

CHARTER SCHOOL APPEAL COMMISSION
Recommendation to State Board of Education, February 19, 2008

IMAGINE-SARASOTA COUNTY, LLC.

Petitioner,

v.

SCHOOL BOARD OF
SARASOTA COUNTY

_____ / DOE Case No.2007-1460

RECOMMENDATION

On October 2, 2007, the School Board of Sarasota County (School Board) voted to deny the charter application of Imagine-Sarasota County, LLC. (Charter School). The School Board's letter of denial was dated October 4, 2007. The Charter applicant filed this appeal on October 31, 2007. On December 12, 2007, the Charter School Appeal Commission heard the appeal of this matter. **Thereafter, the Commission voted 7 to 0 to recommend to the State Board of Education to grant the appeal of the Charter School.** The Commission's justifications for its recommendation were as follows:

1. The Commission voted 7 to 0 that the School Board did not have competent, substantial evidence to support its finding that the Application was statutorily deficient in the area of "The financial status of the parent organization and the impact on sustainability of a local school, and the large amount of start up debt of the school."

2. The Commission voted 7 to 0 that the School Board did not have competent, substantial evidence to support its finding that the School was statutorily deficient in the area of “The Governance structure with a large composition of representatives of the school management provider outside of the local area and lack of local representation on the Board.”

Kim McDougal, Commissioner’s Designee
Charter School Appeal Commission

FILED with the Agency Clerk of the Department of Education this _____ day of January 2008.

AGENCY CLERK