## BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
COMMUNITY INPUT HEARING
for Proposed New State Charter School
ACES TECHNICAL CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL
July 17, 2019 9:00 a.m.
New Mexico Activities Association
6600 Palomas Avenue, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico

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| 1 | APPEARANCES | 1 | THE CHAIR: I am going to bring back into |
| 2 | COMMISSIONERS: | 2 | session this meeting of the Public Education |
| 3 | MS. PATRICIA GIPSON, Chair MS. TRISH RUIZ, Vice Chair | 3 | Commission. We began yesterday, for those of you -- |
| 4 | MS. KARYL ANN ARMBRUSTER, Secretary | 4 | we began yesterday afternoon in Los Alamos. So we |
|  | MR. R. CARLOS CABALLERO, Member | 5 | are reconvening here in Albuquerque. And it is |
| 5 | MR. MICHAEL CHAVEZ, Member MR. TIM CRONE, Member | 6 | Tuesday, July -- no -- |
| 6 | MS. SONIA RAFTERY, Member | 7 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Wednesday. |
|  | MR. DAVID ROBBINS, Member | 8 | THE CHAIR: It's Wednesday. It's |
| 7 | MS. GLENNA VOIGT, Member | 9 | Wednesday, July 17th, and it is 9:00 a.m. |
| 8 | NMPED STAFF: | 10 | (Chair confers with |
| 9 | MR. ALAN BRAUER, Director, Options for Parents and Families | 11 | Commissioner Armbruster.) |
| 10 | MS. KAREN WOERNER, Deputy Director, Options for | 12 | THE CHAIR: Well, you're going to take |
|  | Parents and Families | 13 | roll. So I am going to ask Commissioner Armbruster |
| 11 | MS. MELISSA BROWN, Technical Assistance and Support and Training Director | $14$ | to take roll. |
| 12 | MR. DYLAN WILSON, Authorizing Practices Coordinator | 15 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
| 13 |  | 16 | Crone? |
| 14 15 |  | 17 | COMMISSIONER CRONE: Here. |
| 16 |  | 18 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
| 17 |  | 19 | Caballero? |
| 18 |  | 20 | COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Here. |
| 19 20 |  | 21 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
| 21 |  | 22 | Robbins? |
| 22 |  | 23 | COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Present. |
| 23 |  | 24 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
| $\begin{aligned} & 24 \\ & 25 \end{aligned}$ |  | 25 | Chavez? |
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| 1 | INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS | 1 | COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Present. |
| 2 | PAGE | 2 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
| 3 | 1 Call to Order, Roll Call 4 | 3 | Davis is sadly not here. |
| 4 | 2 Approval of Agenda - Not Conducted 5 | 4 | Commissioner Voigt? |
| 5 | 3 Community Input Hearing for ACES Technical 7 Charter High School | 5 | COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Here. |
| 6 |  | 6 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
|  | 4 Recess 117 | 7 | Raftery. |
| 7 |  | 8 | COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Here. |
|  | REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 118 | 9 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
| 8 |  | 10 | Gipson? |
| 9 10 | ATTACHMENTS: | 11 | THE CHAIR: Here. |
| 10 | 1. Sign-In Sheets for Visitors and Community Support Speakers in Attendance | 12 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
| 11 |  | 13 | Ruiz? |
| 12 |  | 14 | COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Present. |
| 13 |  | 15 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner |
| 14 |  | 16 | Armbruster is here. |
| 15 |  | 17 | We have nine present. |
| 16 |  | 17 | We have nine present. |
| 17 |  | 18 | THE CHAIR: So we have nine Commissioners |
| 18 |  | 19 | present today. Thank you. |
| 19 |  | 20 | (A discussion was held off the record.) |
| 20 |  | 21 | THE CHAIR: Okay. Before we actually |
| 21 |  | 22 | begin, I'm just going to go down and ask all the |
| 22 |  | 23 | Commissioners to just introduce themselves for the |
| 24 |  | 24 | folks here. |
| 25 |  | 25 | COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Want me to start? |


