

**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION**

FEBRUARY 22, 2018

A special public meeting of the School Reform Commission was held on February 22, 2018 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 4:01 p.m. by Chair Wilkerson.

Miles Shore, Deputy General Counsel announced that notice of today's special meeting of the School Reform Commission was published in the *Philadelphia Daily News* on February 7, 2018, and posted on the School District's website.

Mr. Shore also announced that the School Reform Commission met in Executive Session prior to today's meeting to discuss quasi-judicial proceedings.

Members present: Mr. Green (*arrived at 4:05 p.m.*), Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Members absent: 0

Chair Wilkerson stated that this is a special meeting of the School Reform Commission, and that at this meeting, the SRC presides as a quasi-judicial body to grant or deny charter applications. In accordance, there is a proposal for a modified speakers' policy.

Mr. Shore presented a proposal to modify the speaker's policy under SRC Policy No. 6 because the SRC held public hearings, recorded hours of public testimony, and received written comments from the public. He stated that we will first hear from one representative for each of our new charter school applications, to be followed by no more than 14 speakers on general topics. Mr. Shore also stated that these speakers were registered in advance of this afternoon's action meeting, and that registration for today's meeting was closed at 4:00pm on Wednesday, February 21st. Every speaker will have 3 minutes to share their testimony.

The vote on the motion to approve the revised Speakers' Policy was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

DawnLynne Kacer, Executive Director, Charter Schools Office, provided an overview of the new charter application process. Her overview included a review of the PA Charter School Law (CSL) requirements and a review of the Philadelphia 2017-2018 New Charter Application Cycle. She stated that the Charter School Law specifies guidelines for reviewing charter applications, as well as specifies a timeline for the application review process. Ms. Kacer stated that 13 letters of intent to apply were received by the Charter Schools Office. Nine applications were received by the November 15, 2017 deadline, with two applications being withdrawn by the applicants after submission. The Pennsylvania Institute Academy Charter School, with a proposed location in the Morton neighborhood, and a proposed opening in 2019, serving 320 students in grades 9-12 at scale withdrew its application on January 19, 2018. Qor Charter School with a proposed location in the Frankford neighborhood, and a proposed opening in 2019 serving 312 students in grades K-4 at scale withdrew its application on February 1, 2018. The Charter Schools Office utilized subject matter experts including District staff and external reviewers. Ms. Kacer also stated that the initial public hearings were held on December 18, 2017. A second round of public hearings were held during January, and written public comment was accepted through January 31, 2018.

**A complete copy of Ms. Kacer's powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

Evelyn Sample Oates, Deputy Chief of Communications, stated that at every School Reform Commission meeting, a representative from the Deaf-Hearing Communication Center is here to provide sign language interpretation of the proceedings. She also stated that representatives from the Office of Family and Community Engagement are stationed in the lobby to help with interpretation services. Ms. Sample-Oates stated that the proceedings of this SRC meeting are being streamed live on the Internet at www.philasd.org/live and can be seen on PSTV's Comcast Channel 52 and Verizon Fios Channel 20. She stated that the proceedings are also being recorded by The School District of Philadelphia and that the School District's recordings are protected by the Copyright Laws of the United States and may not be used in any manner without the express written consent of The School District. Mr. Whack stated that by participating in tonight's meeting, members of the public acknowledge that the School District may use its recordings for any purpose without obtaining permission or paying any compensation.

The meeting was opened to the public for presentation of statements.

Mr. Shore announced the applicable provisions of the SRC's public participation policy, as modified.

The following individuals presented statements in support of the proposed new charter application:

- Sean London, Senior Lead Educator, Antonia Pantoja Preparatory Charter School
- Nilda Ruiz, President and CEO, APM Community Charter School
- Lisa Walsh, ELL Coordinator, Eugenio Maria de Hostos Preparatory Charter School
- Joseph Ferguson, COO, Mastery Charter Elementary School
- John Swoyer, MaST III Community Charter School
- Jon Rosenberg, CEO, Philadelphia Hebrew Public Charter School

The following individuals expressed opposition to the approval of all proposed new charter applications:

- Lisa Haver
- Karel Kilimnik
- Lynda Rubin
- Deborah Grill
- Diane Payne
- Amy Roat cited in particular, her disapproval of Antonia Pantoja Preparatory Charter School in Feltonville

The following individuals expressed support of Philadelphia Hebrew Public Charter School:

- Chanelle Ward
- Velita Thompson

The following individuals expressed opposition to the approval of all proposed new charter applications:

- Alexandra Yagilowich
- Stephen Fleming
- Amy Turner

The following individuals submitted written testimony in support of Mastery Charter Elementary School:

