

In The Matter Of:
*Department of Education
and Board of Education*

*In Re: Design-Lab High School
April 7, 2015*

*Wilcox & Fetzer, Ltd.
1330 King Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
email: depos@wilfet.com, web: www.wilfet.com
phone: 302-655-0477, fax: 302-655-0497*



STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND STATE OF DELAWARE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING

Re:
MODIFICATION TO THE
CHARTER OF DELAWARE
DESIGN-LAB HIGH SCHOOL

Carvel State Office Building
820 North French Street
Second Floor Auditorium
Wilmington, Delaware

Tuesday, April 7, 2015
5:05 p.m.

BEFORE:

JENNIFER NAGOURNEY, HEARING OFFICER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICE

APPEARANCES:

ILLONA M. KIRSHON, ESQ.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Counsel to the State Board of Education

ALSO PRESENT:

MARTIN RAYALA, Ph.D.
DELAWARE DESIGN-LAB HIGH SCHOOL

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WILCOX & FETZER, LTD.
1330 King Street - Wilmington, Delaware 19801
(302) 655-0477
www.wilfet.com



1 MS. NAGOURNEY: Good evening. I
2 declare this public hearing to be open.

3 My name is Jennifer Nagourney.
4 I am the Executive Director of the Charter
5 School Office at the Delaware Department of
6 Education, and I have been appointed by the
7 Secretary of Education to conduct this public
8 hearing.

9 The charter of Delaware Design-
10 Lab High School has applied for a major
11 modification to its charter. As required by
12 law, the matter was referred to the Charter
13 School Accountability Committee. This joint
14 public hearing is being held by the Department
15 of Education and the State Board of Education
16 to assist in the decision of whether the
17 criteria set forth for approval in the
18 Delaware Code have been satisfied. This
19 hearing provides the school an opportunity to
20 receive public comment.

21 I will now ask my colleague to
22 introduce herself.

23 MS. KIRSHON: My name is Ilona
24 Kirshon. I'm the attorney for the State Board



1 of Education.

2 MS. NAGOURNEY: I would like the
3 record to reflect that the notice of the time,
4 date and place of today's public hearing was
5 published in the News Journal and the Delaware
6 State News. In addition, notice was posted at
7 the Charter School Accountability Committee's
8 official place of business, on the Department
9 of Education's official website and on the
10 State Public Meeting Calendar on the State's
11 official website. Further, the school was
12 personally notified of the time, date and
13 place of today's hearing.

14 A court reporter is present so
15 that a record of this hearing can be made. It
16 will be necessary for each speaker to clearly
17 identify his or herself before beginning to
18 speak so that the court reporter will be able
19 to note who you are. The record of this
20 hearing will provided to the Secretary of
21 Education and members of the State Board of
22 Education, together with any written or
23 electronic comments received at or before this
24 hearing. To date, we have received no



1 comment.

2 We will proceed in the following
3 manner. First, we will hear from any
4 representatives of the charter who wish to
5 comment. Then we will take comments from
6 anyone else who desires to speak. There are
7 signup sheets here at the table. If you
8 design desire to speak, please sign up now.

9 I would like the record to
10 reflect that we have one participant,
11 Dr. Rayala, who is here representing Design
12 Lab, does not plan to speak. And there is no
13 one else present for the hearing.

14 At this point, I'll accept
15 comments from representatives of the charter.

16 DR. RAYALA: Well, I'll just say
17 that, first of all, thank you for taking the
18 time to carry through this process. And I was
19 mentioning earlier, we're pleased with the
20 possibility of this new location. It's
21 helping our enrollment figures. And we have
22 great ideas for what to do with the
23 partnership out there and with the 11 acres of
24 forested land that we can utilize for future



1 growth as well.

2 MS. NAGOURNEY: At this point,
3 we'll accept comments from anyone else who
4 desires to speak.

5 Let the record reflect that no
6 one else is here and no one else has
7 responded.

8 With that said, the hearing is
9 now closed. Thank you for participating
10 today.

11 (Hearing concluded at 5:08 p.m.)

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1 State of Delaware)
2 New Castle County)

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4 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

5 I, Lucinda M. Reeder, Registered
6 Diplomat Reporter, Certified Real-time
7 Reporter and Notary Public, do hereby certify
8 that the foregoing record is a true and
9 accurate transcript of my stenographic notes
10 taken on April 7, 2015 in the above-captioned
11 matter.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
13 my hand and seal this 10th day of April 2015
14 at Wilmington, Delaware.

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Lucinda M. Reeder, RDR, CRR



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