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| 1 | THE CHAIR: Sure. | 1 | than three members to hold a public hearing. |
| 2 | COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: All right. My name | 2 | According to law, these hearings are being |
| 3 | is David Robbins. I'm a Commissioner in District 2, | 3 | transcribed by a professional court reporter. |
| 4 | which is East Albuquerque. | 4 | The total time allocated to each |
| 5 | COMMISSIONER CRONE: I'm Tim Crone, | 5 | application is 90 minutes, which will be timed to |
| 6 | District 10, Northern New Mexico, Colfax County, | 6 | ensure an equitable opportunity to present |
| 7 | Rio Arriba, Santa Fe. I am semi-retired from | 7 | applications. |
| 8 | Northern New Mexico College. | 8 | During the hearing, the Commission will |
| 9 | COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: My name is | 9 | allow the community input about the charter |
| 10 | Ricardo Carlos Caballero. You see my first name | 10 | application. The time for public comments will be |
| 11 | abbreviated. Has to be used, because legally you | 11 | limited to 20 minutes. |
| 12 | have to use it in order to run for office. | 12 | If you wish to speak regarding the |
| 13 | My district is District 1, most of all of | 13 | application, please sign in at least 15 minutes |
| 14 | West Albuquerque. | 14 | before the applicant's presentation. Please be sure |
| 15 | Thank you. | 15 | that you indicate on the sign-up sheet whether you |
| 16 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: And I am Karyl | 16 | are here in opposition or support of the charter |
| 17 | Ann Armbruster. My district is Los Alamos, Jemez, | 17 | school. |
| 18 | Santa Fe, Placitas, Rio Rancho, and part of | 18 | The Commission Chair, based on the number |
| 19 | Albuquerque, the very northern part there, and | 19 | of requests to comment, will allocate time to those |
| 20 | probably someplace I forgot. | 20 | wishing to speak. If there are a large number of |
| 21 | COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Good morning. I'm | 21 | supporters or opponents, they are asked to select a |
| 22 | Commissioner Ruiz. And I have District 9, which | 22 | speaker to represent common opinions. We will try |
| 23 | includes Union, Otero, Quay, Harding, Roosevelt, | 23 | to allocate an equitable amount of time to represent |
| 24 | Curry, Eddy and Lea Counties. | 24 | the community accurately. |
| 25 | THE CHAIR: I'm Pattie Gipson. I | 25 | The Commission will follow this process |
|  | Page 7 |  | Page 9 |
| 1 | represent District 7, which is Doña Ana and a little | 1 | for each community input hearing: |
| 2 | bit of Otero County. | 2 | The Commission will ask each applicant or |
| 3 | MS. VOIGT: Good morning, I'm Glenna | 3 | group to present at the table in front. They will |
| 4 | Voigt. I represent District 3, which is Central | 4 | be given 20 minutes to present their application in |
| 5 | Albuquerque. | 5 | the manner they deem appropriate. The Commission |
| 6 | COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Good morning. I'm | 6 | will not accept any written documentation from the |
| 7 | Sonia Raftery. I represent District 8, which is all | 7 | applicant; but the applicant may use exhibits to |
| 8 | the way from San Miguel all the way down to Otero, | 8 | describe their school, if necessary. However, the |
| 9 | right next to District 9 . | 9 | setup time for exhibits, et cetera, will be included |
| 10 | COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Good morning. My | 10 | in the 20 minutes. |
| 11 | name is Mike Chavez. I am representative of | 11 | Following the applicant's presentation, |
| 12 | District 6, which is mostly the southwest part of | 12 | the local school district representatives, which |
| 13 | the state from Los Lunas all the way down to the | 13 | includes the superintendent, administrators, and |
| 14 | southwest. | 14 | board members, will be given 10 minutes to comment. |
| 15 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. This meeting is | 15 | Subsequently, the Commission will allow |
| 16 | being conducted pursuant to New Mexico Statutes | 16 | 20 minutes for public comment, as described above. |
| 17 | Annotated, Title 22, Section 8B-6J 2009. | 17 | And, finally, the Commission will ask |
| 18 | The purpose of this community input | 18 | questions of the applicant. |
| 19 | hearing that will be held on July 17th, 2019, is to | 19 | Are the Commissioners ready to proceed? |
| 20 | obtain information from the applicants and to | 20 | (Commissioners indicate.) |
| 21 | receive community input to assist the Public | 21 | THE CHAIR: So you're already here at the |
| 22 | Education Commission in the decision whether to | 22 | table. Thank you very much. And I will ask you all |
| 23 | grant the proposed charter application. | 23 | to please state your name and your relationship with |
| 24 | According to this section of the law, the | 24 | the school. First, state the full name of the |
| 25 | Commission may appoint a subcommittee of no fewer | 25 | school, then everyone here that's going to speak and |


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| 1 | your role with the school. |  | grew up in a similar typical negative situation that |
| 2 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Yes, ma'am. Good | 2 | have become synonymous with Detroit, unfortunately, |
| 3 | morning, everyone. Thank you very much for this | 3 | through the years: Single parent, family was on |
| 4 | opportunity to present. My name is Jeron Titus | 4 | welfare my entire youth. Neither parent went to |
| 5 | Campbell. I'm the lead founder of ACES Technical | 5 | college and I grew up in a pretty violent, |
| 6 | Charter School. | 6 | drug-infested neighborhood. |
| 7 | DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: Good morning. My | 7 | But despite those odds, I overcame all of |
| 8 | name is Finnie Coleman. I am a proposed member of | 8 | that. |
| 9 | the board. I'm a faculty member at the University | 9 | Math has always been my favorite subject, |
| 10 | of New Mexico. | 10 | always was. And I decided to be an electrical |
| 11 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Hello. My name is | 11 | engineer when I was 12 years old. Didn't know what |
| 12 | Cassandra Sims. I'm an educator, and I am a | 12 | an engineer was or did, but those two words changed |
| 13 | proposed board member as well. | 13 | my life. They basically -- I made a decision that |
| 14 | MR. DAN HILL: Madam Chair, members of the | 14 | that was what I was going to be. |
| 15 | Commission, I am Dan Hill, and I am counsel for the | 15 | The first in my family to go to college. |
| 16 | school. | 16 | I didn't meet an engineer until I went to college, |
| 17 | MR. MICHAEL VIGIL: Madam Chair, my name | 17 | Michigan State University. After I finished my |
| 18 | is Michael Vigil. I am working with the school | 18 | program at Michigan State, I did successfully |
| 19 | helping them in the financial area. I'm a licensed | 19 | graduate with an electrical engineering degree, I |
| 20 | Level 2 School Business Manager. | 20 | worked for the auto industry, pretty typical, again, |
| 21 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. | 21 | for a Detroit person to go into the auto industry. |
| 22 | (A discussion was held off the record.) | 22 | I worked for ten years at Ford Motor Company. |
| 23 | THE CHAIR: So before we start and we | 23 | During that time I was there, did a lot of work |
| 24 | start timing, I just want to thank each and every | 24 | designing and manufacturing cars and trucks, but |
| 25 | one of you for the time and effort and energies that | 25 | also decided to do something in the community. |
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| 1 | you put in. We're well aware of everything that | 1 | So I started a nonprofit. And the |
| 2 | goes into the creation of these applications. So we | 2 | nonprofit was a tutoring program. And it was to |
| 3 | appreciate everything that you have done to date to | 3 | help students to get ready for college, students in |
| 4 | try to work on this school. | 4 | the neighborhoods in Detroit who couldn't afford |
| 5 | Sometimes we dig into the weeds of things | 5 | test prep programs in particular. I found out the |
| 6 | during these meetings. And it may seem like, gee, | 6 | ACT itself was the biggest hurdle that our kids |
| 7 | maybe it wasn't that supportive. But we're digging | 7 | dealt with in getting admission into college. |
| 8 | into those areas where we truly do have questions | 8 | My test prep program became the largest test program |
| 9 | and need some clarification. | 9 | in the city and had zero payroll, all volunteer. |
| 10 | So please don't take any of this as an | 10 | Over 9,000 kids were affected by the program over the |
| 11 | indication of whether we're supporting or not | 11 | course of about a decade of time. |
| 12 | supporting the school. And it hopefully will give | 12 | And it really taught me a lot. My passion |
| 13 | you a little bit of an idea of what you might need | 13 | for education began during that time. So I |
| 14 | to address in the August meeting when you come | 14 | developed a curriculum; I recruited volunteers; I |
| 15 | before us again so that you can make those | 15 | trained them. I leased an entire school building |
| 16 | clarifying comments. | 16 | from the City of Detroit for a dollar a year because |
| 17 | So thank you. So if you are ready, we'll | 17 | it was vacant. I had a lot of experiences that were |
| 18 | start timing. | 18 | in education, even though I had a full-time job |
| 19 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Okay. Thank you. | 19 | engineering at Ford. I did all this volunteering. |
| 20 | I'll start. I'm speaking today on behalf of ACES | 20 | Over time, if you knew me, you knew that |
| 21 | Tech. I will start talking about something about | 21 | at some point, I was going into education full time, |
| 22 | myself, just a brief background, and then I'll | 22 | because it became that much of passion for me. And |
| 23 | mention some things about the school as well. | 23 | so I found out about a program, a leadership |
| 24 | All right. So, again, name is Jeron | 24 | development program called the Broad Residency. I |
| 25 | Campbell, born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. I | 25 | completed that program in two years, and I was able |