- Sharon Anderson
- Maurice Jenkins

Chair Wilkerson stated that this process is a fundamental component of the work of the SRC to provide students and families with quality options that bring innovation and expand choices to Philadelphia's students. She stated that the SRC's work is guided by Pennsylvania's Charter School Law, associated case law, and the basic principle that, to be granted the authority to open a charter school, an applicant must present a thorough plan and demonstrate capacity to operate a quality charter school that will provide comprehensive learning experiences for all

students. Chair Wilkerson stated that the Charter Schools Office and our hearing officer have developed and overseen a rigorous review process to ensure that each of these applications has been thoroughly reviewed under the standards outlined by the law, and that our goal is to ensure a process that yields charter schools that have the capability to be successful, with a focus on increasing academic success and improving learning for all students while meeting the legislative intent of the law. Chair Wilkerson stated that this year, our review process included: 2 rounds of public hearings amounting to 25 hours of public hearings, letters offering public comment, and a comprehensive evaluation report for each applicant reviewed by a team of internal and external evaluators. These reports are public and available on the Charter Schools Office's website. She also stated that the deliberations are based on the totality of this process and not just on the evaluations of the Charter Schools Office.

Chair Wilkerson also extended thanks to families and community members who participated in the new charter application review process, offering their comments and testimony both in support and opposition to these applications. She also extended thanks to the staff of the Charter Schools Office and School District of Philadelphia for their hard and thoughtful work, with a special acknowledgement to DawnLynne Kacer, Peng Chao, Liz Gutman and our hearing officer, Allison Petersen for their leadership in this process.

Ms. Kacer provided an overview of each of the new charter applications, which included: Grade Range at Scale; Total Enrollment at Scale; Location; Proposed Opening Year; Targeted Students; Academic Program; and Management Organization.

**A complete copy of Ms. Kacer's powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

The following resolutions were presented for formal action by the School Reform Commission:

I. SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION

SRC-1 (Updated 2.22.18)

Proposed Action on New Charter Application – Antonia Pantoja Preparatory Charter School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2017, the applicant for Antonia Pantoja Preparatory Charter School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 18, 2017 and January 29, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2018-2019 school year with a maximum enrollment of 925 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

Commissioner McGinley expressed concerns about programmatic and budgetary inconsistencies. Commissioner Richman expressed concerns about the building lease and associated costs. Chair Wilkerson questioned the relationship of the staff between the existing and proposed Antonia Pantoja Charter Schools. Commissioner Green expressed concerns about the Charter Management Organization's fees.

The vote on the motion to deny the application and adopt an Adjudication was as follows:

Deny: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Approve: 0

SRC-2 (Updated 2.22.18)

Proposed Action on New Charter Application – APM Community Charter School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2017, the applicant for APM Community Charter School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 18, 2017 and January 10, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2018-2019 school year with a maximum enrollment of 624 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

Commissioner McGinley questioned the Charter Management Organization's experience in running a K-8 school. He also expressed concerns about staffing. Commissioner Richman expressed concerns about the proposed charter presenting a \$298,614 operating deficit in year one. Chair Wilkerson expressed concerns about the Principal and the Charter Management Agreement.

The vote on the motion to deny the application and adopt an Adjudication was as follows:

Deny: Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 3

Approve: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez – 2

SRC-3 (Updated 2.22.18)

Proposed Action on New Charter Application – Eugenio Maria de Hostos Preparatory Charter School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2017, the applicant for Eugenio Maria de Hostos Preparatory Charter School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 18, 2017 and January 29, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2018-2019 school year with a maximum enrollment of 850 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

Commissioner McGinley expressed concerns about the Charter Management Agreement.

The vote on the motion to deny the application and adopt an Adjudication was as follows:

Deny: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Approve: 0

SRC-4 (Updated 2.22.18)

Proposed Action on New Charter Application – Franklin Towne Charter Middle School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2017, the applicant for Franklin Towne Charter Middle School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 18, 2017 and January 22, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with Grades 6-8 starting in the 2019-2020 school year with a maximum enrollment of 450 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

In response to Commissioner Green, Ms. Kacer stated that Franklin Towne operates a grades K-8 and 9-12 school. Commission Richman expressed concerns about the school apparently merging academic and behavioral controls into one approach. Chair Wilkerson expressed concerns about possible conflicts between the Board and the Charter Management Organization.

