

MEETING MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Date: Thursday, February 27, 2025

Start Time: 9:00 AM, MST

Physical Location: Capitol Mall Annex, Senate Conference Room, Third Floor, 514 W. Jefferson Street, Boise, Idaho 83702

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Reed at 9:04am.

Commissioners Present:	Staff Present:
Chairman Reed - Present	Director Joshua Whitworth, OSBE
Vice Chair Bair - Present	Karen Sheehan, Attorney General's Office
Commissioner Koehler - Present	Jared Dawson, IPCSC
Commissioner Hedrick - Present	Joy Lindner, IPCSC
Commissioner Quinn - Present	Jean Nichols, IPCSC
Commissioner Amador - Present	Korey Mereness, CTE
Commissioner Paulos - Present	Matthew Reiber, OSBE

I. COMMISSION WORK (Action Item)

Minutes Review / Approval

Motion/Second (Hedrick/Koehler) Motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2024 Regular Commission Meeting and January 10, 2025 Special Commission Meeting as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Joshua Whitworth recognized the work of the staff during the Director transition. Finance Manager Jean Nichols was thanked for her contribution as she transitions to a new job. Korey Mereness, Chief Educator Officer, Idaho Division of Career Technical Education, has been helping with day-to-day operations of the IPCSC staff. The staff are working to update Standard Operating Procedures for the office. Providing clarity for staff roles and responsibilities is also in process.

III. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENTS TO RENEW CHARTER WITHOUT CONDITIONS (Action Item)

A. Thomas Jefferson Charter School

Board Chair Matt Dorsey, Administrator Jodi Endicott, and Principal Amy Pfaff, with Business Manager Scotti Erikson online, gave a presentation. Finances, enrollment, special education, curriculum, and pre-assessment were discussed. A question was raised about board action regarding renewal for 6 or 12 years. Minutes from the April 2024 meeting include an approved motion stating: "schools that meet or exceed all the criteria in all the aspects of their performance framework to receive twelve-year renewals."

Motion/Second (Hedrick/Koehler) Motion to approve the consent agreement for charter renewal without conditions, as presented for Thomas Jefferson Charter

School, thereby approving the school's renewal application and renewing its charter for a 6 year operational term starting July 1, 2025. *The motion passed unanimously.*

B. MOSAICS Public School

Board Chair Bryan Taylor, Board Vice Chair Brandy Perez, and Administrator Anthony Haskell gave a presentation.

Motion/Second (Hedrick/Koehler) Motion to approve the consent agreement for charter renewal without conditions, as presented for MOSAICS Public School, thereby approving the school's renewal application and renewing its charter for a 6 year operational term starting July 1, 2025. *The motion passed unanimously.*

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENTS TO RENEW CHARTER WITH CONDITIONS (Action Item)

A. Pinecrest Academy of Idaho

Administrator Andy Mirhaj, Academica Senior Director of Operations Colin Bringhurst, with Board members Nicole Moreno and Anna Speegle and Business Manager Trevor Goodsell online, gave a presentation. Their presentation focused on how the school plans to address the recommended conditions. Lisa Paulos gave notice that she has a personal relationship with a school leader.

Motion/Second (Hedrick/Quinn) Motion to approve the consent agreement for conditional charter renewal, with the recommended four conditions as presented for Pinecrest Academy of Idaho, thereby approving the school's renewal application and renewing its charter for a 6 year operational term starting July 1, 2025. *The motion passed unanimously.*

B. Doral Academy of Idaho

Board Chair Sara Frost, Board Vice Chair Angela Perez, Principal Michael Shapiro, and Academica Senior Director of Operations Colin Bringhurst, with Business Manager Trevor Goodsell online, gave a presentation. Enrollment, academics, and teacher preparation were discussed.

