

**Minutes of the
North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board
NC Department of Public Instruction Room 450
December 12, 2018
9:00 am**

Attendance/NCCSAB	Alan Hawkes - <i>Absent</i> Phyllis Gibbs – <i>Absent</i> Sherry Reeves Cheryl Turner – <i>Absent</i> Lindalyn Kakadelis Lynn Kroeger	Alex Quigley Tammi Sutton – <i>Via phone</i> Steven Walker Heather Vuncannon – <i>Via phone</i> Joseph Maimone
Attendance/SBE/DPI	<i>Office of Charter Schools</i> Dave Machado, Director Patricia Nnadi-Purvis, Program Assistant Ashley Baquero, Consultant Danielle Allen, Consultant	<i>SBE</i> <i>Attorney General</i> Tiffany Lucas Stephanie Lloyd <i>SBE Attorney</i> Eric Snider

CALL TO ORDER

- The North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Alex Quigley who read the Ethics Statement and CSAB Mission Statement. Mr. Quigley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion: Motion to approve the November 2018 minutes

Motion: Sherry Reeves

Second: Lynn Kroeger

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

CLARIFICATION INTERVIEWS

- Dr. Danielle Allen, Office of Charter Schools (“OCS”) Consultant, gave a brief overview of the application timeline. She explained today’s process. Dr. Allen will provide a brief introduction, the applicant will give a statement, committee discussion and questions will

take place, a committee deliberation and vote will take place, and the committee will make a recommendation to the full CSAB regarding moving application to a full interview.

- Dr. Allen stated ten schools were notified to appear before you for their clarification opportunity. Our office released those clarification rubrics to these ten applicant groups on December 3rd so that they had time to prepare to appear before you. She continued that one applicant, First Impressions Academy, withdrew from the process on December 3rd, and another, Kingdom Performing Arts Academy, withdrew its acceleration request, bringing the total number of applicant groups for clarification appearing before you today to eight.

Rise Academy

- Dr. Allen stated the school is proposed to locate in Wake County. Dr. Allen gave a brief introduction of the school's proposed enrollment and grade levels. There was no LEA impact statement or due diligence for this applicant. Dr. Allen reviewed the pass/fail ratings for this applicant. She stated the applicant is requesting acceleration and is not a repeat applicant. She stated the applicant received assistance from Global Education Resources.
- Ms. Renorda Pryor introduced herself as the Board Chair and explained her fellow board member's qualifications. She explained how they are professionals and also passionate. She explained the mission statement of the school and how the board considered how the board wants the students to be globally-minded. She introduced Global Education Resources ("GER") and explained the board's partnership with the organization.
- Mr. Quigley asked for clarification regarding the management company. Ms. Pryor stated it is Global Education Resources.
- Mr. Quigley asked about the missing signature on Appendix P. Mr. Quigley asked if there have been similar situations like this missing signature. Dr. Allen stated not that she can recall. Ms. Pryor stated it was a clerical error.
- Ms. Sherry Reeves asked if the applicant knew what deemed incomplete. Dr. Allen stated it was completely blank at first, so the applicant was told to submit Appendix P.
- Mr. Steven Walker asked for more detail about what exactly was missing from the Appendix P. Dr. Allen clarified the purpose of Appendix P and how it shows how the board has consulted with different service providers. He stated he has more of a problem with the fact that the details regarding consultations with attorneys, auditors, and other service providers were left blank even though there are signatures under each statement. Mr. Quigley stated it appears that instructions were not followed. Ms. Pryor stated she would have to defer to GER and that they did meet with the board attorney and accountant. Ms. Reeves asked who submitted the document. Ms. Pryor stated GER.