The vote on the motion to deny the application and adopt an Adjudication was as follows:

Deny: Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 3

Approve: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez – 2

SRC-5 (Updated 2.22.18)

Proposed Action on New Charter Application – MaST Community Charter School III

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2017, an application ("Application") was submitted for MaST Community Charter School III ("MaST III") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 18, 2017 and January 19, 2018; now be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the Application and the concluding document submitted for MaST III and made during the public hearings by representatives for MaST III, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") hereby grants a Charter to "MaST Community Charter School III" to operate a public charter school serving Kindergarten through Grade 12 for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2019 and ending on June 30, 2024, provided that MaST III submits the following documentation to the Charter Schools Office no later than June 30, 2018 ("June 30, 2018 Required Documentation"):

1. Curricular materials aligned with Pennsylvania standards for all subjects, including non-core subjects, for all grades to be served during Year 1 of the Charter Term, including without limitation, curricular materials for Physical Education in compliance with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 standards, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
2. A detailed tiered intervention system plan which identifies the tiers, research-based interventions, progress monitoring and assessments to be used for academic and behavioral supports that is inclusive of each at-risk learners, academically struggling learners, English Learners ("ELs"), and learners who may be evaluated for special education services in compliance with 22 Pa. Code Charter 711, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;

3. A revised policy for ELs compliant with applicable federal and state laws and guidance, including a complete language instruction educational program (“LIEP”), and evidence of budgeted staffing for MaST III aligned to the maximum authorized enrollment and any revised projection of EL enrollment, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
4. A revised Code of Student Conduct compliant with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12 requirements, minimally identifying offenses and corresponding consequences and specifying offenses which may result in suspension or expulsion, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
5. A bullying policy, including but not limited to preventative bullying education, monitoring and reporting systems, in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws;
6. A revised student absence policy that eliminates inequitable treatment of students by type of absence, does not provide for any exclusion from a core or supplemental educational plan component for unexcused absences, and is compliant with applicable federal, state and local laws, including without limitation, Act 138 of 2016 concerning truancy;
7. A revised school calendar reflecting a 2019-2020 opening year for MaST III and for the operations of MaST III, in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws;
8. A revised complaint policy that clearly identifies the method of complaint submission and contact information and accommodates ELs and non-English speakers;
9. A revised shared services agreement (“SSA”) between Mathematics, Science and Technology Community Charter School (“MaST”) and MaST III that clearly (i) identifies which, if any, services will not be included in the services fee and may be separately billed to MaST III and (ii) clarifies what property is included and/or exempt from the Intellectual Property clause in the SSA, in a form and with provisions that are acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that MaST III shall submit the following documentation to the Charter Schools Office no later than September 15, 2018 (“September 15, 2018 Required Documentation”):

1. A revised Year 1 staffing table as well as a budget template reflecting for MaST III a 2019-2020 opening year, the maximum authorized enrollment, an appropriate level of professional staffing based on the enrollment and any revised projections, the secured Year 1 location, and any revised line items of the budget as a result of the terms of this Resolution;
2. A detailed marketing, recruitment and engagement plan (“Recruitment Plan”) to identify, attract and enroll at least fifty percent (50%) of MaST III’s students from those age and grade-eligible students residing in the following zip codes in the City of Philadelphia: 19120, 19124, 19140 and 19141 (collectively referred to as the “Attendance Zone”) in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
3. An Admissions Policy and Process which complies with the Public School Code and Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, including details on methods to be used to recruit students in the Attendance Zone and citywide, lottery preferences, requested or required enrollment documents, lottery dates, and results, in a form that is acceptable to the Charter Schools Office. The Admissions Policy and Process shall provide that if seats open during the school year or between school years for Kindergarten through Grade 12, MaST III shall accept new students from the waiting list in appropriate order for particular grades or new applicants if there are no applicants for that grade on the waiting list. The Admissions Policy and Process also shall provide that MaST III shall provide a copy of its current waiting list at any time during the Term of the Charter within ten (10) business days after requested by the Charter Schools Office;
4. A list of the names and addresses and the complete resumes of the members of the MaST III Board of Trustees which demonstrate that none of the members of the MaST Board of Trustees, the Mathematics, Science and

Technology Community Charter School II Board of Trustees, or the MaST Educational Services Provider (“ESP”) Board or controlling entity members identified in the SSA serve on the MaST III Board or hold an officer position on the MaST III Board;

5. Bylaws adopted by the MaST III Board of Trustees at a public meeting which provide: (i) that all meetings, including emergency and special meetings, of the Board and Board committees shall be held and publicly noticed in accordance with the Sunshine Act; (ii) that all meetings of the Board and Board committees shall be open to the public without a requirement that a quorum of the Board is anticipated; (iii) that all employee dismissals and/or terminations shall be approved by the Board at a public meeting; and (iv) that the MaST III Board shall have the power and authority to amend the Articles of Incorporation and/or Bylaws without the permission or approval of any third party;