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| 1 | to stay in Detroit during that time. | 1 | beliefs that you saw in the application, and I'll |
| 2 | And so I was a director of school redesign | 2 | speak to two of those briefly. The first one is |
| 3 | in Detroit Public Schools, and I was assistant | 3 | "Every child has gifts." |
| 4 | superintendent. I supervised 14 high school | 4 | One thing -- being a student, again, from |
| 5 | principals during that time. | 5 | a poor neighborhood, a lot of people would have said |
| 6 | Afterward I decided to go back to school. | 6 | I should have been a statistic, right, especially |
| 7 | So I was fortunate enough to get accepted into | 7 | with the upbringing I had and the environment I grew |
| 8 | Harvard, the Doctorate in Education Leadership | 8 | up in. But I'm the exception in that case. |
| 9 | program. I completed that program in three years. | 9 | But in my view, there are lots of |
| 10 | And since then, I've worked in two school districts | 10 | exceptions, a lot of these students that don't have |
| 11 | on the East Coast as a chief of data accountability | 11 | the educational resources and opportunities they |
| 12 | for the entire school district, two major urban | 12 | need in order to realize the dreams that they have. |
| 13 | districts on the East Coast. | 13 | So when I -- my approach in ACES will be that every |
| 14 | Being an engineer, one of my biggest | 14 | single student deserves everything we can possibly |
| 15 | drivers is data; right? I did my dissertation on | 15 | give them. |
| 16 | using data to drive instruction. And being a person | 16 | And just like I tell my nieces and |
| 17 | who loves data and having the work I did with those | 17 | nephews, there is never anything I can ever do for |
| 18 | kids in Detroit, it was just staggering to see how | 18 | you that you don't already deserve. And that's the |
| 19 | many of our districts are really under-serving kids. | 19 | approach I take to all kids. |
| 20 | I mean, if you look at the data itself, even here in | 20 | So if you look at innovation, one of the |
| 21 | Albuquerque is no exception. | 21 | things I put on there was imagination and |
| 22 | Albuquerque Public Schools will tell you | 22 | creativity. It's interesting that a lot of people |
| 23 | that 25 percent of the kids read on grade level, and | 23 | think of it as an amorphous thing, how do you define |
| 24 | only 15 percent or so are doing math at grade level. | 24 | those things. As an engineer, they think of science |
| 25 | So these are just the facts, you know. | 25 | and math is all we ever do. |
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| 1 | So the question becomes, you know, what do | 1 | But if you look at industry and research |
| 2 | you do about it? And so for me, instead of going | 2 | as the people who have the creativity that are able |
| 3 | back and working for a school district anymore, I | 3 | to imagine and think out of the box, they're the |
| 4 | decided I wanted to try the charter route. For me | 4 | ones that create the new innovations and the ones |
| 5 | to truly have the impact and be able to do the | 5 | most successful in these fields. It's important |
| 6 | change that I want, I didn't want the limitations | 6 | that we start those things early, teaching and |
| 7 | that I've experienced working at four large school | 7 | developing models so that student can learn and |
| 8 | districts in four different states. It's been very | 8 | solve problems on their own. |
| 9 | similar across the board, a very bureaucratic | 9 | The next one is "Data must drive all |
| 10 | system, very difficult to bring innovation and to | 10 | decisions," like I talk about data again. ACES Tech |
| 11 | get things done, particularly at scale; right? So | 11 | will be the model in using data to drive |
| 12 | I'm hopeful that this opportunity will give me a | 12 | instruction. I brought those practices to my school |
| 13 | chance to do that. | 13 | districts in the past. I've developed more data and |
| 14 | The mission of ACES is to provide students | 14 | reports than they'd ever seen before, and I intend |
| 15 | with challenging and exciting education and graduate | 15 | to continue doing that. I track everything, all |
| 16 | students exceptionally prepared for the college and | 16 | right? |
| 17 | career of their choice. But if I were to speak to | 17 | So, you know, when people see the reports |
| 18 | the purpose of the school, my own personal purpose | 18 | that come out of this school, upon approval, of |
| 19 | is to produce a pipeline of students with the skills | 19 | course, you'll see what it really means to use data |
| 20 | and the confidence necessary to fill these jobs in | 20 | to drive instruction. It's going to drive |
| 21 | the STEM fields, both engineering and medicine. | 21 | everything we do. |
| 22 | We know here in New Mexico, even, those | 22 | The teachers will be using Professional |
| 23 | two are areas of growth in the state and need; | 23 | Learning Communities; and that allows teachers to |
| 24 | right? So that's something I hope to do. | 24 | lead those meetings where they'll have the data; |
| 25 | Our school will be based on five core | 25 | they can come up with learning opportunities for |