- Mr. Joseph Maimone stated he is a non-voting member of the CSAB and expressed his disappointment in the quality of the applications submitted by GER given the experience of the group.
- Ms. Lindalyn Kakadelis stated she has many questions on the application and is concerned with so many initiatives in the application. Ms. Pryor spoke about the curriculum initiatives and the mission. She spoke about other schools the board spoke with regarding STEAM curriculum.
- Mr. Quigley expressed that he believes the failure to meet the basic expectations of the application and the failing ratings, especially all failing ratings in the governance section, makes it hard to rationalize getting this application out of clarification.
- Ms. Kakadelis stated she did not believe the application was the quality it needed to be, especially given acceleration, and she didn't see surveys showing interest. Ms. Reeves stated there were 44 surveys but originally it was blank. Ms. Reeves stated that nonetheless, 44 surveys does not merit acceleration. Ms. Reeves stated she failed every aspect of the application. Ms. Sutton stated she agrees with fellow board members that this application doesn't appear ready.

Motion: Committee motion to not recommend Rise Academy to continue to full interview

Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous Committee Vote

Passed

Failed

Motion: Full CSAB motion to not recommend Rise Academy to continue to full interview

Motion: Alex Quigley

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

- Mr. Quigley stated he believes there are some good components in the application, but it needs some more work. He stated there is a need in the area, but we must have top quality.

Old Main STREAM

- Dr. Allen stated the school is proposed to locate in Robeson County. Dr. Allen gave a brief introduction of the school's proposed enrollment and grade levels. There was no LEA impact statement or due diligence for this applicant. Dr. Allen reviewed the pass/fail ratings for this applicant. She stated the applicant is requesting acceleration and is not a repeat applicant and is not receiving third party assistance. She explained what was deemed incomplete on

October 5, 2018. The applicant responded to the incomplete information request by the October 12th deadline.

- Ms. Rose Marie Lowry introduced herself as the Board Chair. She explained the mission of the proposed charter school. She explained why the school is seeking acceleration and the needs of Robeson County. Ms. Lowry explained the diversity of indigenous peoples in Robeson County. She explained that Robeson County is a low-performing school district. She continued by explaining the qualifications of her fellow board members.
- Mr. Walker asked for clarification on the way the grade levels are structured. Ms. Lowry stated she was a middle school principal and the board has looked at the adolescent years and those needs. She also explained that the board gradually added the high school to allow the time for accreditation.
- Mr. Walker asked for clarification on the admissions policy. He stated it appears to conflict with state law requiring a lottery. Ms. Lowry stated that they went back and added the process of the lottery. She stated they put some stipulations such as sibling preferences and use of one surname for siblings. She stated they submitted this information last Friday. Mr. Walker stated that must have been after he reviewed the application.
- Ms. Lynn Kroeger asked for clarification regarding the facility. Ms. Lowry stated they have a signed contract with a present operating Boys and Girls Club. She stated the facility has a gym, computer lab, and library. Ms. Kroeger asked if that will displace the kids from the Boys and Girls Club. Ms. Lowry stated no, the Boys and Girls Club would operate in the afternoons.
- Ms. Heather Vuncannon asked for clarification regarding the academic program. She asked what would be the primary focus to impact student learning.
- Dr. Deese stated it will be the standard course of study. She explained the purpose of the RED pedagogy. Ms. Vuncannon asked for the primary method of teaching because there are many types of method mentioned in the application. Ms. Vuncannon expressed concern about whether a teacher would be able to grasp the method of instruction with so many different methods. Dr. Deese explained that they are looking at all the STREAM components and aligning it with RED pedagogy. She stated that with the supports in place, they will be able to do that. She stated that this is the first time in the state something like this will be attempted. Dr. Deese stated it could be a model for other indigenous communities.
- Ms. Sutton has a concern about young teachers being able to master all of these components. She asked if the board has looked at other models across the United States since this will be new to North Carolina. Dr. Deese stated there is a lot of research about place-based research

and indigenous philosophy and how to integrate it into curriculum. She stated that they have a pot of teachers and RED pedagogy is practiced on a daily basis.

- Mr. Walker stated he really likes the idea and thinks it would be valuable in the Robeson County area. He is concerned with the educational components and the governance plan in the application.
- Ms. Kroeger stated she is really impressed in the board, but there were areas in the application that needed to be stronger. She thinks that it may be better to have another year to better express the educational plan.
- Ms. Vuncannon stated she thinks the budget needs some work. She needs to feel better about the finance piece because we know that is crucial to a school succeeding.
- Mr. Walker agreed and believes this school has the potential to be a great school but needs more time and another year of work to get the application ready.

