

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: August 14, 2023 8:47 pm  
Browser: Mobile Firefox 116.0 / Android  
IP Address: 64.22.15.33  
Unique ID: 1131558174  
Location: 35.3791, -88.2512

<b>Name</b>	Larry Greer
<b>Email</b>	larrygreer11@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 668-5058
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	I am a lifelong Madison County resident.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: August 14, 2023 9:16 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 72.4.38.58  
Unique ID: 1131565426  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Kyle Lusby
<b>Email</b>	sklusby@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 514-8782
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>First of all, I'd like to state that the elected officials that make up the county school board have made it abundantly clear that Madison County and its residents do not want this particular charter program. The lopsided vote and the sentiment of the county residents have spoken. This shouldn't be up to an unelected state board to decide.</p> <p>Parents, teachers, voters and ultimately the school board make these decisions. And the decision has been made. Locally. Just as the state of Tennessee doesn't want decisions handed down from D.C., neither do Tennessee's local school boards want decisions being passed down from Nashville.</p> <p>We live and work here. Let us make the decisions for our own school system.</p> <p>Additionally, I think it would be prudent to hold this hearing after 5pm so that the working men and women of our county have an opportunity to attend and lend their voices. This is not an ideal time to hold such an important hearing.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: August 15, 2023 5:23 pm  
Browser: Chrome 111.0.5563.148 / Windows  
IP Address: 192.154.121.214  
Unique ID: 1131971168  
Location: 36.6089, -88.3031

<b>Name</b>	Mary Jo Middlebrooks
<b>Email</b>	mmiddl9469@aol.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 423-2234
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	I wish to speak at the public hearing.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: August 30, 2023 4:19 pm  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 135.84.226.24  
Unique ID: 1137087700  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

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<b>Name</b>	Dave Bratcher
<b>Email</b>	dave@davebratcher.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 225-4504
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System

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**Written Comment** While I am not writing to support one party over the other, I was forced to choose one. I selected Jackson-Madison County School System because of my belief in the rubric created by the State of TN.

The question before the Jackson-Madison County School Board was to evaluate the application. The question is NOT whether you agree or disagree with charter schools. The question is NOT whether funds will be diverted from one system to another. The question is NOT do you agree with school choice. I will remind those concerned, the question before the Jackson-Madison County School Board was to evaluate the application.

The state spent many hours and financial resources to create this tool for measurement. Adherence to the tool, assures equity of evaluation statewide, from Memphis to Mountain City. The school board provided feedback on the initial submission, based on the State of TN provided rubric. When the revised application was received, it was again evaluated based on the State of TN provided rubric. It again failed to meet the standards set by the state and I would encourage you, like I encouraged the Jackson-Madison County School Board, to follow the rubric.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 13, 2023 1:53 pm  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 50.59.212.66  
Unique ID: 1141716849  
Location: 35.0324, -89.8145

<b>Name</b>	Elly Riley
<b>Email</b>	drelly.riley@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(615) 477-8744
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System

## Written Comment

I write to you as a parent and a community member. My children have attended public school since kindergarten. As a family medicine physician, I also take care of many children who are educated in the public school system, and have been trained in pediatric development. As a medical educator, I understand the value of a positive educational environment and its impact on the trajectory of an individual.

I have reviewed the application and was a part of the review committee that heard from the Charter school administration, as well as other informed parties. I came to the committee full of hope, with an open mind, wanting what is best for the children and families of our community.

After everything I learned, I did not feel in good conscience that we could support this application. I was particularly concerned about the lack of details regarding how special and at-risk population needs will be addressed, as well as parent and community engagement and support, which I think is intrinsic to the success of an educational entity. I was also concerned about the lack of a facility plan.

I have long voiced that our community as well as the educational environment in Madison County cannot improve without the vested interest of community members, parents, educators, and investors. Although a charter school can provide an important alternative option to families, we owe it to our community to make sure that it is the right option at the right time. Based on the application provided by American Classical Academy, I do not think that this is the right option at the right time, and in fact would potentially harm our students, by diverting resources (human and financial) away from our students (our future community leaders). In a way, it felt like an experiment. Our children deserve more than to be a part of an experiment that fails; the downstream implications are enormous. I think that careful selection of a charter school company will best serve the needs of our community.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 14, 2023 7:26 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 35.132.203.2  
Unique ID: 1141956945  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Dewain Riley
<b>Email</b>	wdriley81@msn.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 345-6192
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	Thank you Jackson-Madison County School Board for denning the application of the American Classical Academy Madison. The public school system in Jackson-Madison County has over come a lot of obstacles the last few years. Adding a Charter School would be one more stumbling block on the path to making our community schools better for the future.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 14, 2023 12:47 pm  
Browser: Chrome 115.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 152.86.212.144  
Unique ID: 1142089689  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Adam Johnson
<b>Email</b>	adamkjohanson1990@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 608-2355
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	I would like to speak in support of the Jackson Madison-County School Board and School System.



Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 16, 2023 9:34 am  
Browser: Android browser 4.0 / Android  
IP Address: 174.202.201.72  
Unique ID: 1142704606  
Location: 35.1431, -90.0492

<b>Name</b>	Harvey Walden
<b>Email</b>	hbwalden@jmcoss.org
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 234-5370
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Application Staff or Board Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

## Written Comment

My name is Harvey Walden.

Im a resident of Madison County and my school district is #4 and position 1. Im also a school board member in that district.

The reason im speaking today is to explain why I as a school board member voted in favor of the public charter school ACE.

Back in December of 2022 when ACE informed our district they would be pursuing opening a public charter school in Madison County TN I reached out to them and asked what area they were intending to open a school in our county. ACE immediately responded that they were wanting to work with the East Jackson area.

Once they made available their application I personally printed it off 503 pages. Then I printed off the rubric. I graded the application with the rubric and in my opinion I came up with a total difference determination than the research committee. I asked to be part of the research committee and was turned down. When the research committee brought their recommendation to the board it was several things I didn't agree with.

One was the fix cost of \$1.4 million annually to our district. I asked about the 4 year study the state did back in 2012 that showed any district having 5,000 or more students had no fixed cost to the district. It was like I didn't even ask a question. The next was the curriculum ACE chose to use. The research committee said it wasn't state approved. I found out its many public charter schools in TN using the same curriculum ACE had in their application. So in my mind if a public charter schools are using it in TN it must be approved. So I looked up a handful of those schools to see if they were successful. They all actually are doing an amazing job.

The reason I voted in favor for ACE is because of my students in district 6 which is the East Jackson community. In English over 90% of those students don't read on their grade level. This has been going on for years. It breaks my heart. This is 2023. Why can't we as educated adults do something about this? We as a district need help for our students and their families. If a student can't read by the 4th grade they will have a very difficult time in school and the rest of their lives.

I respectfully ask the State of TN to allow ACE to have a school in our East Jackson community.

