

**MEETING MINUTES  
IDAHO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION**

April 13, 2023  
Joe R. Williams Building, 700 W. State St, East Conference Room  
Boise, ID 83702

This meeting was called to order by Chairman Reed on April 13, 2023 at 9:03 a.m.

Alan Reed – Present  
Sherrilynn Bair – Present  
Nils Peterson – Present  
Wanda Quinn – Present via Zoom  
Dean Fisher – Present via Zoom

**I. COMMISSION WORK**

**A. Agenda Review/Approval**

**M/S (Peterson/Bair)** Motion to approve the agenda as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

**B. Minutes Review/Approval**

**M/S (Peterson/Fisher)** Motion to approve the minutes from February 23 and 24, 2023 and the additional minutes from March 8, 2023 as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

CJ Watson, Principal at Elevate Academy Caldwell, notified commissioners that he would be available for feedback and comments during the review of Elevate Academy's Annual Performance Report review in agenda item XI.

Steven Siwek, Director of Marketing at Boise Hunter Homes gave remarks in support of the petition for Mater Academy: A Dry Creek Charter.

Chairman Reed acknowledged written comment Teri Friend of Rolling Hills Public Charter School that was received after meeting materials were posted. The letter which addressed opposition to the Mater Academy: A Dry Creek Charter petition was read in its entirety during the following agenda item.

### III. CONSIDERATION OF NEW CHARTER SCHOOL PETITION

The founding board members of Mater Academy: A Dry Creek Charter presented a petition to open a new charter school. Sarrie Devore, board chair, and all other board members collaboratively provided a presentation to the commission.

Commissioners requested input from Michelle Taylor, Director of School Choice, Student Engagement and College/Career Readiness for the State Department of Education regarding recent open enrollment legislation.

**M/S (Peterson/Quinn)** Motion to approve the petition for Mater Academy: A Dry Creek Charter in the Fall of 2024 with the following conditions: (1) by June 1, 2024 the school evidence a balanced year 1 budget based on enrollment from the Spring 2024 lottery; (2) by June 1, 2024 the school evidence that all grants and contracts that are part of that year 1 budget are signed or otherwise delivered. *The motion passed unanimously.* (Prior to the vote, Commissioner Fisher proposed an amendment to the motion to include assurance that the facility would be ready for occupancy; that amendment was withdrawn).

### IV. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT

Heritage Academy presented a request to amend their FY22 Annual Performance Report. Presenters for Heritage Academy were Carroll Cone, board chair; Dr. Christine Ivie, Superintendent; DeAnna Heil, Director of Student Services; Bret Walther, Anderson, Julian & Hull, LLP. The Commission also requested input from Michelle Taylor, Director of School Choice, Student Engagement and College/Career Readiness for the State Department of Education regarding ISEE reporting procedures during the discussion.

Discussion centered around the framework rating awarded to the school's operational compliance measure and the inclusion of context in the comment section of the FY22 annual performance report. The identified compliance concern stemmed from a report submitted to the SDE by the school with an incorrectly typed code resulting in an appearance of an uncredentialed teacher. IPCSC Staff provided the Commission with a review of IPCSC policy on the annual report process; a review of the operational framework regarding applied ratings of the Operational Compliance measure and a review of communication with SDE. A request by the Commission to clarify SDE report correction requirements was requested of Michelle Taylor, Director of School Choice, Student Engagement and College/Career Readiness for the State Department of Education who was in attendance as a member of the public.

**M/S (Peterson/Fisher)** Motion to direct staff procedurally that when a data source is authorized by the manager of that data source to be updated, then a request can be made to update the framework based on the updated data source. *The motion did not go to vote due to a substitute motion being made.*

**M/S (Fisher/Quinn)** Motion to amend the Performance Report for Heritage Academy as requested, the word “requested” being changed to “appropriate” prior to the vote. *The motion passed 3:0, Peterson abstaining.*

## **V. CONSIDERATION OF PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATE**

Commissioners were presented with the proposed performance certificate for Gem Prep Ammon.

**M/S (Peterson/Bair)** Motion to execute the performance certificate for Gem Prep Ammon as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

## **VI. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Melissa-Jo Rivera, IPCSC Interim Director and Jacob Smith, IPCSC Finance Program Manager updated commissioners regarding the FY24 budget detail and proposed FY25 working budget, which included the request for addition staff.

**M/S (Peterson/Quinn)** Motion to approve the FY24 budget detail as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

**M/S (Quinn/Peterson)** Motion to approve the FY25 working budget including the presented base appropriation request and the line item requests for the following additional staff in this order: (1) Program Manager; (2) Technical Records Specialist; (3) Data Coordinator. *The motion passed unanimously.*

## **VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Jared Dawson, IPCSC Program Manager updated commissioners regarding legislative action from the recent 2023 legislative session.

No action.

## **VIII. PROPOSED POLICY REVISIONS**

Melissa-Jo Rivera, IPCSC Interim Director discussed proposed revisions to IPCSC policy around equitable Selection. The proposed revisions to policy were due to a requirement that resulted in changes to IDAPA from the FY23 Legislative Session

**M/S (Peterson/Bair)** Motion to approve the policy revisions as proposed. *The motion passed unanimously.*

## IX. STAKEHOLDER SURVEY RESULTS

Melissa-Jo Rivera, IPCSC Interim Director presented commissioners with results of the FY23 IPCSC Stakeholder survey. Results included feedback received by the public from February to March 2023.

No action.

## X. PRE-OPENING UPDATE

Jared Dawson, IPCSC Program Manager provided updates on the pre-opening status of Gem Prep Twin Falls, Kootenai Classical Academy and Pinecrest Academy of Lewiston.

No action.

## XI. ANNUAL REPORT REVIEW

Melissa-Jo Rivera, IPCSC Interim Director provided commissioners with an overview of FY22 Annual Reports for the following schools entering renewal for FY24: Anser Charter School, Compass Charter Schools, Connor Academy, Elevate Academy and Forge International School.

No action.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

The meeting minutes were approved by the IPCSC on June 8, 2023. Meeting minutes approval verified by

Nichole K. Hall  
Nichole K. Hall (Jun 13, 2023 09:30 MDT)

Jun 13, 2023