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| 1 | students and develop better ways of instruction | 1 | children in New Mexico. |
| 2 | within themselves, right, and we'll be giving a time | 2 | I came from New Mexico. I was stationed |
| 3 | limit to it. | 3 | here for the majority. I went to Van Buren Middle |
| 4 | But in summary, we'll offer a | 4 | School in sixth grade. Finished out and went to |
| 5 | well-rounded, challenging curriculum, the STEM focus | 5 | Highland High School. I never thought I was |
| 6 | to develop students who are ready for college and | 6 | intelligent or smart, because I fell through the |
| 7 | career, and we'll have the supports that students | 7 | cracks. And I'm here to say I know I'm smart, and |
| 8 | need, also, to make sure that they succeed. | 8 | so -- and I know I'm gifted. And that's just |
| 9 | So with that, I'll pass the baton to | 9 | something that I want all kids to see. |
| 10 | Ms. Cassandra. | 10 | I'm a huge nerd, and I'm a believer in |
| 11 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Is it okay if I | 11 | Rita Pierson, if any of you know her, that every kid |
| 12 | stand? Sorry. It's, like, an educator thing. You | 12 | deserves a champion. |
| 13 | don't want your back to people. | 13 | I'm a firm believer in Sir Ken Robinson |
| 14 | THE CHAIR: Do you want to use the podium? | 14 | that every kid has this ability and this creativity. |
| 15 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: I'm okay. It's one | 15 | And so that brought me to why I went to join ACES. |
| 16 | of those teacher things where you scan the room. | 16 | When Dr. Campbell brought it up, I could do nothing |
| 17 | I want to start by saying that I am a high | 17 | but get excited. These are two areas that we need |
| 18 | school dropout. I came from that limited background | 18 | so much in New Mexico; but our kids have no |
| 19 | where my mom -- I was born in the Philippines, so | 19 | exposure. I didn't want our kids to fall through |
| 20 | she didn't speak English. My biological father | 20 | the cracks and feel like they weren't worth it. |
| 21 | decided he didn't want to raise mixed children, so | 21 | So I know there's, like, a stigma when it |
| 22 | he left us. And I was really, really lucky that my | 22 | comes to this whole project-based learning or trying |
| 23 | mom got to meet my father, who went into the | 23 | to do trades. And I know there's a stigma, and that |
| 24 | Air Force from the Bronx as a way to escape the life | 24 | it doesn't always work, and we have really good |
| 25 | that he was in. And I'm very, very blessed. | 25 | intentions and that there's not always the best |
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| 1 | So I'm also a first-generation college | 1 | execution. |
| 2 | graduate. And engineering and nursing are two | 2 | And the whole reason why I joined it is |
| 3 | things that I am extremely passionate about, because | 3 | because I've seen his execution firsthand. I worked |
| 4 | my brother, he is an environmental engineer with | 4 | with him, as I had to help run a school, when he |
| 5 | CDM Smith. He does hydraulic engineering. And so | 5 | showed me ACT scores and the potential and truancy |
| 6 | he graduated after I graduated, which made me | 6 | linked to grades. And it was just this insane -- I |
| 7 | super-excited. | 7 | was really excited and nerded out about it; because |
| 8 | And then my dad just graduated. I'm going | 8 | it just makes me super-excited to see we can catch |
| 9 | to get a little teary. He just graduated this last | 9 | our kids. |
| 10 | May, after he retired out of the military, with his | 10 | So that's part of the reason why I'm |
| 11 | degree in nursing. So it was two things that speak | 11 | super-excited to be a part of this board. And if |
| 12 | very, very highly to me. | 12 | you can't tell, I'm really nervous, I'm, like -- |
| 13 | I'm very passionate. I'm obviously on the | 13 | because I'm so passionate; it's super-important to |
| 14 | board for the education side. And I went back to | 14 | me. |
| 15 | school after I got pregnant with my first daughter. | 15 | So the two core values, too, that I really |
| 16 | And I was a high school dropout, and I was, like, | 16 | stand for is, A, that we have a safe and healthy |
| 17 | "No way. She's not going to do this." | 17 | environment. Our schools were created in the |
| 18 | And then I went on to get my high school | 18 | Industrial Age; so we were teaching them what they |
| 19 | degree, barely, because I was, like, "That's not | 19 | needed to know. But now we need to be more |
| 20 | good enough." Got my Associate's. That wasn't good | 20 | innovative, and we need to let them be okay to fail. |
| 21 | enough. Got my bachelor's. Got my master's. Now | 21 | And so this needs to be a place that's safe. |
| 22 | I'm trying to get into the doctoral program at UNM. | 22 | They also have trauma. We're targeting |
| 23 | The one thing that that whole experience | 23 | regions that have a lot of trauma. So we're putting |
| 24 | taught me was that that's not good enough for my own | 24 | in SEL practices, curriculum, mindfulness. We're |
| 25 | children, and it's not good enough for any of our | 25 | working hard to teach our teachers how to deal with |