Harvey Walden

731 234 5370 cell number

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 17, 2023 4:03 pm  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 35.132.245.142  
Unique ID: 1142964663  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	sally Smigielski
<b>Email</b>	mjs38305@hotmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 394-7701
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	I am a concerned Tax paying citizen of Jackson-Madison County.
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>The JMCSS is not living up to their Mission Statement. The are failing our children in most areas. The actual test scores are not as explained by Dr. King. Parents and children need school choice.</p> <p>We need classical education and smaller teacher-student ratios in Jackson.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 17, 2023 4:17 pm  
Browser: Safari 15.6.1 / OS X  
IP Address: 72.4.26.48  
Unique ID: 1142967111  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	Julia Howell
<b>Email</b>	hhowell@eplus.net
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 298-7101
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I am unable to be at the meeting on Monday, September 18, but I want to ensure I make known my support for America Classical Academy Madison.</p> <p>My two grandchildren left the JMCSS this year due to the poor performance of the school system but I still as a community member support this charter school.</p> <p>Thank you, Julia Howell</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 17, 2023 5:31 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 216.131.120.170  
Unique ID: 1142984975  
Location: 38.6364, -90.1985

<b>Name</b>	Peg Ramsay
<b>Email</b>	Peghashope@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 444-4001
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	We have struggled in Madison County for years to

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 17, 2023 5:37 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 216.131.120.170  
Unique ID: 1142986144  
Location: 38.6364, -90.1985

<b>Name</b>	Peg Ramsay
<b>Email</b>	Peghashope@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 444-4001
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	Former note was accidentally sent too soon. The schools in Madison County have failed our children for many years now.. The reading scores are some of the lowest in the state! That should not be.. in a community like Jackson. We are losing students to Gibson & other surrounding counties because we are stuck in erroneous thinking.. My question is, "Why not give the American Classical Academy a chance?" We've heard so many stories of its success rate in other places.. Yes, we need to do this for the GOOD of our children. Thank you.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 17, 2023 7:45 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 135.84.199.207  
Unique ID: 1143009986  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

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<b>Name</b>	Marsha Gaskill
<b>Email</b>	jer2911mg@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 225-5379
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I believe we should give every student all opportunities possible to receive the best education possible. The American Classical Academy is another offering we can offer to families. Let's do this for all students!

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 17, 2023 7:48 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 32.132.37.14  
Unique ID: 1143010442  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	Debra Taylor
<b>Email</b>	debrat484@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(478) 951-6003
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	Grandparent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	We need to get back to showing our children, discipline, ethics, and all Charter Schools stand for. What we are doing now is not working.



Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 17, 2023 9:50 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 116.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 174.202.201.177  
Unique ID: 1143030798  
Location: 35.1431, -90.0492

<b>Name</b>	Sherry Carwile
<b>Email</b>	secarwile@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 499-2695
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I am in support of parents/grandparents having a choice in their children's education outside of public schools.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 18, 2023 7:04 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.3 / iOS  
IP Address: 152.86.214.252  
Unique ID: 1143120862  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

**Name** Kristen McKenney

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**Email** kristenmckenney@yahoo.com

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**Phone** (731) 313-0477

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**Resident District Status** District Resident

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**Relationship to Application** Community Member

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**I wish to comment in support of** Jackson-Madison County School System

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**Written Comment**

I am COMPLETELY opposed to the American Classical Academy coming into the Madison County area and taking tax dollars away from our current public school system here in Jackson, TN. I live in a non-religious household and I DO NOT want the mores and values of this religious institution placed upon these kids. Public schools are not the place for this. They could open their own private school if they felt the need. Furthermore; we have been through this process before with ACA and when they returned to state their case again, their application was even worse than the previous one with grammatical errors among the problems. They claim to be an educational institution but what they have produced so far is extremely lacking. I am completely against them establishing their charter school here in the Jackson Madison County area.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 18, 2023 8:24 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.3 / iOS  
IP Address: 35.151.143.146  
Unique ID: 1143151732  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Sabrina Parker
<b>Email</b>	parkerintennessee@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(615) 589-6012
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System

## Written Comment

I am against the recommendation of a charter school in Madison county for the following reasons:

1. Lack of Accountability: Charter schools often have less oversight and accountability compared to public schools. They are typically run by private organizations or individuals, which can lead to mismanagement, financial irregularities, and lack of transparency. This lack of accountability can negatively impact the quality of education provided to students.

2. Selective Admissions: Charter schools have the ability to select their students, which can lead to exclusionary practices and cherry-picking high-performing students. This can result in increased segregation and inequality in education, as public schools are required to accept all students regardless of their academic abilities or backgrounds.

3. Diversion of Resources: The establishment of charter schools can divert resources away from public schools. As public funds are allocated to charter schools, it can lead to a decrease in funding for traditional public schools, which are often left with fewer resources to serve a more diverse student population.

4. Lack of Special Education Services: Charter schools tend to enroll fewer students with disabilities compared to public schools. This is partly due to their selective admissions policies and lack of resources to provide adequate special education services. As a result, students with disabilities may be disproportionately left behind or underserved in charter schools.

5. Inequality and Segregation: Charter schools can contribute to increased inequality and segregation in education. By allowing charter schools to operate independently and select their students, it can lead to the creation of schools that cater to specific demographics or exclude certain groups. This can perpetuate educational disparities and limit opportunities for disadvantaged students in public schools.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 18, 2023 10:44 am  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 111.0.5563.116 / Android  
IP Address: 166.199.148.24  
Unique ID: 1143222093  
Location: 32.3705, -90.1746

<b>Name</b>	Lynator Jeffries
<b>Email</b>	nadabooze@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 616-5324
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

**Written Comment**

Why would jmcSS be opposed to having any other educational forums come into the community to help with educating the youth with over crowded schools, zones and bus transportation I think parents should have a choice how their child receives their education this shouldn't be a debate they jmcSS makes only seem like it's about finances instead of our child education. At the end of the day some of the parents want to drop their kids off at school because of over crowded busses and behavior that occurs on the busses. I look forward to change, diversity, growth and the overall well being of our youth. #I??classical education

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 18, 2023 12:09 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 69.167.206.138  
Unique ID: 1143269657  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

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<b>Name</b>	James Johnson
<b>Email</b>	jeh1953@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 693-3191
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Local Elected Representative
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	The ACA sponsor's application failed miserably to meet the state provided rubric and the representatives provided unsubstantiated information about interviewing residents in the east Jackson community and failed to provide a plan for students with disabilities, transportation, and finances.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 18, 2023 3:08 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.194.5.32  
Unique ID: 1143359903  
Location: 39.7232, -85.9979

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<b>Name</b>	Mary Sexton
<b>Email</b>	principal0831@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 217-7506
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

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**Written Comment**

The academic proficiency for our school district is below the state average. So few students are leaving the district prepared for future jobs or after high school educational success. School choice is imperative if our students are going to be prepared for their next level of education. . When less than 20% of the district's third graders are not academically prepared for the classroom work of the next grade - there is a need for school choice for our students and families. . The district advertises "school choice" but there are long waiting list for admission to the better performing schools. Ex. Community Montessori and Madison Academic High School. We need more opportunities for students in the district.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 18, 2023 4:16 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 169.150.73.87  
Unique ID: 1143390465  
Location: 35.9103, -89.248

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**Name** Robin Gadsden-Dupree

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**Email** rgadupree@aol.com

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**Phone** (731) 988-6667

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**Resident District Status** Non-district Resident

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**What is your resident district?** Crockett County

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**Relationship to Application** Other

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**What is your relationship to the application?** Provide community services to district children and families

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**I wish to comment in support of** Jackson-Madison County School System

