

**In The Matter Of:**  
*Department of Education*  
*In Re: Family Foundations Academy*

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*Hearing*  
*October 8, 2014*

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THE STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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-- PUBLIC HEARING --

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
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Family Foundations Academy )

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Department of Education  
The Townsend Building  
2nd Floor Cabinet Room  
401 Federal Street  
Dover, Delaware 19901

Wednesday, October 8, 2014  
6:00 p.m.

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BEFORE: Jennifer Nagourney, Executive Director  
Charter Office, Department of Education

Donna Johnson, Executive Director  
State Board of Education

ATTORNEY: Catherine T. Hickey, DAG  
Attorney for Department of Education

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-- Transcript of Proceedings --

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



1 MS. NAGOURNEY: Good evening. I  
2 declare this public hearing to be open. My name is  
3 Jennifer Nagourney. I am the Executive Director of  
4 the Charter School Office of the Delaware Department  
5 of Education, and I have been appointed by the  
6 Secretary of Education to conduct this public  
7 hearing.

8 The charter of Family Foundations  
9 Academy has submitted an application for the renewal  
10 of its charter. At this point I would like to  
11 introduce the other individuals with me.

12 MS. JOHNSON: My name is Donna  
13 Johnson. I'm the Executive Director of the State  
14 Board of Education.

15 MS. HICKEY: I am Catherine  
16 Hickey. I'm a Deputy Attorney General, and I serve  
17 as counsel during this hearing, proceedings.

18 MS. NAGOURNEY: Can we go off the  
19 record for just a moment.

20 (An off-the-record discussion was  
21 held.)

22 MS. NAGOURNEY: Back on the  
23 record. I would like the record to reflect the  
24 notice of the time, date, and place of today's



1 public hearing was published in the News Journal and  
2 the Delaware State News on August 18, 2014.

3 In addition, notice was posted at  
4 the Charter School Accountability Committee's  
5 official place of business, on the Department of  
6 Education's official website, and on the State  
7 Public Meeting Calendar on the State's Official  
8 Website on August 18, 2014.

9 A court reporter is present so  
10 that a record of this hearing can be made. It will  
11 be necessary for each speaker to clearly identify  
12 himself or herself before beginning to speak so that  
13 the court reporter will be able to note who you are.

14 The record of this hearing will be  
15 provided to the Secretary of Education and members  
16 of the State Board of Education, together with any  
17 written or electronic comments received at or before  
18 this hearing.

19 We will proceed in the following  
20 manner: First, we will hear from any  
21 representatives from the school who wish to speak.  
22 Then we will take comments from anyone else who  
23 wants to speak. We have sign-up sheets to capture  
24 for the record. And I will go get those outside.



1 Oh, Donna went to get them. Thank you.

2 May I have a show of hands of all  
3 those who intend to speak for Family Foundations  
4 Academy?

5 The one gentleman sitting here.

6 Okay. I don't think it will be necessary to impose  
7 a time limit on comments given, due to the number of  
8 speakers. I tend to try to be as liberal as time  
9 and reason allow in accepting comments; however, I  
10 do reserve the right to limit comments if it proves  
11 repetitive or cumulative. Thank you.

12 At this point we will accept  
13 comments from any representatives of the school.

14 MR. MOORE: Good evening. My name  
15 is Sean Moore. I'm the co-director and chief  
16 administrative officer for Family Foundations  
17 Academy. And on behalf of the school and the Board  
18 of Directors, we would like to thank the Department  
19 of Education and the State Board for the opportunity  
20 to renew our charter.

21 This is our second charter  
22 renewal. We are currently in our ninth school year.  
23 Our school has grown exponentially since we were  
24 founded back in 2006, which was our first school



1 year. And we think that at the end of this process,  
2 these renewal hearings, that the State Board will go  
3 on the record and they will see that we have served  
4 our students and the community well. And ultimately  
5 we look forward to being around for another five  
6 years and celebrating our tenth school year next  
7 year. Thank you.

8 MS. NAGOURNEY: Thank you. At  
9 this point are there any other representatives from  
10 the school here today?

11 At this point I will accept  
12 comments from anyone else who desires to speak on  
13 behalf of Family Foundations Academy.

14 Okay. This public hearing is now  
15 closed. I would like to thank you all for  
16 participating today. The Secretary will consider  
17 your comments as part of the decision-making  
18 process, and your comments will also be available  
19 for the State Board to consider. Thank you. The  
20 hearing for Family Foundations is closed.

21 (Concluded at 6:14 p.m.)  
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CERTIFICATE

I, Lorena J. Hartnett, a Notary Public and Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing is an accurate and complete transcription of the proceeding held at the time and place stated herein, and that the said proceeding was recorded by me and then reduced to typewriting under my direction, and constitutes a true record of the testimony given by said witnesses.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, or attorney of any of the parties or a relative or employee of either counsel, and that I am in no way interested directly or indirectly in this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office on this 9th day of October 2014.

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Lorena J. Hartnett  
Registered Professional Reporter

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