Motion: Committee motion to not recommend Old Main STREAM Academy to continue to full interview

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Lynn Kroeger

Vote: Unanimous Committee Vote

Passed

Failed

Motion: Full CSAB motion to not recommend Old Main STREAM Academy to continue to full interview

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Lynn Kroeger

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

North Davidson Charter

- Dr. Allen stated the school is proposed to locate in Mecklenburg County. Dr. Allen gave a brief introduction of the school's proposed enrollment and grade levels. There was no LEA impact statement or due diligence for this applicant. Dr. Allen reviewed the pass/fail ratings for this applicant. She stated the applicant is requesting acceleration and is not a repeat applicant. This applicant received assistance from Torchlight Academy Schools ("Torchlight"). Torchlight submitted four applications during the 2018 application period. She explained what was deemed incomplete on October 5, 2018. The applicant responded to the incomplete information request by the October 12th deadline.

- Mr. Addul Ali introduced himself and the qualifications of the board. He described the needs of North Davidson. He explained the interest in North Davidson and why the board choose Torchlight. He expressed his passion for the school and his experience being an at-risk student.
- Ms. Kakadelis asked why the board didn't choose to do a replication of Torchlight. Mr. Ali stated that there were differences in the North Davidson area and with the diversity of the area, they wanted something different. He stated it warrants an individualized and personalized approach.
- Ms. Reeves asked if he realizes that the application is almost identical to three other applications. Mr. Ali stated he understood that and the board reviewed the application. Ms. Reeves replied that she understands that but wonders how well the board knows the application. Mr. Ali stated the board really knows this application. He stated the board came up with the mission statement and the goal statements. He stated the application itself may have similar wording and he understands that, but the board went through the application with a fine-toothed comb. Ms. Kakadelis asked who is helping the board with the academic side of the school. Mr. Ali spoke about the potential principal that is assisting and why he is not on the board.
- Ms. Sutton asked what will be different in this school as opposed to the other schools run by Torchlight and the other applications received from the group. Mr. Ali stated how pre-entry testing will work and he stated that the dynamics of North Davidson are very different. He stated they have business connections in the community. He stated they aren't Torchlight and don't want to be Torchlight. He continued that they want a specific culture.
- Ms. Kakadelis asked about the academic plan and the five different initiatives listed in the application. She stated the academic plan in the application is exactly the same as other applications. Mr. Ali stated they are using best practices and methodologies.
- Ms. Reeves asked about the projected enrollment and the discrepancies in the budget. She stated the enrollment states 120 but the budget is for 100 students. Mr. Ali stated they are projecting 120 students. Ms. Kakadelis asked about community interest. Mr. Ali stated they did a community forum after the application was turned in. Ms. Kakadelis stated she isn't sure this is ready for acceleration. Ms. Reeves asked about the deficit in the budget for year one which is almost \$104,000. Mr. McQueen stated that is because it was calculated with the 100 students. Ms. Kakadelis stated it is really difficult when things are resubmitted at different times.
- Mr. Ali stated that their Epicenter login was sent to someone wrong. Mr. Machado stated the application process does not use Epicenter, it uses Apex. Mr. Machado clarified that he is

referencing the RTO process – not the application process. Mr. Ali stated yes, and there were some uploading problems.

- Mr. Quigley stated he has questions he would want to flesh out in the interview. Mr. Quigley stated there are multiple fails and he has concerns with moving someone out of clarification with multiple fails. Ms. Sutton stated she also has concerns with the number of fails and also with the competition the school would face in the area. She stated the salaries are also not competitive for that market.
- Ms. Reeves stated she is also concerned with the high number of failures; there are fails in every aspect of the application.
- Ms. Kakadelis stated there were twelve fails on this application and she is moving for the school not to move forward to a full interview because of the multiple fails and the competition in the Charlotte market.