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| 1 | it and to have an exact proper chain of what they | 1 | THE CHAIR: All the teachers are getting |
| 2 | would do when we have kids who have this experience; | 2 | up and running out. Now they really don't want to |
| 3 | because they're just not data points. They come | 3 | stand up and own it. |
| 4 | with so much more. | 4 | All right. I apologize. Thank you. |
| 5 | And like Rita Pierson says, because I'm a | 5 | DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: That's okay. So good |
| 6 | dork, you know, "They are worthy, and they deserve | 6 | morning, and thank you for the opportunity to |
| 7 | an education." | 7 | address the Commission this morning. |
| 8 | And it doesn't matter. So a lot of times | 8 | I'm going to also begin with a story, if |
| 9 | we see these kids who fight back, and they are | 9 | you will. I'm a former Army Intelligence Officer. |
| 10 | dismissed. And so one of the biggest parts, too, is | 10 | I served in the first Persian Gulf War. I was a |
| 11 | we want a restorative justice model. We do not want | 11 | soldier in the United States Army before then. I |
| 12 | kids to leave. We want to show them the purpose of | 12 | graduated from the Virginia Military Institute. I |
| 13 | not just atoning, but learning from it. It's not | 13 | graduated from the University of Virginia with a |
| 14 | about your mistakes; it's about how you use them. | 14 | master's degree in literature and also a Ph.D. in |
| 15 | The second thing, too, that's a core | 15 | literature. |
| 16 | belief is every scholar needs a skill. When you | 16 | I came to New Mexico to direct the |
| 17 | look at our proposal and you see, you know, college | 17 | Africana Studies Program at UNM. I served as the |
| 18 | preparatory, people think, like, "Well, what about | 18 | interim dean of our University College, one of the |
| 19 | the kids who don't go to college?" | 19 | largest academic units in the state. I am an |
| 20 | That's not what we're saying. We're | 20 | American Council on Education Fellow. And I am |
| 21 | saying we have certification programs in place to | 21 | currently serving as the president of our faculty |
| 22 | help our kids get those -- there are American Red | 22 | synod at UNM. |
| 23 | Cross baby-sitting certificates if they want to be | 23 | And those are highlights, but they don't |
| 24 | better baby-sitters. There are certificates you can | 24 | tell you anything about my story. In order to tell |
| 25 | get across. But one of the biggest flaws I've seen | 25 | you that, I have to tell you a story that I've told |
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| 1 | in our kids in New Mexico and the biggest flaws | 1 | on occasion; but it's a story that I least like |
| 2 | within my own family is that we tend -- and the kids | 2 | telling, because it's tough for me, as a former Army |
| 3 | do -- limit ourselves to just what we're exposed to. | 3 | guy and tough guy -- whatever -- it's tough to get |
| 4 | So we want to show a kid who wants to do | 4 | through the story without choking up. |
| 5 | culinary arts, okay, let's get you your certificate, | 5 | I grew up in the Deep South. I'm only |
| 6 | but let's show you there's a beautiful science | 6 | 55 years old; but I grew up in the still segregated |
| 7 | behind it, too. And we want our kids to be sparked | 7 | Deep South. And in that Deep South, there was no |
| 8 | to do so much more. Because our kids really deserve | 8 | kindergarten for Black children where I grew up in |
| 9 | a really good education. | 9 | Pensacola, Florida. Like most of us, I know exactly |
| 10 | And with that, I'm going to pass it to the | 10 | where I was sitting 50 years ago today. I know |
| 11 | next one. So there we go. | 11 | exactly where I was sitting. I know exactly what I |
| 12 | THE CHAIR: It's a shame you're not | 12 | was doing. I was watching a spacecraft. And I |
| 13 | enthusiastic, by the way. | 13 | watched it every single day that they showed it. |
| 14 | DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: Good morning. It's | 14 | And I watched TV for two reasons; one, |
| 15 | difficult to -- to follow a remarkable story like | 15 | because I was really interested in what was going on |
| 16 | that. | 16 | with that Apollo mission, but also to watch the |
| 17 | THE CHAIR: Okay. Can I just interrupt | 17 | Vietnam War casualty report from Harry Reasoner |
| 18 | you? I apologize. But there's a car with a license | 18 | every night. |
| 19 | plate PNL177 that needs to move the car. So if | 19 | My godfather went away to that war and he |
| 20 | that's someone here -- okay, we tried. Thank you. | 20 | never came back. As a little kid, I didn't |
| 21 | I apologize. | 21 | understand -- I didn't understand that. But I knew |
| 22 | FROM THE FLOOR: Can you give a | 22 | then that I would become a soldier as well and an |
| 23 | description of the car, please? | 23 | astronaut. |
| 24 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: I'm a teacher; it's | 24 | I integrated my elementary school with |
| 25 | not mine. | 25 | another little girl, Carolyn Wright. She's passed |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | away now. But we integrated that school, and we | 1 | study that. Who knows but if I were not in a |
| 2 | were put into the classroom of the most experienced | 2 | segregated -- recently desegregated elementary |
| 3 | teacher, the most elderly white woman at the school. | 3 | school, my life chances would have been |
| 4 | And she grew up and was raised in the Deep South. | 4 | significantly different. |
| 5 | And when I showed up for the first grade, I didn't | 5 | The high standards that I see in the -- |
| 6 | know how to read. I didn't know any of my letters | 6 | the proposal that we have before you reflect the |
| 7 | or anything. | 7 | high standards that Ms. Glass set for me as a |
| 8 | And we would have reading circle. And she | 8 | first-grader. |
| 9 | would allow us to read books. There was a story | 9 | I'm passionate about being a member of |
| 10 | that I wanted to read about a black stallion, Black | 10 | this school if it becomes -- if you allow it to |
| 11 | Stallion's Midnight Ride; I remember to this day. | 11 | become -- if it is allowed to proceed, because it's |
| 12 | And I asked her early in the year if I could read | 12 | hard to argue that we do not need this opportunity. |
| 13 | that book. And she said no. And she said, "The | 13 | And this isn't to say that APS doesn't |
| 14 | reason is 'cause you don't know how to read. You're | 14 | provide those opportunities. We're here to say that |
| 15 | going to have to learn how to read; and if you | 15 | we need to complement the opportunities that APS |
| 16 | don't, I can't let you read the book." | 16 | provides. We're not here to take anything away from |
| 17 | And that whole year, I worked really hard. | 17 | APS or detract anything from what APS does, but |
| 18 | She didn't know at the time that she had a kid who | 18 | simply use that as a gauge to set very high |
| 19 | was in the process of becoming a college professor | 19 | expectations for the young people that we hope will |
| 20 | who would teach literature. | 20 | attend the school. |
| 21 | The last day of class -- I can never get | 21 | And so with that, I apologize for not |
| 22 | through this -- on that last day of class in first | 22 | being able to get through that story. I thought I |
| 23 | grade, she brought me that book. And I read it. | 23 | might be able to do it this morning; but I hope that |
| 24 | Sorry. | 24 | you understand that all of us on this potential |
| 25 | This woman who was raised in the Deep | 25 | board are passionate, and we bring remarkable |
|  | Page 27 |  | Page 29 |
| 1 | South with all the prejudices of the Deep South | 1 | expertise to the table, and we believe that we will |
| 2 | found a way to reach through to a kid who had no | 2 | do a fantastic job of educating our young people |
| 3 | promise, that nobody saw anything in. | 3 | here in Albuquerque if given that opportunity. |
| 4 | In a community and in a time when kids | 4 | Thank you. |
| 5 | like me shared the same kind of life that my | 5 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you. |
| 6 | colleague to the left shared, in poverty, on | 6 | Is there anyone here from APS? I don't |
| 7 | welfare, and with no real chance, I was asked to | 7 | believe there is. |
| 8 | talk about why I wanted to become a member of this | 8 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: I kind of am. I |
| 9 | board, why I wanted to be part of ACES Tech. | 9 | technically work at Volcano Vista. |
| 10 | This is part of my life story. I've been | 10 | THE CHAIR: No, the people -- |
| 11 | passionate about education from the first grade. | 11 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Okay. Sorry. |
| 12 | And I learned that passion from a remarkable teacher | 12 | THE CHAIR: I'm asking if there's someone |
| 13 | who could easily have been dismissed as a Southern | 13 | here to speak for APS. |
| 14 | White Supremacist, et cetera, et cetera. | 14 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Sorry. Okay. |
| 15 | The reason that I mentioned the story | 15 | THE CHAIR: So we'll move on to Public |
| 16 | about the space mission is because this was before I | 16 | Comment. We will now hear public comment from the |
| 17 | ever got to elementary school, I understood that I | 17 | community of Albuquerque. There are 10 people who |
| 18 | wanted to be an astronaut. And I want- -- and I | 18 | signed up, all to sign up in support, so that you |
| 19 | still have a passion for astrophysics. When | 19 | will have two minutes each if you wish to take two |
| 20 | Dr. Campbell asked me to do this, I jumped at him. | 20 | minutes. So when you do come up, I will ask you -- |
| 21 | People said, "Why? You're a liberal artist." | 21 | and what happened to the -- is the microphone -- |
| 22 | It was because I was born with a passion | 22 | MR. MICHAEL VIGIL: Yes, it is. |
| 23 | for STEM, science, technology, engineering and | 23 | THE CHAIR: Okay. Thanks. If you could |
| 24 | mathematics. But the school system that produced me | 24 | come up to the podium and if you will state your |
| 25 | didn't also produce the opportunities for me to | 25 | name for the record, we'd appreciate it. And the |