6. The executed lease or sublease or executed intent to lease or sublease related to MaST III's use of the facilities at 1 Crown Way, Philadelphia, PA 19154, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;

7. A certificate of insurance evidencing that insurance coverage has been obtained by the Charter School in the amounts and categories as deemed acceptable by the Charter Schools Office;

8. A resolution duly approved by the Board of Trustees of MaST III resolving that all teachers, including teachers of ELs, will be employed directly by MaST III, rather than being engaged as contractors either directly or through the ESP;

9. A plan for assistance with transportation for Kindergarten students residing in the Attendance Zone in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter for MaST III shall contain the following terms and conditions:

1. MaST III shall use the 2018-2019 school year as an additional planning year and shall not open until the 2019-2020 school year;

2. MaST III shall be authorized to operate only as a Kindergarten to Grade 8 charter school starting in the 2019-2020 school year with a maximum enrollment of 900 students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 in 2019-2020; 1000 students in Kindergarten through Grade 9 in 2020-2021; 1100 students in Kindergarten through Grade 10 in 2021-2022; 1200 students in Kindergarten through Grade 11 in 2022-2023; and 1300 students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 in 2023-2024 and any renewal of the Charter, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will MaST III request payment from either the School District or the Pennsylvania Department of Education for more students than set forth herein or enroll students in different grades, without authorization by the SRC or the Board of Education by resolution approved at a public meeting;

3. MaST III shall enroll at least fifty percent (50%) of its first-time enrolled students from students residing in the following zip codes in the City of Philadelphia, comprising the Attendance Zone: 19120, 19124, 19140, and 19141. MaST III first shall enroll 50% of its open seats with students residing in the Attendance Zone and shall at all times during the Charter Term set aside 50% of MaST III's available seats for newly enrolling students residing in the Attendance Zone. MaST III shall fill remaining seats with applicable sibling and founder preferences as set forth in the Admissions Policy and Process and then on a random basis in accordance with Section 1723-A of the Charter School Law. All other provisions of Section 17-1723-A and the Public School Code shall remain in force, and MaST III may not exclude children on any basis other than that set forth in this paragraph;

4. MaST III shall adopt and implement a Recruitment Plan to identify, attract and enroll a sufficient number of students to meet the 50% seat set aside for students residing in the Attendance Zone. Such Recruitment Plan shall be provided to the Charter Schools Office on or before September 15, 2018 for approval. MaST III shall provide credible evidence to the Charter Schools Office on or before April 30, 2019 that MaST III has implemented the Recruitment Plan to achieve the 50% set aside for students residing in the Attendance Zone. Thereafter, annually on April 30th during the Charter Term, MaST III shall demonstrate to the Charter Schools Office through credible evidence that MaST III has continued to successfully implement the Recruitment Plan;

5. During the Term of the Charter, there shall not be any overlap in voting or ex-officio board members between the Board of Trustees of MaST III and the Board of Trustees of MaST or MaST ESP, or any subsequent educational services provider for MaST III. During the Term of the Charter, the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) of MaST III shall not also serve as the CEO of any other charter school or be employed or compensated by another charter school, charter management company or multiple charter school organization (“MCSO”). Prior to the opening of MaST III, MaST ESP, the proposed educational services provider of MaST III, shall document its intent to function as a separate entity from the charter schools to which MaST ESP provides services, as stated in the Application and at the application hearing, either through the formation of a new legal entity, the creation and approval of a MCSO, or another structure acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
6. MaST III shall submit to the Charter Schools Office on or before January 31, 2019 curriculum and program materials for Grades 9-12 outlining MaST III’s programs focusing on healthcare learning, career and technical education, and internships and/or other programs with trade unions in Philadelphia;
7. MaST III shall employ at least one certified English as a Second Language instructor no later than the enrollment of any student identified as an EL;
8. MaST III shall participate in the School District’s charter school performance framework and monitoring system as set forth in the School District charter school policies and procedures and any amendments thereto. The charter school performance framework will include annual evaluations of MaST III’s academic, financial, and organizational performance. MaST III agrees to submit or allow to be submitted to the Charter Schools Office all student level academic information and any school-level data required for assessment of academic and organizational performance as part of the charter school performance framework and monitoring system;
9. If MaST III achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District’s School Progress Report, or its subsequent replacement, during any year of the term of the Charter, the Charter Schools Office may require that MaST III meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter Schools Office shall issue a written Charter to MaST III upon the Charter Schools Office’s receipt of satisfactory June 30, 2018 Required Documentation and September 15, 2018 Required Documentation as set forth above, and that MaST III shall sign such Charter on or before December 31, 2018. The SRC hereby delegates authority to determine compliance with the requirements of this Resolution to the Chief of Staff of the SRC or of the Board of Education. Failure of MaST III to submit satisfactory June 30, 2018 Required Documentation and September 15, 2018 Required Documentation or to sign the Charter by December 31, 2018, or by the end of any extension period granted by the SRC Chief of Staff or the Board of Education Chief of Staff, shall void this Resolution and shall cause the SRC or the Board of Education to re-vote on the Application within thirty (30) days after December 31, 2018, or the expiration of any extension period, whichever is later. Notice of voiding this Resolution for failure to submit the June 30, 2018 Required Documentation and September 15, 2018 Required Documentation or the signed Charter shall be issued by the Chair of the SRC or the Chair or President of the Board of Education. Notwithstanding these provisions, the Charter granted herein will not take effect until the written Charter has been signed and delivered by the Chair of the SRC or the Chair or President of the Board of Education, and the Chair of MaST III’s Board of Trustees, or another duly designated member of the Board.

