

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action item

February 19, 2008

SUBJECT: Charter School Appeal Commission Recommendation – Imagine-Sarasota

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Accept Recommendation

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, requires the Charter School Appeal Commission to make written recommendations to the State Board of Education to accept or reject the decision of a district school board to deny a charter application or terminate a charter school contract.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Charter School Appeal Commission was created pursuant to Section 1002.33(6), Florida Statutes, to assist the Commissioner and the State Board of Education with a fair and impartial review of appeals by applicants whose charters have been denied or whose charter contracts have not been renewed or terminated by their sponsors.

The Commission is responsible for providing a “written recommendation” to the Commissioner of Education stating whether the appeal should be upheld or denied and includes the reasons for the recommendation being offered. The State Board must consider the Commission’s recommendation, but is not bound by the recommendation. By majority vote, the State Board must accept or reject the decision of the district school board no later than 90 calendar days after an appeal is filed.

The Charter School Appeal Commission met on December 12, 2007, to consider the charter school appeal filed in the fall of 2007 of Imagine-Sarasota County, LLC. and has since provided its recommendation to the Commissioner of Education (attached).

Appeal Commission Recommends Granting the Charter School Appeal (i.e., overturn the school board decision)

- Imagine-Sarasota County, LLC. vs. Sarasota County School Board (Final vote: 7:0)

Supporting Documentation Included: Charter School Appeal Commission Recommendation and Technical Assistance Paper

Facilitators/Presenters: Dr. Kim McDougal, Commissioner’s Designee as Chair, Charter School Appeal Commission