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**Written Comment** As an educator familiar with public charter schools I commend JMCSS for continually pointing out that the ACA application failed to meet the standards in the rubric set by the state. Facts are important, public charter schools are run by private governing bodies., so it's not public. JMCSS has a research based curriculum, ACA talks about teaching wonder, joy, honesty and beautiful literature and not much technology. Our children need to be able to compete globally. They need more than wonder to make that happen. ACA has not been truthful in their community outreach, they have some supporters but their approach is insulting and demeaning to all teachers. JMCSS has data and proven improvements like many schools, ACA has been vague about classical education and what that really looks like. I do not think it's appropriate to take funding from public schools to fund a charter school. I hope the state committee recognizes the inconsistencies in the application and uphold the will of the district.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 19, 2023 8:27 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 107.115.112.34  
Unique ID: 1143604513  
Location: 33.8743, -84.4653

<b>Name</b>	James Bryant
<b>Email</b>	jmb440@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 499-1647
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>My children attend the local private classical school, Augustine. I cannot express in words the amount of growth in our children since leaving JMCSS. JMCSS needs some competition. I believe ACE would rise the tides across the board for both private and public schools. My wife works a full and part time job and I work a full and 2 part time jobs. Please consider this charter for all of the parents in our district, who, like us, can't afford private school but somehow find a way to make it work. Our children will be in charge one day and what decision would they have made?</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 19, 2023 8:41 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 194.195.89.105  
Unique ID: 1143609809  
Location: 35.6893, 139.6899

<b>Name</b>	Andrew Thomas
<b>Email</b>	andrewthomas1006@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 694-4334
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>Whereas I grew up with a classical education, and I now have 3 young children, I urge the commission to approve ACAM's application. I currently have to pay thousands of dollars (that I don't have) for my oldest to attend Augustine, simply so he can have a classical education. I cannot afford for my other two boys to join him when they are ready for school (2025). We need ACAM so we can afford to continue living in Madison County. There are countless other friends and family here that are in the exact same position. Please allow ACE to put a school here. We need it now more than ever.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 19, 2023 3:55 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 47.226.49.113  
Unique ID: 1143808047  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	Sherry Franks
<b>Email</b>	sherryfranks84@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 634-6930
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System

**Written Comment**

At this time I don't feel that ACE complete the information required by the state in the application. ACE needs to be more forth coming on location, and their proposed curriculum. My immediate concern is their ability to serve the whole community. I have no doubt that they could serve the top 10% of our community but so could anyone. When looking at our community you have to look at the people in it. Our system has a large population of kids of economically challenged homes. As well as a disproportionate amount with IEP and Special needs, which they have no game plan for. If you want to serve our community then serve the WHOLE community. ACE's proposal does not show how they will do that. I am not for allowing a school to open with no clearly defined proposal for ALL Jackson Madison county Kids. All kids are important. Not just those that hit a specific market. A public school means to serve the ENTIRE public and they have failed to show how they can do that. Thanks for the opportunity to voice my opinion. Mother of 3 boys. One that is in the gifted program. One that has a 504 with autism and one with Down syndrome. Their plan only shows they can serve my gifted child. Sad. Options are good but they have to be equitable when we are talking about tax payers dollars. Can ACE say they would be equitable to all 3 of my children? In my opinion no.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 19, 2023 4:09 pm  
Browser: Chrome 92.0.4515.107 / Windows  
IP Address: 69.167.206.138  
Unique ID: 1143813847  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	David Wicker
<b>Email</b>	interndave@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 825-2578
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System

## Written Comment

There are two items that I would like to address concerning the application of American Classical Academy Madison to open a charter school in Madison County.

Within the application that was written there is not a defined location, nor transportation plan for the students of Madison County that wish to apply for admission. This leads me to believe that the plan in place is for parents to transport students to and from school. This places a majority of impoverished students at a severe disadvantage when compared to affluent families in attending the school. While these students may wish to attend ACA Academy, the ability may not be there. I understand that representatives from ACA stated that some students could walk to their school, however this alludes to, what is their safety plan for this population of students? Can they assure parents that their children will arrive safely? If not, this amounts to more local students who will not be able to attend. Overall, while I understand that this is a school choice issue, there are mitigating circumstances that make this decision impossible for a large demographic of our population living at or below the poverty line.

Secondly, ACA has discussed openly their choice of curriculum, American Classical Education as used and created by Hillsdale Academy. This curriculum is largely based upon a biased thought process and viewed by outside academic scholars as highly questionable. Their ACA website even quotes Hillsdale educators as their model for why the ACE curriculum is the "best option." In their curriculum it states that every student for the duration of their K-12 process will take Latin. I don't know the last time that I used Latin to speak to another person to solve a problem. There are times I have used Spanish, French, even broken German to communicate with others, but never Latin. Has it helped to know words in the English language that root from Latin words, of course it is, but we teach that in the local curriculums also. ACA quoted from a study done by The Heritage Foundation on why their curriculum was a good choice. The Heritage Foundation is a highly conservative, predominantly white organization. It is not to say that they have no knowledge on how learning takes place or who the curriculum works for, but it does however lack diversity. It is a dangerous thing for ACA to link themselves to an organization that has found itself under fire for controversial articles by Heritage Foundation staff members on Critical Race Theory, Transgender people, and radical takes on the COVID virus.

In closing, I believe in school choice when it is fair for all students, not when it caters to the more affluent of a population. I believe in public schools, even when they struggle. The struggle of public schools is not isolated to JMCSS, it is a nationwide problem. We have the data to show that nationally and locally, charter schools have not shown the huge leap described by the representatives from ACA. Memphis-Shelby County Schools have shut down charters due to underperforming test scores, as well as numerous other districts around the United States. ACA will be run as a business, syphoning money from the public schools system, after all

they are a for-profit organization. I would like to thank you for your time in reading my comment and ask that you deny the application for ACA Madison to be granted a charter school in our district.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 19, 2023 6:16 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 136.22.12.30  
Unique ID: 1143859020  
Location: 32.7797, -96.8022

<b>Name</b>	Cindy Boyles
<b>Email</b>	drcaboyles@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(407) 579-3438
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	I strongly support the work of the Jackson-Madison County School System and am opposed to using public dollars for charter schools. The proposals submitted by the charter school have been poorly developed and would not serve our community and students well.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 19, 2023 10:02 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 116.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 97.64.73.148  
Unique ID: 1143914917  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Marshall Sutton
<b>Email</b>	marshall.sutton@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(205) 617-6527
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I am a parent of three JMCSS students and I support the district in its rejection of the American Classical Academy's application. I believe that the process that has been followed has shown significant flaws and gaps in the planning for the charter school that demonstrate that it is not a good use of limited educational funds that could be better spent in our existing schools. I also oppose the religious bent that the charter school seems to have.</p>



Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 20, 2023 6:05 am  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 135.84.225.210  
Unique ID: 1143982816  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Scott Murray
<b>Email</b>	smurr1874@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 695-3819
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I have concerns in tax payer funds being used for a charter school. It will weaken the school district financially without any additional benefits. Charter schools throughout our country have had a poor record of success. I'm not willing to pay a private administration public funds to play school.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 20, 2023 7:04 am  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 116.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 97.64.73.148  
Unique ID: 1143994742  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	JoLeigh Sutton
<b>Email</b>	joleighp@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 300-1696
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	My three children are in a JMCSS school and are thriving. We have wonderful teachers but our school building desperately needs to be rebuilt. The absolute last thing our school system needs is this "Academy" to come and take away funds from our students. They are predatory and do not have the good of our community in mind.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 20, 2023 7:20 pm  
Browser: Android browser 4.0 / Android  
IP Address: 174.203.32.195  
Unique ID: 1144307844  
Location: 29.9317, -90.1026

<b>Name</b>	Harvey Walden
<b>Email</b>	hbwalden@jmcass.org
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 234-5370
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Application Staff or Board Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I believe ACE will be a positive addition to our community.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 20, 2023 8:24 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 47.7.160.69  
Unique ID: 1144323603  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	heidi policky
<b>Email</b>	heidilandin@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 506-5636
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	The Jackson Community is in need of an option for Classical Education. Students deserve to have an option for structured classroom learning that incorporates strong values into the lesson day. Parents need to be encouraged back into the education process and this model is capable of doing just that!

