

In The Matter Of:
Department of Education
Freire Charter School

Public Hearing
December 10, 2018

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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-- PUBLIC HEARING --

IN THE MATTER OF:)
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Freire Charter School)

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

Monday, December 10, 2018
5:20 p.m.

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BEFORE: Leroy Travers, Lead Education Associate
Charter Office, Department of Education

Candice Fifer, Board Member
State Board of Education

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

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-- Transcript of Proceedings --

WILCOX & FETZER
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Wilmington, DE 19801
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1 MR. TRAVERS: Good evening. I
2 declare this public hearing to be open. My name is
3 Leroy Travers. I'm the Lead Education Associate,
4 and I have been appointed by the Secretary of
5 Education to conduct this public hearing.

6 The Freire Charter School has filed an
7 application to renew its charter for a term of five
8 years.

9 As is required by law, the matter was
10 referred to the Charter School Accountability
11 Committee for investigation and report.

12 This joint public hearing is being held by
13 the Department of Education and the State Board of
14 Education.

15 I will now ask the others at the table to
16 introduce themselves.

17 MS. HICKEY: Good evening. My name
18 is Catherine Hickey. I'm the Deputy Attorney
19 General with the Delaware Department of Justice.
20 And I'm here this evening as counsel to the hearing
21 officer.

22 MS. FIFER: I'm Candice Fifer. I'm
23 with the State Board of Education.

24 MR. TRAVERS: I would like the record



1 to reflect that the notice of the time, date, and
2 place of today's public hearing was published in the
3 News Journal and the Delaware State News on
4 September 20, 2018.

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

10 Further, the Freire Charter School
11 was personally notified of the time, date, and place
12 of today's public hearing on September 10, 2018.

13 A court reporter is present so that a
14 record of this hearing can be made. It will be
15 necessary for each speaker to clearly identify his
16 or herself before beginning to speak so that the
17 court reporter will be able to note who you are.

18 The record of this hearing will be
19 provided to the Secretary of Education and members
20 of the State Board of Education together with any
21 written or electronic comments received during the
22 course of the renewal decision process.

23 Any comments received to date on this
24 renewal application are posted on the Charter School



1 Office's page on the Delaware Department of
2 Education's website.

3 We will proceed in the following
4 manner: First, we will hear from any
5 representatives of the charter school who wish to
6 comment on the renewal application. Then we will
7 take comments from anyone else who desires to speak.

8 Seeing as there is no one from the
9 charter school that is --

10 (An off-the-record discussion was held
11 between Mr. Travers and Ms. Hickey.)

12 MR. TRAVERS: She is here. Yes, we
13 have one representative from the charter school, but
14 she does not desire to speak this evening.

15 Is there anyone else in attendance
16 that would like to speak on behalf of Freire Charter
17 School?

18 Thank you all for participating
19 today. The Secretary will consider your comments in
20 deciding, at the conclusion of the renewal process,
21 what decision to submit to the State Board for
22 assent, if needed. This hearing is now closed.

23 (Concluded at 5:23 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 16th day of December 2018.



Lorena J. Hartnett
Registered Professional Reporter

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