

**In The Matter Of:**  
*In Re: Formal Review*  
*Prestige Academy*

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*Public Hearing*  
*June 9, 2015*

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## P U B L I C   H E A R I N G

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In Re:   Formal Review - Prestige Academy

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Carvel State Office Building  
 820 North French Street  
 2nd Floor Auditorium  
 Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Tuesday, June 9, 2015  
 5:11 p.m.

BEFORE:   Michelle Whalen, Hearing Officer,  
 Education Associate, Charter School  
 Office and the Delaware Department of  
 Education

## APPEARANCES:

CATHERINE T. HICKEY, DEPUTY ATTORNEY  
 GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 Carvel Office Building  
 820 N. French Street - 3rd Floor  
 Wilmington, Delaware 19801  
 Counsel to the Hearing Officer

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 Registered Professional Reporters  
 1330 King Street - Wilmington, Delaware 19801  
 (302) 655-0477  
 www.wilfet.com



1 MS. WHALEN: We will now move on to  
2 the formal review of Prestige Academy, the  
3 public hearing for the formal review of  
4 Prestige Academy. Again, good evening  
5 everybody. I'm making a transcript for each  
6 of these matters so bear with me as I repeat  
7 essentially everything that I just said.

8 I declare this public hearing to be  
9 open. My name is Michelle Whalen. I'm an  
10 Education Associate with the Charter School  
11 Office of the Delaware Department of Education  
12 and I'm conducting this hearing on behalf of  
13 the Department. Prestige Academy was placed  
14 on formal review by the Department of  
15 Education with the assent of the State Board  
16 of Education. As required by law the matter  
17 was referred to the Charter School  
18 Accountability Committee. Last week the  
19 Charter School Accountability Committee issued  
20 its final report with a recommendation of  
21 probation with conditions.

22 This joint public hearing is being  
23 held by the Department of Education and the  
24 State Board of Education to assist in the



1 decision of whether the criteria set forth for  
2 remedial action in the Delaware Code have been  
3 satisfied. This hearing provides the school  
4 an opportunity to respond to the  
5 Accountability Committee's final report. This  
6 hearing also gives member of the public the  
7 opportunity to comment.

8 I will now ask the others with me  
9 today to introduce themselves.

10 MS. HICKEY: Good evening, my name  
11 is Catherine Hickey and I'm a Deputy Attorney  
12 General with the Delaware Department of  
13 Education and I'm here today as counsel to the  
14 public hearing officer.

15 MS. WHALEN: I would like the  
16 record to reflect that the notice of the time,  
17 date and place of today's public hearing was  
18 published in the News Journal and the Delaware  
19 State News. In addition notice was posted at  
20 the Charter School Accountability Committee's  
21 official place of business on the Department  
22 of Education's official website and on the  
23 State public meeting calendar on the State's  
24 official website. Further the school was



1 personally notified of the time, date and  
2 place of today's public hearing.

3 The court reporter is present so  
4 that a record of this hearing can be made. It  
5 will be necessary for each speaker to clearly  
6 identify himself or herself before beginning  
7 to speak so that the court reporter will be  
8 able to note who you are. The record of this  
9 hearing will be provided to the Secretary of  
10 Education and members of the State Board of  
11 Education together with any written or  
12 electronic comments received at or before this  
13 hearing.

14 We will proceed in the following  
15 manner. First, we will hear from any  
16 representatives of the charter school who wish  
17 to comment and then we will take comments from  
18 anyone else who desires to speak. There are  
19 sign-up sheets -- there was a sign-up sheet at  
20 the left on the table. If you desire to speak  
21 and have not already signed up, please  
22 indicate by showing your hand.

23 (No response.)

24 MS. WHALEN: Also, if you have



1 since arrived for Prestige Academy and you  
2 have not signed up, please raise your hand.

3 (No response.)

4 MS. WHALEN: I will note for the  
5 record that there is no individual here that  
6 wishes to speak on behalf of or about the  
7 formal review of Prestige Academy, but we'll  
8 ask one final time if anyone who desires to  
9 speak would raise their hand.

10 (No response.)

11 MS. WHALEN: I'll take one moment  
12 and pause because there was a gentleman who  
13 has entered the room. Sir, if you wish to  
14 speak on the formal review of Prestige Academy  
15 or Delaware Design-Lab, please raise your hand  
16 then.

17 (No response.)

18 MS. WHALEN: Again, nobody wishes  
19 to speak on this matter and I therefore  
20 consider this hearing closed.

21 (The hearing was concluded at 5:15  
22 p.m.)

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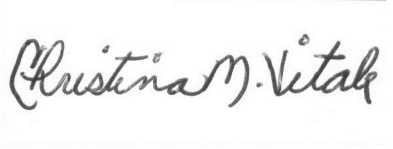
1 State of Delaware)  
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2 New Castle County)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Christina M. Vitale, Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public, do hereby certify that the foregoing record, pages 1 to 5 inclusive, is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes taken on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 in the above-captioned matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 11th day of June, 2015, at Wilmington.



Christina M. Vitale, CCR

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