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 20, 2023 8:26 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 47.7.160.69  
Unique ID: 1144324073  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	John policky
<b>Email</b>	j4165y@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 202-6466
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	Thank you again for the opportunity to voice my support for school choice. Please rule in favor of ACA and provide parents and students with a high quality classical charter school as an option for our kids

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 20, 2023 8:53 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 32.132.37.14  
Unique ID: 1144330651  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	Debra Taylor
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<b>Phone</b>	(478) 951-6003
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>Our public schools seem to be failing our children. ACA Schools want to bring back things the public schools no longer support. I think it's ridiculous they took cursive out of school</p> <p>My grandchildren can't even read my letters to them.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 20, 2023 10:03 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.5938.108 / iOS  
IP Address: 104.7.242.250  
Unique ID: 1144345449  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Candace Busby
<b>Email</b>	candacelbyrd7@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 343-3906
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Local Elected Representative
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I currently serve on city council for Madison County. When I moved to Jackson from Nashville in 2020, I had concerns with the public school system in Madison County and believe ACE will provide a quality education that the current school system does not provide.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 20, 2023 10:52 pm  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 216.41.165.49  
Unique ID: 1144353441  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	Linda Lipford
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<b>Phone</b>	(731) 426-4294
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison



## Written Comment

I support the application by the American Classical Academy in Madison County, Tennessee. The Tennessee Public Charter School Commission board members should have no impediment to approve the application as it meets the standard required and has wide public, parent, teacher and student support and demand. The students in the Jackson-Madison County School system need and should have the choice of an academically superior charter school with the classical curriculum they offer.

Neither of my children ever attended a JMCSS school; they both attended and graduated from Trinity Christian Academy. I had direct and frequent contact with the high schools and the students that attended them while my children attended TCA. I have never regretted the financial sacrifice I made to keep them in TCA and OUT of JMCSS schools.

But many parents are unable to pay for private education, no matter how superior it may be. The schools are paid for with our tax dollars and those dollars go to the school system based on the student count. Losing 100 students will not impact JMCSS dramatically. The funds are attached to the children, and DOES NOT BELONG to the school system, the administrators, the staff, the teachers, etc. The children are the responsibility of the PARENTS or guardians and not the school system. It should be the choice of the parent if a better opportunity is available and appropriate for their child/children.

I get the impression that this is perceived as a loss of control due to any funds being directed to the Charter school and no longer under the JMCSS. This would be a great thing for a Charter school to implement in Jackson; a independent school with no ties to existing curriculum or the internal policies and procedures that presently exist.

Unless and until the JMCSS can demonstrate that they have school discipline under control and focus less on the lowest performing students, I will continue to urge the acceptance of this Charter school application. Delinquency issues, and accommodating disadvantaged and at risk students with behavioral issues takes a disproportionate amount of time and resources from all students. Teachers are instructing students, not performers and influencers.

Unless and until the JMCSS can reliably offer more diversity in foreign languages taught in all high schools, I will urge the acceptance of this Charter school application. Offering only Spanish instruction is insufficient and not acceptable for college bound students. Latin is essential and French is desirable.

Unless and until the JMCSS can demonstrate that US Government, civics and world geography are items being taught at appropriate grade levels and with demonstrated proficiency in said subjects, then I will continue to support the application for a Charter school in Madison County.

Unless and until language skills are consistently taught, graded and emphasized in formal register, in both oral and written classwork, then I will continue to urge approval for a Charter school in Madison County, Tennessee. Children must have this instruction in order to read and speak appropriately, and function in any profession. A charter school environment provides this type of instruction.

Much is publicized about improvements made in academics, standardized test scores and about sports successes by student athletes. At the same time much is being publicized about food pantries and refrigerators for the families of students who live in poverty. Pack a school bus and other food drives and back pack food supplement programs seem to proliferate. Those are all beneficial but distract from the academic instruction time of the teachers. If there are any paid JMCSS teaching staff members who are dedicated to the food insufficiency of the student population, then that is a misuse of education funds and those activities should be in the capable hands of another more appropriate and specialized agency where those employees are relocated and federally funded. Yes, hungry children can't learn. But feeding them is not the role, mandate or function of the JMCSS teaching staff - but literacy certainly is.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 21, 2023 5:44 am  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.5938.108 / iOS  
IP Address: 104.7.242.250  
Unique ID: 1144418648  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Candace Busby
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<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Local Elected Representative
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I currently serve on city council for Madison County. When I moved to Jackson from Nashville in 2020, I had concerns with the public school system in Madison County and believe ACE will provide a quality education that the current school system does not provide.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 21, 2023 7:33 am  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.5938.108 / iOS  
IP Address: 35.132.244.248  
Unique ID: 1144441125  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	Debbie Barnett
<b>Email</b>	dbarnett568@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 695-0367
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

**Written Comment**

I have a 4 year old granddaughter who will start Kindergarten in 2024. I very much want her to have the option of attending the American Classical Academy Madison.

I want her to have the opportunity to have a strong curriculum that includes the 4 disciplines of math, science, literature, and history. I want her to learn to read using phonics. She is a smart and bright child and a classical education would allow her to develop critical thinking skills and gain deeper understanding of history and culture. She is a hands-on child and learns by doing. A classical education would be perfect for her. Our current public schools aren't the same public schools I went to when I was a child. They are teaching subjects that children have no business learning or even knowing about. Some of our history has been deleted from the text books as well. I believe every parent in Madison County should have the opportunity to choose what school best fits their child's needs.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 21, 2023 8:40 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 107.77.233.188  
Unique ID: 1144466550  
Location: 37.751, -97.822

<b>Name</b>	Kenneth Arnold
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<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	Better options are needed in our failing public schools.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 21, 2023 9:18 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.230.159.164  
Unique ID: 1144481237  
Location: 35.1567, -89.9274

<b>Name</b>	Cheryl Shellabarger
<b>Email</b>	cheryl.shellabarger@hotmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 267-4655
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I have watched our schools decline for various reasons over the past two decades. I believe that parents who want their children to learn and be successful in life without the hindrances of social political correctness involved in the policy which actually causes division in society deserve a choice to have a school choice that returns to teaching the basics- reading, writing, math, reasoning skills. And the truth! I fully support charter schools as that option.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 21, 2023 9:53 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 97.64.114.58  
Unique ID: 1144495520  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Jeff Woods
<b>Email</b>	jeffwoods@eplus.net
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 431-0816
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

**Written Comment**

Dear Charter Commissioner,

Thank you for your most honorable work with the Jackson Madison County School board in this most challenging times of our community in regards to satisfying the needs of all faith,beliefs and the way all sectors of our community makes decisions about ways of life.

