

CHARTER SCHOOL APPEAL COMMISSION
Recommendation to State Board of Education, June 17, 2008

LIFE SKILLS CENTER, PALM SPRINGS INC.

Petitioner,

v.

SCHOOL BOARD OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY

_____ / DOE Case No.2007-1542

RECOMMENDATION

On January 23, 2008, the School Board of Palm Beach County (School Board) voted to deny the charter application of Life Skills Center, Palm Springs Inc. (Charter School). The Charter applicant filed this appeal on December 28, 2007. On May 21, 2008, the Charter School Appeal Commission heard the appeal of this matter. **Thereafter, the Commission voted 6 to 0 to recommend to the State Board of Education to deny the appeal of the Charter School.** The Commission's justifications for its recommendation were as follows:

1. The Commission voted 6 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 "Weakness in the area of student assessment."
2. The Commission voted 3 to 3 and was unable to reach a decision regarding whether the School Board did have competent substantial evidence to support its finding that the Application was statutorily deficient in the area of "The Charter School's response provided with respect to exceptional students is contrary to federal and state laws as well as Florida State Board of Education rules." Therefore the chair rendered the decision by voting that the School Board did have competent substantial evidence that the Application was statutorily deficient in the area of "The Charter School's response provided with respect to exceptional students is contrary to federal and state laws as well as Florida State Board of Education rules."

3. The Commission voted 3 to 3 and was unable to reach a decision regarding whether the School Board's denial of the charter application, based upon "The Charter School's response provided with respect to exceptional students is contrary to federal and state laws as well as Florida State Board of Education rules" was statutory good cause for denial. Therefore the chair rendered the decision by voting that the School Board's denial of the charter application, based upon "The Charter School's response provided with respect to exceptional students is contrary to federal and state laws as well as Florida State Board of Education rules" was not statutory good cause for denial.
4. The Commission voted 5 to 1 that the School Board did have competent, substantial evidence to support its finding that the Application was statutorily deficient in the area of "Failure to address a realistic budget to ensure financial viability of the Charter School."
5. The Commission voted 5 to 1 that the School Board's denial of the charter application based on "Failure to address a realistic budget to ensure financial viability of the Charter School" was statutory good cause for denial
6. The Commission voted 4 to 2 that the School Board did not deny the Charter School due process pursuant to Section 1002.33(6)(b)3., Florida Statutes.

Kim McDougal, Commissioner's Designee
Charter School Appeal Commission

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

AGENCY CLERK