Motion: Committee motion to not recommend North Davidson Charter to continue to full interview

Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous Committee Vote

Passed

Failed

Motion: Full CSAB motion to not recommend North Davidson Charter to continue to full interview

Motion: Alex Quigley

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

Pocosin Innovative Charter

- Dr. Allen stated the school is proposed to locate in Washington County. Dr. Allen gave a brief introduction of the school's proposed enrollment and grade levels. There is a LEA impact statement and there is not a due diligence report for this applicant. Dr. Allen reviewed the pass/fail ratings for this applicant. She stated the applicant is requesting acceleration and is not a repeat applicant and is receiving third party assistance from Alliance Education Services. She stated the application was deemed complete.
- Ms. Constance Davenport introduced herself as the Board Vice Chair. She introduced her fellow board members who were in attendance. She began by telling the CSAB a personal story about her daughter. She spoke about the rich agricultural background in Washington

County. She spoke about the rural and isolated nature of the area. She stated the school would focus on agricultural resources and local industries.

- Mr. Quigley asked for clarification regarding why they are seeking acceleration. Ms. Davenport stated that the area is severely low-performing and there are no other options for parents. She stated some parents drive their children over an hour to get to a better school. She stated that not all parents have the ability to get to other options. Mr. Walker about school closures in the area. Ms. Davenport explained that the middle and high school consolidated.
- Mr. Quigley stated he is recommending they come before the CSAB for a full interview because there are no other charter schools in the county and they passed almost all sections of the application. His only concern is the enrollment growth expressed in the application. Mr. Walker agreed. Another board member stated the school would be able to draw in students from multiple counties. Mr. Quigley stated he understands that, but these numbers are really ambitious for a rural district. He also expressed concern about opening K-8 in the first year. He stated these types of questions will come up at the interview. Mr. Walker agreed with Mr. Quigley's concerns. Ms. Kroeger also expressed concern about the enrollment numbers.
- A representative from the board stated that they believe they can meet these enrollment numbers and that there are a lot of students in the area that are home-schooled and enrolled in different counties. Mr. Quigley stated he understands the passion, but they need to see real data that supports those numbers. He also stated he wants to ask about transportation and weighted lottery, so be prepared for that discussion. He stated he is looking forward to that conversation at the full interview.

Motion: Committee motion to allow Pocosin Innovative Charter to continue to full interview

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Lynn Kroeger

Vote: Unanimous Committee Vote

Passed

Failed

Motion: Full CSAB motion to allow Pocosin Innovative Charter to continue to full interview

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Lynn Kroeger

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

Elaine Riddick Charter

- Dr. Allen stated the school is proposed to locate in Perquimans County. Dr. Allen gave a brief introduction of the school's proposed enrollment and grade levels. There is a LEA impact statement and there is not a due diligence report for this applicant. Dr. Allen reviewed the pass/fail ratings for this applicant. She stated the applicant is requesting acceleration and is not a repeat applicant and is receiving third party assistance from Torchlight Academy Schools. They intend to partner with Torchlight. She stated the application was deemed complete on October 12, 2018.
- Mr. Thomas Riddick introduced himself as a member of the board. He explained various programs for students that he has implemented within the county at his own expense. Mr. Riddick explained the qualifications of fellow board members. He stated they are negotiating options with several facilities. He explained how he became interested in starting a charter school and why the board chose to partner with Torchlight. He expressed how the traditional public schools are failing students.
- Mr. Quigley stated that the Mr. Riddick is very compelling, but the application failed many sections. Mr. Quigley recommends that out of the Torchlight applicants, he feels this one would be the best to bring forward because the need is there. He continued that this would be the first charter school in the area. Ms. Kakadelis was in agreement with Mr. Quigley. Mr. Quigley stated this is a unique situation because of the location. He continued to explain that is why he would recommend going forward despite the issues with the failing sections. He stated it will still be hard to overcome those issues going forward. He stated the application itself is really important because board members may come and go, but the application is what stays to be implemented.
- Ms. Reeves asked about the board chair. Mr. Riddick stated the she was unable to come with the changed schedule. Ms. Reeves asked if she would be available should they move forward because she really needs to hear from the board given the fact this application is identical to three others. Mr. Riddick stated yes the board will be available and he understands her concerns. Ms. Reeves also stated she needs some more information about the budget.
- Mr. Quigley asked for the board member resumes. Dr. Allen explained that it was a blank document at first but has been submitted as a correction.
- Ms. Sutton expressed her same concerns, but she isn't opposed to moving them forward.