Our community as with all American communities are faced with extreme challenges that need the oversight of very versatile repair leadership. We understand the need for direction and guidance that will allow all communities and peoples to come together with in their own set of problems and Virtues and somehow not imposing their faiths and beliefs on others groups within our communities. (a need for very different insight leadership)

There is large gaps between communities and other communities that drives this negativity being experienced with in the K-12 education here in Jackson.

We knew there is no secret formula that will heal all social ills to a healthy completion.

We ask with great care that you will consider "Classical Education"as a part of the process of healing our community.

With heartfelt concern,  
Jeff Woods

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 21, 2023 12:14 pm  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 75.138.244.210  
Unique ID: 1144558897  
Location: 35.6173, -87.0317

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<b>Name</b>	TROY FREEMAN
<b>Email</b>	GBAEDUCATORS@GMAIL.COM
<b>Phone</b>	(805) 277-4682
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	I support both of these Charter schools because they teach a classical education and are not filled with lies about gender confusion or critical race "theory". These two schools will protect the rights and innocents of children.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 21, 2023 6:06 pm  
Browser: Chrome 117.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 68.251.224.203  
Unique ID: 1144702728  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Brian Taylor
<b>Email</b>	strings1@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 267-4684
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>My wife and I are graduates of the JMCSS and I have 3 children currently enrolled in the school system. We pay both city and county property taxes and live less than a mile from JMCSS school that they attend. I am against any taxpayer money going toward American Classical Academy Madison. This will do nothing but reduce the resources available to our school system and I am against it.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 22, 2023 8:49 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 97.64.114.58  
Unique ID: 1144873945  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Jeff Woods
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<b>Phone</b>	(731) 431-0819
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

**Written Comment**

Dear Charter Commissioner,  
I am coming today to add to my previous comment.  
Thank you for taking the time to read and understand what is said today in my addition to yesterday's comments.  
Leadership is the best way to repair the broken relationship within the systems of our society. We need to abandon the notion that just one style of top down leadership that our society has excepted for hundreds of years ( that is a top down style of leadership). We must develop a new style of leadership that focuses around the individual body of students first and far most and then pick teachers accordingly to there individual communities that they strive in, and like wise the responsibilities of officials that match the needs of individual communities There is no need for one style of leadership that's fits all. One leadership that fits all is where the problems are coming from.  
Yes, some said leaders my have to give up control over other communities but this is a must.  
This is why Charter School are so effective.  
"This giveaway of control" to other communities they are not a part is the key to their own way of life decision making. We need as many opportunities for families to grow make the best decisions about their own way of life decisions and give them all the freedom to do so. Classical Education is just one of the steps in the right direction to heal what we have found ourselves in the midst.  
Please Appeal the School Board's decision to end the choice for families to make there own choices about how to educate their children.  
From my deepest concern,  
Jeff Woods

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 22, 2023 9:31 am  
Browser: Chrome 117.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 104.183.184.126  
Unique ID: 1144889962  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Debbie Swacker
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<b>Phone</b>	(731) 661-1879
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System

## Written Comment

I am opposed to the proposed application and establishment of a charter school by the American Classical Academy Madison.

The Ace organization has submitted their application 4 times in an attempt to score a passing grade against the rubric that was provided to them. They have failed each time to prove to our locally elected board and to our community that they are capable of joining in, rather than hindering, the progress that our school system and students are currently enjoying. They failed the rubric test every time, remarkably logging their very worst score on their final try when the evaluation committee noted 73 deficiencies against the rubric - up from over 50 deficiencies scored in their previous try.

I attended the meeting on the 18th. I was floored when their director of schools in his closing statement - despite being presented with hard data and documentation of having failed to meet the standards required by the rubric 4 times, despite failing miserably to meet the standards set by the state - continued to insist that in his mind, they in fact DID meet or exceed the rubric standards. What?? What a desperate statement! The hard data proves otherwise. Insisting that they met the rubric does not make it so. They DID NOT. And meeting or exceeding the rubric simply must be a requirement for the approval of their application. They failed. 4 times.

I also listened to this same individual talk about having over 20 years of experience planning and implementing successful charter schools in other regions of the country. So, here's a question - if he and his colleagues have so much experience, then why was their application so incomplete? Why did we not see evidence of this experience in their application? Why was there such a lack of definitive plans in their application? If they've done it before and have been successful, then please show us the plan! And yet, they did not. This is what was required of them by the rubric, and despite being given 4 shots at providing our locally elected board with the answers and plans required, they failed to do so. One can only conclude that they do not, in fact, have a plan and that they are not, in fact, right for our community.

What is, however, right for our community is for the Commission to respect and honor the decisions that have been made by our locally elected board, time and time and time and time again. 4 times. Twice last year and twice this year.

The question I pose to the Commission is simply this - will you respect the fair, impartial, and data-driven decision of our locally elected school board? Will you honor their decision?

I encourage you to answer yes. Say yes to the decision made by our locally elected school board. It's the right thing to do for our kids. Vote no on the ACE appeal.

Thank you.



Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 22, 2023 2:25 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 166.199.148.39  
Unique ID: 1145010875  
Location: 32.3705, -90.1746

<b>Name</b>	Akeem Booze
<b>Email</b>	poloprince901@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(337) 380-6074
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>What is your resident district?</b>	Clarksville
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	Former Charter School Student
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	Good Morning To All,

I Attended Memphis Business Academy from the 6th grade until 11th grade. Leaving a public school for elementary going into a Charter School really set the foundation for my future. It gave me the opportunity to really focus more on my academics because there was a smaller amount of students assigned to one administrator (teacher). This advantage helped me maintain a 4.0 gpa. This Charter School not only set me up for a bright future educationally, but it also gave me more of an advantage into the adult world. For example, this was a business academy, so they also helped with teaching and preparing us for the financial side as well. Pertaining to balancing checkbooks and communicating with a bank properly was the biggest for me. Because after graduating in 2019, a lot of my peers weren't prepared for the financial side of education and lacked a lot of knowledge academically as well. But with Charter Schools in place, this increases the kids academically and as well prepare them for life, instilling discipline, confidence, and knowledge at no expense. I loved my Charter School because it saved my life! So I ask that you please establish Charter Schools in Jackson, Tn.

