sections.

Conclusion of the meeting: Mr. Blowman reviewed each section of the application for a second time, and gave CSAC members the opportunity to raise any concerns regarding the approval standards outlined in 14 Del. Code. §512. The results are summarized below.

Section A: Core Questions

At the Initial Meeting, CSAC determined that there were no questions or concerns about Section A of the application that would prevent the school from meeting the approval criteria. The school did not submit a Response to the CSAC Initial Report.

At the Final Meeting, the chair asked the CSAC members if they had any additional concerns or questions that would prevent the school from meeting the approval criteria. No CSAC member spoke to offer one.

Section G: Relevant Questions

At the Initial Meeting, CSAC determined that there were no questions or concerns about Section D of the application that would prevent the school from meeting the approval criteria. The school did not submit a Response to the CSAC Initial Report.

At the Final Meeting, the chair asked the CSAC members if they had any additional concerns or questions that would prevent the school from meeting the approval criteria. No CSAC member spoke to offer one.

Conclusion:

A motion was made and seconded that the application be recommended for approval. The motion was unanimously carried.

- Mr. Blowman articulated the next steps in the new application process as follows: The CSAC Final Report would be issued to the applicants no later than May 1, 2014. As Mr. Blowman had earlier informed the applicant, the CSAC Final Report would be based on the application as a whole, including the original application submitted, the response to the CSAC's initial report and the comments made by the applicant during the CSAC meetings. The applicant's final public hearing would be held on May 7, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Auditorium in the Carvel Building located at 820 French Street, Wilmington, DE.
- The process would conclude with the State Board of Education meeting on Thursday, May 17, 2014 where Secretary Murphy will present his decision on the application.

The meeting concluded at 1:50 p.m.