Motion: Committee motion to allow Elaine Riddick Charter to continue to full interview

Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous Committee Vote

Passed

Failed

Motion: Full CSAB motion to allow Elaine Riddick Charter to continue to full interview

Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION

- Dr. Danielle Allen, Consultant with the Office of Charter Schools, explained the purpose and history of the Charter School Annual Report. Mr. Machado thanked Dr. Allen for her good work on the report while also working on applications and other office reports.
- Dr. Allen explained the purpose and history of the Charter Schools Annual Report. She spoke about the number of charter schools operating in the state, the number of schools in the Ready to Open process, and the number of pending applications. She explained demographics and diversity in charter schools. She stated diversity is trending in the right direction.
- Dr. Allen explained the academic data for charter schools. She spoke about goals and measures for charter schools. She explained some data based on last year's Performance Framework is still pending. She highlighted some charter school accolades from the year.
- Mr. Quigley stated he was really pleased to see so much data in the report. He pointed out the importance of disaggregated data and it seems that across all areas with the exception of high school math, charter school students are out-performing students in traditional public schools. This is true regardless of race, socio-economic status, or disability.
- Mr. Quigley drew attention to the scatterplot graph regarding economically disadvantaged student (EDS) numbers. He stated the CSAB must get a grasp around how economically disadvantaged students are counted. The CSAB discussed the inconsistencies in EDS data and needing to provide clarity to the public.
- The CSAB praised the report. Mr. Maimone stated he'd like to see data on ACT scores going forward. Mr. Quigley asked for a deeper analysis of authorization. Mr. Maimone also stated it would be nice to see data regarding Math I enrollment in charters versus traditional public schools. The CSAB discussed the high school math data.

Motion: Motion to approve the draft Charter Schools Annual Report as well as any pending OCS recommended revisions

Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

CLARIFICATION INTERVIEWS CONTINUED

Lighthouse Charter

- Dr. Allen stated the school is proposed to locate in Greene County. Dr. Allen gave a brief introduction of the school's proposed enrollment and grade levels. There is a LEA impact statement and there is not a due diligence report for this applicant. Dr. Allen reviewed the pass/fail ratings for this applicant. She stated the applicant is requesting acceleration and is not a repeat applicant and is receiving third party assistance from Torchlight Academy Schools. The board intends to partner with Torchlight. The application was deemed incomplete and the applicant responded to the requests by the October 12th deadline.
- Mr. McQueen addressed the CSAB and stated that they believe that reviewers are grading applications without reviewing the documents that were submitted before the October 12th deadline. Mr. Adam Ezell spoke about his role in contracting with Torchlight.
- A representative for the board introduced himself and the need for a charter school in Greene County. He stated there are no other charter schools in the county. He spoke about community partnerships in the area and his connection to Greene County.
- Mr. Quigley asked that Mr. Ezell speak to the issues he has with the documents sent later. Mr. Ezell referenced an appendix that was submitted after completeness checks. Mr. Quigley and Ms. Kakadelis stated the appendix was not the issue, there were problems with other sections like the educational plan.
- Ms. Kakadelis asked about interest surveys. Mr. Ezell stated he looked at past rubrics and saw schools that were approved without interest surveys. Ms. Reeves stated her concern is that this application is an acceleration and if the CSAB doesn't have clear evidence regarding parent intent it is very difficult. She stated the school would be opening in seven months. Mr. Quigley stated it's a higher bar for acceleration requests. Ms. Reeves expressed concern about enrollment numbers.
- Mr. Quigley stated he would like to bring this applicant forward to have a conversation based on the need and that it would be the first charter school in the county.