Sincerely,

Akeem C. Booze

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 22, 2023 8:01 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 17.0 / iOS  
IP Address: 70.189.34.42  
Unique ID: 1145101093  
Location: 30.1597, -92.0258

<b>Name</b>	Randy Williams Jr
<b>Email</b>	randywj24@icloud.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 270-6300
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Prospective Parent
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I have the preference for charter schools over public school from the view of different educational settings can that better suit the needs and preferences of different students and families. Charter schools offer unique approaches which from my experience ,provided a more tailored educational experience.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 22, 2023 8:25 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 166.199.148.32  
Unique ID: 1145105176  
Location: 32.3012, -90.1834

<b>Name</b>	Winnette Bobo
<b>Email</b>	winnettebobo@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 394-9796
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison



## Written Comment

I know adding a Charter School to Jackson will be very beneficial because of the success it has given my own family. From my two daughters, to grandson, niece, and two great nieces, I know for a fact providing a Charter School will give the youth motivation, confidence, a drive to learn, morals and values for the real world, and most importantly a productive challenge to their learning abilities helping their brains expand with endurance. My oldest daughter overseas foster children while raising her own because of her being able to multi task. She wants better for the youth and sharing her knowledge with them from her upbringing in a Charter School will already assist on their early development. My youngest daughter joined the Army while managing her two LLCs' but with motivation, confidence, and the endurance she developed from her Charter School helped pave the way for the success she has now. My grandson joined the United States of Marines and has his own LLC as well. He always talked about different values he learned from being in his charter school, so he chose the Corps because of similar values that reflected from his upbringing in his school; such as honor, courage, and commitment. My niece attends Memphis State at the moment for fashion and business in route to have her own LLC and multiple degrees. The Charter School she attended before college set the foundation for the drive to keep learning and challenge her brain helping understand that she can have more in life with confidence, hard work, and dedication. My oldest great niece works for DHS Children after graduating with her bachelors in child development. Her knowledge she obtained from attending a charter school is all to thank because she was excelling fast in her classes they didn't stop there. They gave her more advanced work to give her brain the productive challenges it needs to remain in shape unlike public schools. My youngest great niece attends Christian Brothers University pursuing a degree in fashion and business. She is highly motivated to learn and succeed more in life because of her wonderful experience in the Charter School she attended. So as you see Charter Schools paved the way for successful African American Youth from the streets of Memphis and underprivileged Caucasian Youth as well. The Classrooms are smaller not limiting any students from growth and extra help if needed. It literally is the definition of "No Child Left Behind". This is why we need a Charter School in Jackson as soon as we can.

Thank You ,

Ms. Winnette Bobo

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 23, 2023 11:34 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 24.40.122.209  
Unique ID: 1145206986  
Location: 35.4393, -89.7804

**Name** E. Kathryn Hayes

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**Email** ekathrynhayes@outlook.com

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**Phone** (731) 431-1585

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**Resident District Status** District Resident

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**Relationship to Application** Community Member

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**I wish to comment in support of** American Classical Academy Madison

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**Written Comment**

As a daughter of Jackson, Tn. teachers(my father John's. Morris, jr was a principal at West Jackson Elementary School until Highland Park Elementary School was built and became the first principal there until his retirement. My mother taught at Alexander Elementary School then became one of the first supervisors in Jackson), I probably have a unique perspective on the charter school. Because of the busing situation in Madison County, we decided to look for an alternative. We took our daughter to a private Christian school in Henderson for a year. After that year, we were still looking for a viable alternative. In 1983 we learned about homeschooling and became one of the first families to start homeschooling in Madison County. We even visited the Legislature several times to help pass a law favorable to homeschooling. Within a month, my public school parents became my biggest supporter because, in their words, I could accomplish more with the 3-6 students I worked with than any teacher in a large classroom could do simply because of size. After 5 years of homeschooling, our daughter went to Union University and graduated summa cum laude. Our sons decided I was too hard a teacher(I'm not trained to be a teacher) and they needed to go to a "real" school. Our older son graduated from USJ (a private school) and our younger son graduated from South Side High School (a public school). All are outstanding citizens today. My husband, Dr. Robert M. Hayes, is a professor emeritus for The University of Tennessee Knoxville after almost 43 years of service. In my opinion, every family should have viable choices in education and the ACEM charter school would provide families an excellent opportunity with its classical curriculum. We have a private school here that uses a classical curriculum but not all parents can afford private education. Having a public school using an excellent curriculum would be an excellent choice here in Jackson. Please strongly consider granting the application for this charter school. It could only improve our local school system. Thank you for your consideration. E. Kathryn Hayes

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 23, 2023 12:48 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 111.0.5563.116 / Android  
IP Address: 166.199.148.126  
Unique ID: 1145220676  
Location: 32.3705, -90.1746

**Name** Charlotte Walker

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**Email** Claree8750@yahoo.com

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**Phone** (901) 229-3718

---

**Resident District Status** Non-district Resident

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**What is your resident district?** Shelby County

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**Relationship to Application** Other

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**What is your relationship to the application?** None

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**I wish to comment in support of** American Classical Academy Madison

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**Written Comment** Charter schools help educate under privileged children learn so that they won't be left out. Sometimes regular classes go to fast and leave the ower learners behind .

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 24, 2023 4:03 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari / iOS  
IP Address: 152.86.132.127  
Unique ID: 1145329403  
Location: 35.8088, -88.7589

<b>Name</b>	Lynnette Climer
<b>Email</b>	philyphilmom@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 313-2856
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I am for allowing American classical academy public charter schools.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 24, 2023 6:41 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 111.0.5563.116 / Android  
IP Address: 47.226.41.244  
Unique ID: 1145469814  
Location: 35.2028, -88.1987

<b>Name</b>	Kewon Jeffries
<b>Email</b>	Kewon178@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 394-8111
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	My little future
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	This city needs something new and innovative to serve this community and give the parents a choice at their children's education. I think this academy will benefit this community in tremendous ways I say yes to American Classical education.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 24, 2023 7:02 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 111.0.5563.116 / Android  
IP Address: 47.226.41.244  
Unique ID: 1145473354  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Jernarious Matthew
<b>Email</b>	jernarious67@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(662) 544-6786
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	My brother and sister future
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I'm appealing this decision because I feel that this community needs to prepare for change. The world and the city of Jackson is changing with the time everyday and I think my family deserves a different school scenery. I want my family to have a better choice at education.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 24, 2023 7:37 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.161.195.175  
Unique ID: 1145479856  
Location: 35.1387, -90.0095

<b>Name</b>	Spenser Bobo
<b>Email</b>	spenserbobo3@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 214-8825
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	Aunt
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	I enjoyed the small environment at my charter school. There wasn't too many students like you would see at a regular public school.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 24, 2023 7:39 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.161.195.175  
Unique ID: 1145480099  
Location: 35.1387, -90.0095

<b>Name</b>	Neisey Bobo
<b>Email</b>	nwbobo58@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 871-5193
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>What is your resident district?</b>	Shelby
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	Sister
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Jackson-Madison County School System
<b>Written Comment</b>	My daughter transitioned from a private school to a charter school. I admired how the charter school still gave me the private school experience. The charter school was gated and it made me feel like my child was safe.



Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 24, 2023 8:45 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 72.4.27.154  
Unique ID: 1145491022  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

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**Name** Heather Grisham

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**Email** hgrisham1@gmail.com

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**Phone** (731) 217-6003

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**Resident District Status** District Resident

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**Relationship to Application** Prospective Parent

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**I wish to comment in support of** American Classical Academy Madison

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**Written Comment** I am writing in support ACA Madison. I believe public education has strayed from learning to indoctrination. I think our town would benefit greatly as our kids NEED this, they need to know what it means to actually learn and our other kids who are in other public settings would benefit as well, because our school system needs some healthy completion to make those educators work harder!