Chair Wilkerson expressed concerns about the school not having a diverse student population. In response to Commissioner Richman, Ms. Kacer stated that students’ travel time from several identified zip codes to the proposed school location would be upwards of two hours. Ms. Kacer confirmed that the School District provides transportation for charter school students in grades 1 through via yellow bus or SEPTA transpass. The District does not provide transportation for kindergarten students. M. Kacer stated that she is not aware of the proposed charter school having a commitment to provide transportation for kindergarten students. Ms. Kacer provided a review of the proposed conditions. Commissioner McGinley questioned whether a condition that the charter school would provide transportation for kindergarten students could be added. Mr. Shore clarified that the School District does not provide transportation for its kindergarten students and is not required to do so for charter schools.

The School Reform Commission recessed at 6:05 p.m. and reconvened at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Shore announced that the School Reform Commission met in Executive Session to discuss quasi-judicial proceedings.

Ms. Kacer stated the addition of a condition that would require the applicant to provide a plan for review and approval by the Charter Schools Office for transportation assistance for kindergarten students that reside in the targeted zip codes of 19120, 19124, 19140, and 19141.

The vote on the motion to approve the application with conditions was as follows:

Approve: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Deny: 0

SRC-6 (Updated 2.22.18)

Proposed Action on New Charter Application – Mastery Charter Elementary School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2017, the applicant for Mastery Charter Elementary School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 18, 2017 and January 24, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school starting in the 2019-2020 school year serving K-Grade 7 and a maximum enrollment of 672 students in the fifth year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

Commissioner McGinley expressed concerns about an apparent lack of community support for the proposed charter. Chair Wilkerson expressed concerns about the applicant's capacity to operate another charter school.

The vote on the motion to deny the application and adopt an Adjudication was as follows:

Deny: Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 3

Approve: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez – 2

SRC-7 (Updated 2.22.18)

Proposed Action on New Charter Application – Philadelphia Hebrew Public Charter School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2017, the applicant for Philadelphia Hebrew Public Charter School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 18, 2017 and January 24, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school starting in the 2019-2020 school year serving K-Grade 5 with a maximum enrollment of 468 students in the fifth year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

Commissioner McGinley questioned the proposed school's curriculum being in alignment with Pennsylvania standards and teacher certifications. Chair Wilkerson expressed concerns with the applicant's budget. Ms. Kacer confirmed that there will be no religious instruction.

Commissioner Green stated that a charter application that has been rejected has a right to resubmit under Pennsylvania law within sixty days. He stated that the deficiencies with this application have more to do with New York vs. Pennsylvania law. Commissioner Jimenez stated that charter applications have been approved that focus on African American, Latino, and Asian cultures and that Philadelphia would benefit from a charter that focuses on Israeli and Hebrew cultures. Commissioner McGinley stated that his concerns with the application are around areas of compliance and organization.

The vote on the motion to deny the application and adopt an Adjudication was as follows:

Deny: Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 3

Approve: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez – 2

II. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

None Submitted

III. EDUCATION SERVICES

None Submitted

IV. INTERMEDIATE UNIT

None Submitted

Chair Wilkerson stated that the next public meeting of the School Reform Commission is March 15, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Joyce S. Wilkerson, Chair
School Reform Commission

William R. Hite, Jr., Ed.D
Superintendent