first one on the list is Dr. Howard Bailey.
FROM THE FLOOR: Harold Bailey.
Thank you, Madam Chair, esteemed guests.
I'm Harold Bailey, president of the Albuquerque NAACP. I'm also an educator by trade. All my degrees are from the University of New Mexico, a former APS teacher for 12 years, special ed; after that, being an administrator at UNM for nine years.
So I stand on behalf of the community as an educator.

I don't need to take two minutes. I sent a formal letter to the committee in support of ACES Tech. I'm here to support Dr. Jeron Campbell and his group of people. I'm pretty sure that he'll surround himself with exquisite people, educators who will perform at a maximum level; at the same time, have a resource for those students who need extra help.

Other than that, I don't see any reason why this school should not be approved. I'm asking for your collective support. Other than that, if you have any questions, I'll be happy to respond. But other than that, I'm in support.

THE CHAIR: Thank you so much. Next is Jewll Powdrell.
and from the ZIP codes that are mentioned in this documentation, that's a little difficult to afford.

It focuses on high-level -- the high level of education for the most -- from the most diverse areas of the city. What you mentioned was 87106 , 87108 , and 87123.

I think that their mission -Dr. Campbell's mission and goal to provide students with a challenging, exciting education and graduate students especially prepared for any college or career of their choice, if more students did that over the country, we would have a totally different society than we have today.

And, lastly, I'll say as an outstanding founder of the board, I realize that there are a number of attributes that are typical of charter schools failing. That's lack of proper administration and staff and financial management. I think that he and the board have that covered. And so I would ask that, as you deliberate in your next three or four days, that you grant it approval.

Thank you.
THE CHAIR: Thank you. The next -- I -Dr. Stephanie Garcia -- and I think it might be "Campbell"; but I'm -- I can't --

FROM THE FLOOR: I'm Jewll Powdrell. I grew up here in Albuquerque. I'm from the South Broadway area. I'm one of those students who, much like most of the individuals that have spoken, the teachers that I had at John Marshall, Lincoln Junior High School, the old Albuquerque High School, most of those teachers were 60,70 years old. But the environment that we have in Albuquerque says that it's more difficult for a kid to come from South Broadway to achieve many of the opportunities that I've been able to achieve here in Albuquerque because of people like the Stronghursts, the [inaudible], the [inaudible]. These people took hold of kids from that environment and said, "There is a way that you can make things in your environment and that you can succeed."

So what I want to say to the Commission, to all Commissioners, is to say, number one, thank you for having the opportunity to speak with you. And there are benefits for your granting the approval of ACES. The benefits include it's an affordable environment. As I went through and did my homework last night, I found out that there are four STEM schools in Albuquerque with an average cost of $\$ 20,000$ per year. Kids from South Broadway

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. I'm Dr. Garcia Campbell. I'm Jeron Campbell's wife. I am a physician at Presbyterian Hospital and Gallup Indian Medical Center, where I work in emergency medicine. I grew up similar to Jeron in Oakland, California, during a time where crack cocaine and AIDS was really coming into the community.

And I attended UC Berkeley as the first -as a first-generation college student, and University of California-San Francisco as the first physician in my family.

And so thinking back to growing up and attending Oakland Public Schools all of my life, I know how important schools are in terms of the success of a student, particularly if you come from a poor background.