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 24, 2023 9:25 pm  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 70.189.34.42  
Unique ID: 1145496969  
Location: 30.1597, -92.0258

<b>Name</b>	Takiyah Williams
<b>Email</b>	takiyahwilliams@icloud.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 303-1444
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	Concern Citizen
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

## Written Comment

My charter school experience was truly remarkable. I became a part of an exceptional community where I received a more extensive education compared to traditional public schools. The learning environment was superior, with teachers dedicating ample time to ensure our understanding of lessons. They readily assisted fellow classmates in need. Unlike public schools with large class sizes, my charter school had a smaller class, typically consisting of nine to ten students. I had the opportunity to attend two different schools in Memphis, and I witnessed many students longing for more challenging educational opportunities or access to better programs. Living in a low-income area should not deny anyone the right to a superior education system. Some parents wish they could afford to provide their children with such opportunities.

1. **Increased Educational Options:** Charter schools provide parents in low-income areas with an alternative to traditional public schools. This can give families more choice in selecting a school that aligns better with their child's needs and preferences.
  2. **Autonomy and Innovation:** Charter schools often have more flexibility in curriculum design, teaching methods, and school management. This autonomy allows them to experiment with innovative educational approaches that may better address the specific challenges facing students in low-income communities.
  3. **Smaller Class Sizes:** Some charter schools prioritize smaller class sizes, which can lead to more individualized attention and support for students who may benefit from additional assistance.
  4. **Focus on Specific Needs:** Charter schools can be tailored to address the unique needs of students in low-income areas. They may offer specialized programs or support services to help students overcome socioeconomic obstacles.
  5. **Parental Involvement:** Charter schools often encourage parental involvement and engagement in their child's education, which can be particularly valuable in low-income communities where family support plays a crucial role in student success.
  6. **Accountability:** Charter schools are accountable for their performance and can be closed if they fail to meet established standards. This accountability can incentivize these schools to strive for academic excellence.
-

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 24, 2023 10:08 pm  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 117.0.0.0 / Android  
IP Address: 172.223.167.14  
Unique ID: 1145502950  
Location: 35.2028, -88.1987

**Name** Kim Montgomery

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**Email** kmont67@yahoo.com

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**Phone** (901) 598-5842

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**Resident District Status** District Resident

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**Relationship to Application** Community Member

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**I wish to comment in support of** American Classical Academy Madison

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**Written Comment** I am in favor because i have seen how the charter school can help young people develop into productive citizens. I have nephews and nieces that attended and have graduated and done very well in college. Some have even graduated early from charter school and college because they got that good foundation.

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Form Name:	New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS
Submission Time:	September 24, 2023 11:46 pm
Browser:	Safari 16.6 / OS X
IP Address:	97.64.115.86
Unique ID:	1145514540
Location:	35.6096, -88.8143

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<b>Name</b>	Deborah Winbush
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<b>Email</b>	debwinbush@live.com
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<b>Phone</b>	(731) 267-3531
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<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
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<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
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<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
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<b>Written Comment</b>	
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I am shocked by the people that oppose a classical education for the minorities in the Jackson-Madison County School System considering most of them racially represent the majority of the students that would attend the school in question.

There are many students from the past and those present that have not received a proper education nor have they been lifted up and guided to become upstanding citizens contributing to a moral and ethical society. We all know and understand that proper conduct and respect for others should be taught at home. We also know that is not the case in many situations. I am convinced, as are many, if students could attend a school and have teachers and instructors that truly strive to guide them and give them the tools to make better decisions in their daily life and for their future the positive effects could reach beyond just that one school.

Why did the representatives of JMCSS try so hard to convince the panel they are working hard to make conditions better for the students ? Why now? Where was that effort in past years to identify students in need and ensure individuals had all the help necessary to at least read and comprehend? If you can read and comprehend all else comes easier. All of their efforts in the last few years have been towards state testing and getting better scores instead of being concerned about individuals.

My grandchildren have watched more movies in the last few years at school than they have at home. What is wrong about that statement?

Thank you for this opportunity.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 8:41 am  
Browser: Safari 16.6 / OS X  
IP Address: 97.64.75.104  
Unique ID: 1145601912  
Location: 35.4784, -88.7325

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<b>Name</b>	Charles Rohlfing
<b>Email</b>	charley.rohlfing@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(217) 722-8789
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

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**Written Comment**

I want to keep this short. It seems like this opportunity has been reduced to political banter. It is obvious that the school system and school board do not want a charter school, and that a significant part of the community does. Put plainly, competition of any type is GOOD, and brings all schools to a higher level of performance. Should an ACES Charter school fail, then the JMCSS Schools and School Board can say "I told you so." I highly suspect that an ACES Charter school will do amazingly well and have a waiting list, contrary to the JMCSS predictions.

The State Charter Commission needs to consider the impact on students, and not teachers and administrators of the local system since education of students is the prime goal. The driving impetus of those against the ACE Charter school seems to boil down to loss of money and power, rather than offering the children here every possible opportunity for success.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 8:47 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 47.226.51.128  
Unique ID: 1145603803  
Location: 35.6854, -88.8281

<b>Name</b>	larry lowrance
<b>Email</b>	llowrance@charter.net
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 668-4860
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Local Elected Representative
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	Give parents choice.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 8:54 am  
Browser: Chrome Mobile 110.0.5481.154 / Android  
IP Address: 174.230.149.247  
Unique ID: 1145606620  
Location: 35.1387, -90.0095

<b>Name</b>	Sandra Bateman
<b>Email</b>	ricsanbat@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 234-2864
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	This is a needed asset for our community.



Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 9:02 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.202.203.225  
Unique ID: 1145609954  
Location: 35.1431, -90.0492

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<b>Name</b>	Glen Gaugh
<b>Email</b>	glengaugh@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 225-2663
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison

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**Written Comment**

School choice is wildly popular in West TN, including charters, based on polling by Beacon Center of TN, across all socioeconomic, race, ethnicity, and political party (69%).

Transparency is at issue. Muddied waters with:  
2 committees being involved.  
Use of misleading accountability metrics meant to boost improvement not indicate high achievement.  
Changing conversations with the district.

My interaction with ACEJM has been positive, consistent, and reasonable over the last year plus throughout this process.

Without recounting the bleak stats on student achievement in Madison Co. already mentioned, I'll say:  
The paradigm of education has to change (student centered, individualized, parent empowerment) and approving this charter is a good start.

Thanks in advance for approving American Classical Academy-Madison's appeal and opening up more opportunity for students.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 9:09 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 135.84.206.189  
Unique ID: 1145612434  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Charles Hornburger
<b>Email</b>	rondonna@bellsouth.net
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 803-0665
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I support the ACE Charter school for Jackson/Madison County. We need more options for parents choice of schools.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 9:22 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.5.2 / iOS  
IP Address: 45.146.55.157  
Unique ID: 1145618214  
Location: 33.7485, -84.3871

<b>Name</b>	Johnna Beuerlein
<b>Email</b>	johnnabeuerlein@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 217-6915
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	I am asking as concerned citizen of Madison county that the leaders of our city and or county. Please consider making the American Classical Academy Madison an option for our children. Parents deserve to have better options to educate their children other than just private schools .