Motion: Committee motion to allow Lighthouse Charter to continue to full interview

Motion: Sherry Reeves

Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Vote: Unanimous Committee Vote

Passed

Failed

Motion: Full CSAB motion to allow Lighthouse Charter to continue to full interview

Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

****CSAB recessed for lunch at noon and returned at 1:20 p.m.****

CLARIFICATION INTERVIEWS CONTINUED

Robert J. Brown Leadership Academy

- Dr. Allen stated the school is proposed to locate in Guilford County. Dr. Allen gave a brief introduction of the school's proposed enrollment and grade levels. There is a LEA impact statement and there is not a due diligence report for this applicant. Dr. Allen reviewed the pass/fail ratings for this applicant. She stated the applicant is requesting acceleration and is not a repeat applicant and is receiving third party assistance from Dr. Howard Coleman. They intend to partner with Robert J. Brown Educational Equity Foundation. The application was deemed incomplete and the applicant responded to the requests by the October 12th deadline.
- Ms. Brenda Williams stated Robert J. Brown is not here because he is currently undergoing cataract surgery. She explained why Robert J. Brown wanted to start a charter school. She introduced the fellow board members in attendance.
- Ms. Kakadelis asked for clarification about the EMO and the board of the school. Ms. Williams stated the board for the EMO will be different for the school. She explained the board of Children's Legacy will be the board for the school.
- Ms. Kakadelis stated she didn't see the letter of intent from the church; she asked if the facility is settled. Ms. Williams stated yes, there is a deposit on the church and by the fourth year they will be able to buy the church.
- Ms. Reeves asked if the church is vacant. Ms. Williams stated it has been vacant for about thirty years and deemed historical and will require complete renovation. She further explained that during the first year they will use a building behind the church, the annex, to house the school.
- Ms. Kakadelis asked for clarification regarding the mission statement. Ms. Kakadelis stated the educational plan was missing a lot of detail, but she's interested in hearing more during a full interview because of Mr. Brown's legacy.
- Ms. Sutton asked for clarification about the academic goals and so many board members being out of state. Ms. Williams stated both of the out of state members are here today and plan to move here. The Vice Principal addressed the CSAB regarding curriculum. Ms. Kakadelis asked why there was no detail about curriculum in the application. The Vice Principal stated she is not sure.

- Ms. Reeves asked about the demographics for the area. A representative from the board spoke to this issue. She spoke about wrap-around services that will be offered to families.
- Mr. Quigley asked Dr. Allen about the late submission of documents. Dr. Allen stated the board responded after the five-day deadline (on November 7th) so OCS is requesting the CSAB vote on whether this application is deemed complete.
- Mr. Quigley stated the application was incomplete based on the statute and it failed many components of the application, including the education plan which is arguably the most important. He also stated that Guilford County is a competitive market.
- The CSAB discussed what was missing from the application – specifically two columns from a table. Mr. Quigley stated part of the test of the application process is whether you can get the application submitted on time.
- Ms. Sutton stated she would like to see more from the academic plan and goals.
- Ms. Reeves stated that based on the legacy of Mr. Brown the issue is easy, but she understands the concerns Mr. Quigley brought forth.

Motion: Committee motion to allow Robert J. Brown Leadership Academy to move the issue to full board discussion

Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Second: Alex Quigley

Vote: Unanimous Committee Vote

Passed **Failed**

- Mr. Walker stated he knows Mr. Brown and knows he’s never failed at anything in his entire life. Mr. Walker stated he believes there is a substantial difference between this application’s incompleteness and the formerly discussed application’s incompleteness. Mr. Walker stated he hasn’t reviewed the application because it wasn’t in his committee, but he would like to review it. He stated that if we are struggling this much, the whole CSAB should have the ability to hear the application.
- Ms. Vuncannon stated she feels like there are so many gaps and she doesn’t want to set a precedent of being inconsistent with schools.
- Mr. Quigley asked for legal advice on the matter.

Motion: Move to closed session to consult with attorneys regarding legal matters 1:52 p.m.

