# APPROVED MEETING MINUTES IDAHO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

## October 12, 2017

700 W. Jefferson Street, Boise, Idaho Idaho State Capitol Building, East Wing 41

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Reed at 9:00 AM. The following Commissioners were in attendance:

Alan Reed Kelly Murphey Wanda Quinn Nils Peterson Kitty Kunz

Commissioners Sherilynn Bair and Brian Scigliano were absent and excused.

#### **TAB A: COMMISSION WORK**

## 1. Agenda Review/Approval

**M/S (Quinn/Peterson):** To approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

## 2. Minutes Review/Approval

**M/S (Peterson/Murphey):** To approve the minutes from August 17, 2017, as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.* 

### 3. Calendar

**M/S** (Quinn/Peterson): To approve February 8, 2018; April 12, 2018; June 14, 2018; August 16, 2018; October 11, 2018; and December 13, 2018, in Boise, Idaho as the dates and location for the PCSC's 2018 regularly scheduled meetings. *The motion passed unanimously.* 

## TAB B: CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CHARTER SCHOOL PERFORMACE CERTIFICATES

### 1. Future Public School Performance Certificate

Tamara Baysinger, PCSC Director, stated the petition for Future Public School (FPS) was approved at the PCSC's August 2017 regular meeting. Idaho Statute provides 75 days for the school and PCSC to execute a performance certificate. Staff has worked with FPS to reach an agreement on the individualized sections of the performance certificate.

**M/S (Peterson/Quinn):** To execute the Future Public School Performance Certificate as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.* 

## 2. Gem Prep Meridian: Performance Certificate

Director Baysinger said the petition for Gem Prep: Meridian (GPM) was approved at the PCSC's August 2017 regular meeting. Idaho Statute provides 75 days for the school and PCSC to execute a performance certificate. Staff has worked with GPM to reach an agreement on the individualized sections of the performance certificate.

**M/S (Peterson/Quinn):** To execute the Gem Prep: Meridian Performance Certificate as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.* 

#### TAB C: CONSIDERATION OF NEW CHARTER PETITION

## 1. Peace Valley Charter School (Second Hearing)

Anne Kinley, Middleton School District teacher, stated her support the Waldorf model and Peace Valley Charter School (PVCS) petition.

Jeff Biesinger, representing Red Apple Financial, described the business services his company provides for public charter schools.

Isaac Chavez, parent and CEO of Idaho Association of Realtors, expressed his interest in the Waldorf education model for his children. He noted that homebuyers are attracted to Idaho by the diversity of school options.

Laura Henning, PVCS board president, reviewed the school's mission and educational model.

Kristyn Carr, PVCS board vice president, recognized the importance of finding quality teachers and described the professional development opportunities for which the petitioners have budgeted.

Meir Cabaltera, PVCS board member, noted that enrollment, expert financial services, and a strong facilities plan are critical for success. He expressed confidence that PVCS will perform well in all areas.

Ms. Henning addressed a question from Commissioner Peterson explaining that there is no national Waldorf certification or schoolwide implementation review, but regional Waldorf trainings are available.

Ms. Henning addressed a question from Commissioner Reed regarding the location for the school. She described a new facility plan that was not provided in the petition, saying Giza is under contract to purchase 7.5 acres at Maple Grove and Overland. PVCS will lease the property from Giza, and PVCS will lease portable buildings. Giza will cover site development and portables installation costs, and PVCS will pay Giza a lease rate of 9.5% on the total Giza spends on land and development.

Commissioner Quinn expressed concern about the school's finances and facility plan. She suggested adding another condition of approval that would require PVCS to provide

documentation of having secured an affordable facility backed by adequate enrollment by June 1, 2018.

Ms. Henning answered questions from Commissioner Peterson and Commissioner Kunz regarding breakeven enrollment, class size, and expansion plan.

In response to a question from Commissioner Peterson, Director Baysinger clarified that at this time, PVCS's financial plan cannot be fully assessed because facility payments would be based on a lease rate of 9.5% of an unknown sum. By June 1, PVCS should have a clear idea of its enrollment and Giza's actual facility development costs. With this information, the feasibility of the school's financial plan could be evaluated. She noted that if a school fails to meet any pre-opening conditions, the PCSC could require the school to delay opening.