As a Black and Puerto Rican woman, I know how important representation is in the field of medicine and how important mentorship is in the field of medicine and STEM in general. And I am willing and able and prepared to mentor students for ACES Charter by way of exposure with shadowing opportunities, direct mentoring, exposure to other health-care fields within disciplines of medicine, including emergency medicine and surgery, but not

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | limited to optometry, dentistry, and whatever else | 1 | So this school has the ability to give our |
| 2 | the students may be interested in. | 2 | kids that opportunity of having an equal chance, a |
| 3 | And I think that's all. Thank you for | 3 | start line same time as their peers. |
| 4 | your time and consideration. It's a really exciting | 4 | So this school is beyond just another |
| 5 | time. Thank you. | 5 | charter school. This is a generational changing |
| 6 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. | 6 | school here. I'm asking you to give our kids the |
| 7 | Next is Michael Silva. | 7 | same opportunity as peer kids. Let this school be |
| 8 | FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning, everyone. | 8 | massive for the kids in our community. |
| 9 | My name is Mike Silva, and I grew up in the | 9 | Thank you. |
| 10 | neighborhoods in which this school plans to serve. | 10 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. |
| 11 | I went to Lowell Elementary school. I went to | 11 | Next is Cassandra Sims. |
| 12 | Wilson Middle School. So I know that -- that | 12 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: That was me. I got |
| 13 | struggle. | 13 | too excited. Sorry. |
| 14 | I, like most in this room, come from a | 14 | THE CHAIR: Okay. So next is Gloria |
| 15 | fractured family, violence, drugs. I was telling | 15 | Taradash. |
| 16 | someone just yesterday about my background. And | 16 | FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. I am |
| 17 | people don't often recognize or realize because I've | 17 | Dr. Gloria Taradash. I received my doctorate from |
| 18 | polished it up pretty well; but as a young kid, I | 18 | UNM in the area of special education with a focus on |
| 19 | walked into the backyard of my family's home in | 19 | gifted minorities and parents. |
| 20 | South Central Los Angeles before we moved here when | 20 | For the last 30 years or so, I have worked |
| 21 | I was in third grade. And my grandfather had a | 21 | in that area. And I am familiar that across the |
| 22 | boat, which made no sense. But we had a boat in the | 22 | United States, our children are underrepresented in |
| 23 | backyard. | 23 | programs for the gifted. |
| 24 | So myself and my cousins, we went out to | 24 | In 1925, when Dr. Terman commissioned his |
| 25 | play in the boat. And when we climbed up the steps | 25 | first study in gifted children, there were two |
|  | Page 35 |  | Page 37 |
| 1 | and went into the back of the boat, on a table like | 1 | minority children in that study. Sad to say, |
| 2 | this were piles of cocaine, Scarface-style piles of | 2 | 100 years later, we're facing those same obstacles. |
| 3 | cocaine. | 3 | Our children are not identified in public school for |
| 4 | And we moved to Albuquerque. I ended up | 4 | gifted programs, which means that they are not put |
| 5 | living in [inaudible], where I saw people like this | 5 | into the programs that would allow them to be |
| 6 | every day, which helped to change my life, helped to | 6 | educated and reach their highest potential. |
| 7 | create a different path for me. | 7 | Dr. Campbell has already shown his support |
| 8 | And so now I stand in front of you, | 8 | for those kids by programs he has instituted to help |
| 9 | friends with this man right here, as according to | 9 | them achieve on the ACT and the SAT so that they |
| 10 | the Albuquerque Business First, the second largest | 10 | can, in fact, go into college. |
| 11 | employer and Black-owned business operator in | 11 | I want to say that I am a staunch |
| 12 | Albuquerque, New Mexico. | 12 | supporter of public education; but I also walk |
| 13 | And in spite of all of that past, | 13 | around in this world with my eyes wide open and |
| 14 | unlike -- not unusual to many folks in here -- I've | 14 | recognize that our children continue to be |
| 15 | been able to make it. But what I'll tell you is I'm | 15 | underserved. They continue to be locked out of the |
| 16 | late to the game. That's the disadvantage. I did | 16 | programs that would allow them to reach their |
| 17 | not begin my entrepreneurial career until I was in | 17 | highest potential from the earliest grades in gifted |
| 18 | my 40s. Had I had the same opportunity or even a | 18 | programs. Dr. Campbell will take a giant step in |
| 19 | fair equal opportunity as many of my peers, maybe my | 19 | addressing that need. |
| 20 | entrepreneurial game would have began when I was | 20 | Thank you. |
| 21 | right out of college instead of when I was 40. And | 21 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. Next is Theresa |
| 22 | maybe I wouldn't be the second. Maybe I'd be the | 22 | Carson. |
| 23 | first. And maybe we'd take away the Black-owned | 23 | FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. My name is |
| 24 | piece, and I'd just be the largest employer of the | 24 | Theresa Carson. I'm retired -- a retired senior |
| 25 | City of Albuquerque overall. | 25 | manager at Sandia National Laboratories. And |