Motion: Sherry Reeves

Second: Steven Walker

Vote: Unanimous Vote

Motion: Move to end closed session and enter open session 2:02 p.m.

Motion: Alex Quigley

Second: Lynn Kroeger
Vote: Unanimous Vote

- Mr. Quigley stated because the CSAB has already discussed this application, it has been deemed complete. Mr. Quigley stated that therefore they are moving forward with deciding whether to bring it to a full interview.
- Ms. Kakadelis stated she is in agreement with the application not being what she would want, but she is compelled to let them come forward for a full interview.
- Mr. Walker stated he wants to read the entire application and he can't do that unless the application moves forward.
- Mr. Quigley stated that he will probably vote for this based on the fact the CSAB is so torn on the issue. Ms. Sutton stated she thinks the application is extremely weak but she is comfortable if the motion is to allow the full board to consider the application, but not approving the application as passing.

Motion: Full CSAB motion to allow Robert J. Brown Leadership Academy to continue to full interview

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Vote: Unanimous

Passed **Failed**

- The CSAB stated this was not a passing of the application because it has some substantial weaknesses.

Omega School of Arts

- Dr. Allen stated the school is proposed to locate in Scotland County. Dr. Allen gave a brief introduction of the school's proposed enrollment and grade levels. There is a LEA impact statement and there is not a due diligence report for this applicant. Dr. Allen reviewed the pass/fail ratings for this applicant. She stated the applicant is requesting acceleration and is not a repeat applicant and is not receiving third party assistance. The application was deemed complete on October 5, 2018.
- A representative from the board introduced herself and the proposed school's mission. She introduced her fellow board members. She stated that the original board members withdrew their interest in the school. She stated one original board member is on the board and they have a total of six board members.
- Mr. Walker stated he had several issues with the application and when the application was submitted there were only three board members. He stated the board bylaws only allowed for

two members. The board representative is not sure why the bylaws stated that there were only two board members. Mr. Walker continued that there are concerning issues with the liability insurance. He also stated he had concerns with the budget. He said in year one there is 149k in custodial supplies. He stated there is a one dollar surplus in year one, no surplus in year two, and then negative surplus going forward.

- Stated that the budget was made by the original six board members that are no longer on the board. She continued that the county needs the school and it would be the only charter school in the county.
- Mr. Walker asked about why the other board members left the board. She replied that one was in another state and two had a conflict with another school.
- Ms. Kroeger stated she had a lot of concerns with the finances as well. She believes the revenue is overstated. Ms. Vuncannon echoed the sentiment of Mr. Walker and Ms. Kroeger. She stated she failed every area in the application and had major concerns with the educational plan and the financial plan. Ms. Kroeger stated it lacks the requirements for acceleration.
- Mr. Walker stated that the board should really consider reviewing feedback and coming back in a year.

Motion: Committee motion to not recommend Omega School of Arts to continue to full interview

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Lynn Kroeger

Vote: Unanimous Committee Vote

Passed

Failed

Motion: Full CSAB motion to not recommend Omega School of Arts to continue to full interview

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

AMENDMENTS

- Ms. Ashley Baquero, Consultant with the OCS, updated the CSAB on two school amendments. She explained that Bishop George W. Brooks Male Academy, scheduled to open in 2019, is requesting a one-year delay. She confirmed that delay can be approved by OCS. She explained that Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy is rescinding its prior amendment for a weighted lottery process.

Hope Charter/PAVE Articulation Agreement

- Mr. Quigley recused himself from discussion/voting on the matter.
- Ms. Baquero explained that Hope Charter Leadership Academy (“Hope”) and PAVE SE Raleigh Charter School are seeking approval for an articulation agreement based on Hope’s decision to relinquish its charter at the end of the school year due to poor academic performance.
- The CSAB discussed the amendment and expressed regret that Hope is going to relinquish its charter, but understand the board is making the best decision for students.