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 9:27 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 170.199.241.18  
Unique ID: 1145620274  
Location: 33.5226, -86.8033

<b>Name</b>	Cindy Overton
<b>Email</b>	cindy@cmodesigns.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 616-8686
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	Concerned citizen and tax payer.
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	We need this Charter School for children who are trying to Excell but unable due to our failing schools in Madison County. Cindy and Sammy Overton

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 9:38 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 24.40.122.209  
Unique ID: 1145625227  
Location: 35.4393, -89.7804

<b>Name</b>	Robert Hayes
<b>Email</b>	rhayes1@utk.edu
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 695-1887
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I have been to the public hearings and school board meeting where the ACE school was discussed and have heard no good reasons why it should not be allowed to give parent the option. I have lived in this county for 45 years and during this time it seems that the schools have if anything gotten worse even with more that maintenance of effort funding, A little competition might result in improvement, I hope you will approve the charter school</p> <p>Thank you</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 9:38 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 71.15.151.155  
Unique ID: 1145625234  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Bill Elinor
<b>Email</b>	billelinor1@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(731) 217-9628
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I support the establishment of the American Classical Academy Madison school . I think it would be a worthy addition to our public school system. I would like students in Madison Co. who cannot afford a private school to have the opportunity of a classical education. I want the Madison Co. school system to be the best it can be. I want people to desire to move to our county for our school systems advantages.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - ACAM/JMCSS  
Submission Time: September 25, 2023 9:39 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 104.183.184.166  
Unique ID: 1145625368  
Location: 35.6096, -88.8143

<b>Name</b>	Alicia Franco
<b>Email</b>	aliciabfranco@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(904) 881-3334
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	American Classical Academy Madison
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>This charter school with a classical education curriculum gives a choice to parents in Jackson that will instill lasting principles and values in our children's' minds and hearts. The test scores have been appallingly low in our present public schools of late ....this school presents a different approach to learning that can offer information in a form that is tried and true.</p> <p>I ask you to affirm this school....as other school districts have in Tennessee and other states.....to offer an excellent and proven choice to parents for the betterment of their children's' lives.</p>

**From:** [Heidi Rice](#)  
**To:** [Beth Figueroa](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]  
**Date:** Monday, September 18, 2023 4:45:44 PM

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**\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\***

Hi Beth

Please allow the ACE Charter school in Madison County. We need more options for our kids here. Every child is not alike and they thrive in different environments. A classical education offers structure and encouragement in a different way than our public schools and also gives parents who want more for their child and just don't know how to get it a unique opportunity for excellence.

Please consider that often we don't allow things out of fear. What are we afraid of in letting this happen? A good outcome?

Thanks so much.

Heidi Policky

District 2 resident and concerned about our children...Our future.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [harvey](#)  
**To:** [Charterschool Appeals](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: American Classical Academy Public Comment Sign Up  
**Date:** Saturday, September 16, 2023 9:27:21 AM

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My name is Harvey Walden.

Im a resident of Madison County and my school district is #4 and position 1. Im also a school board member in that district.

The reason im speaking today is to explain why I as a school board member voted in favor of the public charter school ACE.

Back in December of 2022 when ACE informed our district they would be pursuing opening a public charter school in Madison County TN I reached out to them and asked what area they were intending to open a school in our county. ACE immediately responded that they were wanting to work with the East Jackson area.

Once they made available their application I personally printed it off 503 pages. Then I printed off the rubric. I graded the application with the rubric and in my opinion I came up with a total difference determination than the research committee. I asked to be part of the research committee and was turned down. When the research committee brought their recommendation to the board it was several things I didn't agree with.

One was the fix cost of \$1.4 million annually to our district. I asked about the 4 year study the state did back in 2012 that showed any district having 5,000 or more students had no fixed cost to the district. It was like I didn't even ask a question. The next was the curriculum ACE chose to use. The research committee said it wasn't state approved. I found out its many public charter schools in TN using the same curriculum ACE had in their application. So in my mind if a public charter schools are using it in TN it must be approved. So I looked up a handful of those schools to see if they were successful. They all actually are doing an amazing job.

The reason I voted in favor for ACE is because of my students in district 6 which is the East Jackson community. In English over 90% of those students don't read on their grade level.

This has been going on for years. It breaks my heart. This is 2023. Why can't we as educated adults do something about this? We as a district need help for our students and their families. If a student can't read by the 4th grade they will have a very difficult time in school and the rest of their lives.

I respectfully ask the State of TN to allow ACE to have a school in our East Jackson community.

Harvey Walden

731 234 5370 cell number

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Charterschool Appeals <[Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov](mailto:Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov)>

Date: 9/15/23 12:15 PM (GMT-06:00)

To: harvey <[harvey@darroofing.com](mailto:harvey@darroofing.com)>, Charterschool Appeals <[Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov](mailto:Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov)>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: American Classical Academy Public Comment Sign Up

Hello Harvey,

Thank you for reaching out to let us know that you will not be able to attend. Unfortunately slots that become available due to an individual not showing up for in-person comment cannot be transferred to an alternative speaker. Additionally, comments cannot be read into the record on someone else's behalf. The Commission consistently upholds this in order to ensure our process is ran consistently and fairly across all appeals.

All comments are weighed equally and provided to our Commissioners as a part of the record. I would encourage you to share your comments [here](#) so that it can be included in the written comments record.

I hope everything goes smoothly as you resolve the emergency.

Best,

Beth

**Beth Figueroa** | Director of Authorizing

Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

[Beth.Figueroa@tn.gov](mailto:Beth.Figueroa@tn.gov)

Davy Crockett, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

500 James Robertson Parkway

Nashville, TN 37243

(c) 615-477-3015

[Visit the Charter Commission's Website](#)



**From:** harvey <harvey@darroofing.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:11 AM  
**To:** Charterschool Appeals <Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: American Classical Academy Public Comment Sign Up

**\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\***

I'm Harvey Walden a school board member of JMCS.

I signed up to speak on behalf of ACE and I had an emergency come up on a worksite on the coast. I'm having to be there Monday for a meeting. Can I have someone on my behalf read a statement from me?

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Charterschool Appeals <[Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov](mailto:Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov)>

Date: 9/15/23 10:40 AM (GMT-06:00)

To:

Cc: Charterschool Appeals <[Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov](mailto:Charterschool.Appeals@tn.gov)>

Subject: American Classical Academy Public Comment Sign Up

Good morning,

This email is being sent as a courtesy reminder that you have signed up to speak at the upcoming public hearing for American Classical Academy Madison, which is scheduled to take place Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. The public hearing will be held at 310 N Parkway, Jackson, TN 38305.

During the public hearing, the individuals who signed up in advance will be recognized by Commission staff to provide up to two (2) minutes of comments. Before beginning the public comment, each speaker must identify themselves by name, resident district status, relation to the application/school district (e.g., prospective parent, community member, local elected representative, etc.) and clearly state for the record whether they are in support or opposition of the proposed school. The first and last name of individuals who have signed up for public comment will be displayed at the hearing in speaking order to minimize the transition time between speakers.

We thank you for your participation in the hearing.

Best,

Beth

**Beth Figueroa** | Director of Authorizing

Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

[Beth.Figueroa@tn.gov](mailto:Beth.Figueroa@tn.gov)

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