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School Board of Hillsborough County
School Board Meeting
Held June 15, 2021

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Excerpt of Meeting
Recorded Media transcribed July 21, 2021

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Transcribed by:
Lori Sedore
Notary Public, State of Florida

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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(Beginning of Excerpt)

MS. GRAY: Our next agenda item, 10.01, Application Denial for Hillsborough County Acceleration Academy. I think, Superintendent Davis, you may want to perhaps -- let's see how it goes. You have two denials. Perhaps we can do those together.

Mr. Porter, is that possible or not?

MR. PORTER: No. I think -- these are all individual cases and each one is based on its own merits. And so I would recommend that you handle each of these independently. They're different than other items and I think it's important that each be heard separately and voted on separately.

MS. GRAY: Thank you. Superintendent Davis, will you highlight 10.01?

MR. DAVIS: Yes, ma'am. 10.01's Application Denial for Hillsborough County Acceleration Academy. This is an academy that came that wanted to truly address, to offer grade level assistance to students from grades 9 through 12 and those who are out of the cohort of graduation that

1 may have potentially dropped out in Hillsborough
2 County.

3 However, you know, within their contract,
4 they offered to have a 230-day contract for
5 students, but we currently have two current charter
6 schools with West University and Seminole Heights
7 that offer kind of the same mentality.

8 However, there were some questions related
9 to the overarching application. One being able to
10 make certain that we prove seat time. In addition,
11 there was a non-disclosure agreement, which we
12 haven't done in Hillsborough County for not to
13 duplicate services currently being offered and there
14 were some underlying ESE services questions that
15 through the application process that our team
16 questioned.

17 Dr. Rain?

18 DR. RAIN: Yeah. And, on top of that, the
19 management company was asking 95 percent of the FEFP
20 from the governing board and we don't do that in
21 Hillsborough County either. So we had statutory
22 reasons to deny the application.

23 MS. GRAY: Thank you, Dr. Delange. Thank
24 you, Superintendent Davis. I think we have a -- oh,
25 Member Vaughn, you had pulled this item. Would you

1 like to make a comment, question?

2 MS. VAUGHN: No. I just wanted all the
3 charter schools so we could discuss it.

4 MS. GRAY: I need a motion and a second
5 for 10.01. I have a motion by Member Washington.

6 MR. PORTER: And just to be clear on the
7 record, this is a motion to deny based on the
8 superintendent's recommendation.

9 MS. GRAY: Thank you, Mr. Porter for the
10 clarification. This is a motion for denial. Again,
11 I have a motion by Member Washington. Yeah. A
12 second by Member Vaughn. Please vote when your
13 lights are on. I apologize. Mr. Davis,
14 Superintendent Davis?

15 MR. DAVIS: I'm sorry. One thing I will
16 say, Acceleration Academy, while they are not a
17 charter school, they really do some good work
18 throughout the State of Florida and throughout the
19 nation being able to address students that may have
20 dropped out for some other reason. So there may be
21 conversations about what they can do to help us and
22 to help the community where we may have students
23 that are 21, 22 years of age that not have fulfilled
24 their obligations for a high school diploma and it
25 may be a potential partnership that we look in. And

1 that's their -- really, openly, their wheelhouse
2 versus being a charter school.

3 MS. GRAY: Thank you. Would there be any
4 other discussion at this point in time? Seeing
5 none. Please vote when your lights are on. "Yes"
6 is to deny it actually. That's a very good point.
7 Yes is to deny it. Opposites. And the motion is
8 unanimous. Thank you, Board.

9 (End of Excerpt)

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COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

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