Motion: Motion to approve amendment and recommend approval to the State Board of Education

Recusal: Alex Quigley

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis

Vote: Unanimous

Passed **Failed**

Queen’s Grant/Matthews Charter Articulation Agreement

- Ms. Baquero explained that Queen’s Grant Community School and Matthews Charter Academy are seeking approval of an articulation agreement that would give priority to 8th graders from Matthews Charter Academy seeking to attend high school at Queen’s Grant Community School.
- The CSAB discussed the amendment.

Motion: Motion to approve amendment and recommend approval to the State Board of Education

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed **Failed**

Oxford Preparatory School’s Enrollment and Expansion Request

- Ms. Baquero explained that Oxford Preparatory School (“Oxford”) is seeking an amendment to grow beyond the 30% max allowed by statute. She explained growth beyond 30% requires SBE approval. She explained the amendment is for the addition of K-4th grades in the school year 2020-2021.

- Mr. Walker asked why the amendment was being presented now for expansion in two years. Ms. Baquero explained the school is seeking a loan for the facility which requires administrative approval for the expansion.
- The CSAB discussed the amendment and expressed some concern about opening five new grades within one year. Mr. Machado stated that this is a high-performing, strong school. CSAB members discussed other schools that have done the same and been successful.

Motion: Motion to approve amendment and recommend approval to the State Board of Education

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed **Failed**

Charter School Enrollment Growth

- Ms. Baquero explained that several schools are seeking enrollment growth beyond the 30% maximum allowed without SBE approval. She explained how schools can request this growth through the Charter School’s ADM projection system through NC DPI School Business. She explained how a school makes this request and that there are specific questions the school must certify as “yes” in order to be eligible. These questions are aligned with General Statute 115C-218.7.
- The CSAB discussed the requests and that they must follow the statute in terms of eligibility.

Motion: Motion to approve amendment and recommend approval to the State Board of Education for the following eligible schools: Northeast Academy of Aerospace and Advanced Technology, Iredell Charter Academy, Moore Montessori Community School, Triangle Math and Science Academy, Crosscreek Charter School, and STARS Charter conditioned upon the schools submitting all required documentation to the Office of Charter Schools.

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed **Failed**

Motion: Motion to deny amendment and recommend denial to the State Board of Education for the following ineligible schools: Charlotte Choice and Lakeside Charter Academy.

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed **Failed**

PAUL R. BROWN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

- Mr. Quigley gave background on this discussion and explained the school had previously addressed the CSAB regarding low-performance. He continued that there were major concerns among the CSAB and discussion about revocation. The school is back on the agenda for discussion.
- Mr. Walker stated he believes the school needs to consider applying for alternative accountability model.
- Mr. McKoy, Head of School, stated the school would consider this possibility. Mr. Lloyd stated they have been communicating with the Office of Charter Schools and the school has some questions about the process. Mr. Lloyd wanted assurance the students would receive a diploma, not a certificate. He also expressed concerns about when they would be required to enroll students because students need the full year to get acclimated to the program.
- Mr. Walker stated it doesn't change anything other than how you are graded for accountability purposes. Mr. Walker references the requirements under the policy for alternative accountability status. Mr. Walker told the school to work with the Office of Charter Schools to determine next steps and if the school qualifies for alternative status. Mr. McKoy asked if they could eventually go back to regular status after being alternative. Mr. Walker stated the board could always apply for another charter or decide to no longer have alternative accountability status. Mr. Lloyd spoke to the at-risk nature of the students the school serves.
- Mr. Quigley stated the issue is that the state may not define at-risk in the same way the school defines at-risk. He stated the school now has some time to consult with attorneys and determine the path to take forward and if they would qualify for alternative accountability status. The CSAB is giving the school and board space to figure things out and the onus is on the board to really review and decide if they want to pursue alternative accountability status.
- Mr. Machado explained the process and timeline for approval for alternative accountability status. Mr. Quigley stated the first step is really knowing what it means and making that decision.

Motion: Motion to discuss Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy in February

Motion: Steven Walker

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Passed

Failed

CALENDAR DISCUSSION

- The CSAB discussed the next meeting's dates – January 14th -16th.

ADJOURNMENT

- **Mr. Quigley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:52 pm. The meeting adjourned via acclamation.**