

September 27, 2022

Re: ACE letter to Commission 092622

Mr. Haglund,

We are in receipt of your request for a deferral on the Commission's vote regarding new start appeals for forty-five (45) days. Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-13-108(b)(5)(C), the Commission shall either approve or deny a public charter school application no later than seventy-five (75) days from the Commission's receipt of the notice of appeal. Notices of appeal were received on July 25, 2022, July 28, 2022, and July 29, 2022. As such, the Commission is statutorily obligated to approve or deny the applications for American Classical Education appeals by October 8, 2022 (American Classical Academy Madison), October 11, 2022 (American Classical Academy Rutherford), and October 12, 2022 (American Classical Academy Montgomery). In accordance with Tennessee statute, the Commission has set October 5, 2022 as a special-called meeting to hear the items as set forth in the agenda posted to the Commission website.

The Commission staff, under the leadership of the Executive Director, held public hearings in each of the "LEA[s] in which the proposed public charter school submitted the public charter school application," pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-13-108(b)(5)(B)(i). These hearings are a part of each separate appellate record and is available to the Commission for consideration. As is the statutory charge, "[t]he Commission shall review applications on appeal in accordance with the state board of education's quality public charter school authorizing standards." T.C.A. § 49-13-108(b)(5)(D). The deliberation and vote of the Commission on the three (3) aforementioned appeals (as well as four (4) other unrelated appeals) will occur at the public meeting on October 5, 2022.

The October 5, 2022 Commission meeting date has been noticed on the Commission's website, shared with parties to all appeals, and noticed to the public at each public hearing. The Commission staff is processing thirteen (13) new start appeals this cycle and has worked diligently to adhere to statutory deadlines for each appeal. This work includes scheduling appeals to be heard by the Commission at the October 5, 2022, October 17, 2022, and October 18, 2022 meeting dates. We will proceed with the October 5, 2022 agenda as noticed to the public via the Commission's website.

Sincerely,

Tom Griscom, Chairman
Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

Tess Stovall, Executive Director
Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

CC:

Joel Schellhammer, Executive Director American Classical Education