## **M/S (Peterson/ Murphey):** To approve the petition for PVCS with the following conditions:

- PVCS will amend the petition to satisfactorily address the remaining deficiencies noted in the petition evaluation rubric, as evaluated by PCSC staff, prior to 8:00 a.m. on December 4, 2017.
- PVCS will file the draft amendment to Article 9 of its Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State prior to 8:00 a.m. on December 4, 2017.
- PVCS will demonstrate completion of the alignment of its K-6 curriculum with the Idaho Content Standards no later than June 1, 2018. Curriculum for any additional grades will be fully aligned by June 1 of each calendar year in which PVCS begins offering those grades.
- PVCS will achieve accreditation candidacy status by July 1, 2019, and full accreditation through the Northwest Accreditation Commission by July 1, 2021.
- PVCS will demonstrate to commission staff a budget backed by facility contracts and enrollment lottery data with a minimum of 110% of the breakeven enrollment in order to exercise their option to open in fall of 2018.

#### **Alternate M/S (Kunz):** To approve the petition for PVCS with the following conditions:

- PVCS will amend the petition to satisfactorily address the remaining deficiencies noted in the petition evaluation rubric, as evaluated by PCSC staff, prior to 8:00 a.m. on December 4, 2017.
- PVCS will file the draft amendment to Article 9 of its Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State prior to 8:00 a.m. on December 4, 2017.
- PVCS will demonstrate completion of the alignment of its K-6 curriculum with the Idaho Content Standards no later than June 1, 2018. Curriculum for any additional grades will be fully aligned by June 1 of each calendar year in which PVCS begins offering those grades.
- PVCS will achieve accreditation candidacy status by July 1, 2019, and full accreditation through the Northwest Accreditation Commission by July 1, 2021.
- PVCS will demonstrate to commission staff a budget backed by facility contracts and enrollment lottery data with a minimum of 100% of the breakeven enrollment in order to exercise their option to open in fall of 2018.

The alternate motion failed for lack of a second.

**Alternate M/S (Quinn/Kunz):** To approve the petition for PVCS with the following conditions:

- PVCS will amend the petition to satisfactorily address the remaining deficiencies noted in the petition evaluation rubric, as evaluated by PCSC staff, prior to 8:00 a.m. on December 4, 2017.
- PVCS will file the draft amendment to Article 9 of its Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State prior to 8:00 a.m. on December 4, 2017.
- PVCS will demonstrate completion of the alignment of its K-6 curriculum with the Idaho Content Standards no later than June 1, 2018. Curriculum for any additional grades will be fully aligned by June 1 of each calendar year in which PVCS begins offering those grades.
- PVCS will achieve accreditation candidacy status by July 1, 2019, and full accreditation through the Northwest Accreditation Commission by July 1, 2021.
- PVCS will advise the commission if their facilities expense exceeds 15% of their expenses as listed in the budget by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The alternate motion failed with all commissioners voting nay.

The commissioners discussed possible structures for an effective condition regarding the feasibility of PVCS's facility plan.

Commissioner Peterson stated that he wished to amend his original motion.

**Amended M/S (Peterson/ Murphey):** To approve the petition for PVCS with the following conditions:

- PVCS will amend the petition to satisfactorily address the remaining deficiencies noted in the petition evaluation rubric, as evaluated by PCSC staff, prior to 8:00 a.m. on December 4, 2017.
- PVCS will file the draft amendment to Article 9 of its Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State prior to 8:00 a.m. on December 4, 2017.
- PVCS will demonstrate completion of the alignment of its K-6 curriculum with the Idaho Content Standards no later than June 1, 2018. Curriculum for any additional grades will be fully aligned by June 1 of each calendar year in which PVCS begins offering those grades.
- PVCS will achieve accreditation candidacy status by July 1, 2019, and full accreditation through the Northwest Accreditation Commission by July 1, 2021.
- PVCS will provide to the PCSC a balanced budget that is fully documented, including by facility contracts and enrollment lottery results, no later than June 1, 2018, in order to exercise the option to open in fall 2018.

The amended motion passed unanimously.

**M/S (Quinn/Peterson):** To adjourn the meeting. *The motion passed unanimously.* 

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.