Motion/Second (Hedrick/Koehler) Motion to approve the consent agreement for conditional charter renewal, with the recommended six conditions as presented for Doral Academy of Idaho, thereby approving the school's renewal application and renewing its charter for a 6 year operational term starting July 1, 2025. *The motion passed unanimously.*

C. Mountain Community School

Administrator Jenny Schon and Business Manager Matt Lovell, with Board Chair Jonas Bean, and Board members Hadden Tanner, Kelsie Baldwin, and Liz Neihart online, gave a presentation. It was noted the school would benefit from an alternative comparison group concerning academic measures. Challenges particular to small, rural schools were discussed.

Motion/Second (Koehler/Quinn) Motion to approve the consent agreement for conditional charter renewal, with the recommended four conditions as presented for Mountain Community School, thereby approving the school's renewal application and renewing its charter for a 6 year operational term starting July 1, 2025. *The motion passed unanimously.*

D. Hayden Canyon Charter

Administrator Bill Rutherford and Business Manager Matt Lovell, with Board Chair Alex Tull, Nathan Wright and other Board members online, gave a presentation. It was noted the school would benefit from an alternative comparison group concerning academic measures.

Motion/Second (Hedrick/Koehler) Motion to approve the consent agreement for conditional charter renewal, with the six recommended conditions as presented for Hayden Canyon Charter, thereby approving the school's renewal application and renewing its charter for a 6 year operational term starting July 1, 2025. *The motion passed unanimously.*

V. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATE (Action Item)

North Star Public Charter School & Rolling Hills Public Charter School

North Star Administrator Andy Horning, North Star Business Manager Jonathan Gillen, Rolling Hills Attorney Chris Yorgason, and Rolling Hills Administrator Tara Handy gave a presentation.

North Star and Rolling Hills are located in close proximity (about 5 miles apart). North Star has had increasing enrollment but limited space, while Rolling Hills has been declining in enrollment. Their proposal is to distribute Rolling Hills' assets and liabilities (including facility) to North Star. In that proposal, grades K-8 would be located at the current North Star site and grades 9-12 at the current Rolling Hills site. State Statute 33-5204(3) allows charter schools to "purchase, receive, hold, and convey real and personal property for school purposes," so North Star does not need Commission approval to receive Rolling Hills' assets/liabilities. North Star's Performance Certificate may need to be amended to increase their enrollment cap and allow for dual campuses. Rolling Hills would be dissolved after transfer of assets/liabilities and would not need a Performance Certificate amendment.

Motion/Second (Koehler/Quinn) Motion to amend the North Star Performance Certificate contingent on final closeout of details as approved by Chairman Reed. *The motion passed unanimously.*

VI. 2025 LEGISLATURE OVERVIEW

Matthew Reiber, External Affairs and Strategy Officer, State Board of Education, provided a legislative overview. HB 1067 would allow for the conversion of a public school district to a charter school district. Another house bill would increase facility cost reimbursement from \$400 to \$500. HB 93 has been signed by Governor Little regarding school choice. Funding and budget bills are in process.

VII. INCREASED CHARTER SCHOOL SUPPORT PRESENTATION

Rachel Burk, Parent Engagement and School Choice Coordinator, State Department of Education, gave a presentation on increased charter school support. Charter schools to receive support in the 2024-2025 school year are Blackfoot Charter, Mountain Community School, Peace Valley Charter, and Rolling Hills Public Charter.

VIII. ALTERNATIVE FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Dr. Jody Ernst, VP of Research and Policy Analytics, Momentum Strategy and Research, gave a presentation. All charter schools, regardless of their program or student demographics, receive performance measures in Academics,

Operations/Governance, and Finance. Charter Schools that provide education to students in an alternative setting are evaluated on additional academic measures that take into consideration the students' at-risk profile, mobility, and progress toward graduation.

Dr. Ernst has been working with IPCSC staff Jared Dawson and Jen Coffey along with the Performance Subcommittee of the Commission on a draft framework. A survey of alternative charter schools was conducted to provide feedback on the framework. The draft framework was reviewed. Schools would choose one option for each of the five indicators (math achievement and growth, ELA achievement and growth, progress toward graduation, postsecondary readiness, and attendance). The framework will be reviewed again at the April meeting and then voted on at the June meeting.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Meeting adjourned.