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| 1 | currently, I am the president of the |  | whom I've had the pleasure of knowing throughout my |
| 2 | African-American Greater Albuquerque Chamber of | 2 | life, I found my passion in health care. Growing up |
| 3 | Commerce. I'm here in support of ACES Technology. | 3 | in New Mexico has given me a strong sense of the |
| 4 | I was a program manager for Sandia Lab's | 4 | commitment to the health of the people, the |
| 5 | Hands-On Minds-On Technology program, a summer | 5 | celebration of the culture, and the celebration of |
| 6 | program that's been around for more than 33 years. | 6 | our beautiful landscapes, because I know minorities |
| 7 | And I saw firsthand the benefits of a -- having a | 7 | are still heavily underrepresented, especially in |
| 8 | STEM-focused program. | 8 | the STEM fields, and people in these fields are |
| 9 | It's a known fact that there is a decline | 9 | often discouraged on their journey, like I was. |
| 10 | of minorities. And these are the target population | 10 | I support ACES Tech because I want |
| 11 | for ACES Technology entering the engineering and | 11 | minority children to know they are capable of being |
| 12 | science field. | 12 | doctors, engineers, and scientists. They deserve |
| 13 | STEM has resurfaced as a national priority | 13 | the support, mentorship, and education that will |
| 14 | in America's education. If we are not preparing | 14 | help them succeed. |
| 15 | students with valuable skills like creativity, | 15 | Thank you. |
| 16 | problem-solving, as well as critical thinking, we as | 16 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. And next is Irma |
| 17 | a state will truly be left behind and have failed in | 17 | Tibuled [ph]? |
| 18 | making a future impact in today's job market. | 18 | FROM THE FLOOR: My name is Dr. June |
| 19 | The approval of ACES Tech Charter School | 19 | Tibaleka. |
| 20 | matters for two reasons, in my mind. The first is | 20 | THE CHAIR: I am sorry. |
| 21 | the City is dropping in the ratings of proficiency | $21$ | FROMO THE: I'm Dr. June Tibaleka. I'm an |
| 22 | in both math as well as science. And the U.S. is | 22 | ER physician at Presbyterian in Albuquerque. |
| 23 | actually projected to have a shortage of 1 million | $23$ | Growing up, I watched my father suffer and |
| 24 | workers in its future technology workforce. | 24 | die from a long illness. I was five. It was then, |
| 25 | Your vote in favor of the implementation | 25 | at five years old, that I decided to be a doctor. I |
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| 1 | of ACES Technology is the first step in helping | 1 | watched my mother struggle to raise me and my three |
| 2 | these targeted students succeed in jobs that have | 2 | siblings. But by God's grace and hard work I got a |
| 3 | not even yet been created, but will be needed in the | 3 | scholarship to a STEM-type program in New Mexico. |
| 4 | remainder of this 21st century and beyond. | 4 | I went on to college at Johns Hopkins, |
| 5 | My personal hope is that it will reduce | 5 | medical school at Duke. I did graduate school at |
| 6 | the "brain drain" within our city and state and | 6 | the University of California-San Francisco. I did |
| 7 | provide future local resources for our two premier | 7 | my residency at Emory University in Atlanta, where I |
| 8 | laboratories. | 8 | was Chief Resident. I took my first job as a |
| 9 | Thank you very much for your time. | 9 | physician in New Mexico where my STEM school is. |
| 10 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. | 10 | This STEM program was a stepping stone to |
| 11 | Next is Arianna Thompson. | 11 | propel me to my career. Without it, I would not be |
| 12 | FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning, everyone. | 12 | here. |
| 13 | UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Good morning. | 13 | I believe that students who look like me, |
| 14 | FROM THE FLOOR: So my name is Arianna | 14 | Black women from humble backgrounds, should at least |
| 15 | Thompson, and I'm a second-year medical student at | 15 | have access to an opportunity like I had. And |
| 16 | the University of New Mexico here in Albuquerque. I | 16 | Dr. Campbell with ACES Tech provides that. We do |
| 17 | support ACES Tech because I believe in the | 17 | not know what these children are capable of until we |
| 18 | importance of sparking curiosity in STEM subjects | 18 | try. I pray that this committee votes to do just |
| 19 | early in education. | 19 | that. |
| 20 | As a Black woman, I know that advocacy, | 20 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. And, lastly, |
| 21 | encouragement and a solid educational foundation can | 21 | Cathryn McGill. |
| 22 | make all the difference in developing confidence to | 22 | FROM THE FLOOR: My name is Cathryn McGill |
| 23 | tackle these difficult subjects and reach one's full | 23 | and I'm the director of the New Mexico Black History |
| 24 | potential. | 24 | Organizing Committee. And I believe that all |
| 25 | With the support of many amazing women | 25 | children have the ability to learn. The statistics |


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| 1 | that we see are not the children's fault. | 1 | application -- to me, the -- the responses in the |
| 2 | Ten percent of the students that have -- | 2 | application don't represent the story that we all |
| 3 | in high school who are proficient, the other | 3 | just heard, that I saw a lot of responses in the |
| 4 | 90 percent, it's not their fault that they're not | 4 | application that were, "We're going to do what the |
| 5 | proficient. We need to be able to teach our kids | 5 | State requires." |
| 6 | 21st Century skills of creativity, collaboration, | 6 | The -- the uniqueness and the qualities |
| 7 | and critical thinking, and communication. ACES Tech | 7 | that have been represented here, to me, weren't -- I |
| 8 | Charter School will do that. | 8 | have two different stories that I've read and I've |
| 9 | I believe actually enough has been said. | 9 | heard. And now that's my -- that's my concern at |
| 10 | There should be no question that this school should | 10 | this point in time; so I'd like to dig into that. |
| 11 | be approved and go forward. But I'll leave you with | 11 | Because I think there's that greater story that we |
| 12 | a quote from Paul Freire from Pedagogy of the | 12 | didn't -- that's -- that isn't reflected here. And |
| 13 | Oppressed, who says that, "Education either | 13 | that's I hope what we can spend the time today |
| 14 | functions as an instrument which is used to | 14 | talking about. |
| 15 | facilitate the integration of the younger generation | 15 | So as an example, even when you're looking |
| 16 | into the logic of the present system and bring about | 16 | at the -- and I'm going to try to flip to -- to the |
| 17 | conformity... ." | 17 | graduation requirements -- it's like, "Oh, we're |
| 18 | And I'll just add to those comments and | 18 | going to do what the State requires"; yet, you embed |
| 19 | say that's I'm sure what we want. We don't want our | 19 | in your school -- and I apologize. I think you |
| 20 | kids to not be literate. We don't want them to not | 20 | call -- did you call them "modules"? And I'm going |
| 21 | be proficient in math. | 21 | to try -- |
| 22 | But he said, "...or becomes the practice | 22 | COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: They'll be |
| 23 | of freedom, the means by which men and women deal | 23 | developing modules. |
| 24 | critically and creatively with reality and discover | 24 | THE CHAIR: I'm going to try and find -- |
| 25 | how to participate in the transformation of their | 25 | because there was a class that the students were |
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| 1 | world." | 1 | going to take. |
| 2 | So we're talking about transformation | 2 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Tech Time. |
| 3 | here. And I think that's what ACES Tech is | 3 | THE CHAIR: Maybe it's the Tech Time. |
| 4 | programming. And it will help to deliver that | 4 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: That was a different |
| 5 | moonshot that Governor Lujan Grisham talked about | 5 | class. |
| 6 | that Black children have been left out of. So we | 6 | THE CHAIR: My question was, is that -- |
| 7 | would like to see ACES Tech Charter School go | 7 | no, it's different than the Tech Time. |
| 8 | forward. We thank Dr. Campbell for his leadership | 8 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Right, it's |
| 9 | in providing the opportunity for our next | 9 | different. |
| 10 | generation. | 10 | THE CHAIR: It is different than the Tech |
| 11 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. And thank everyone | 11 | Time. And maybe if I can try to explain that. |
| 12 | for your comments. | 12 | Because there was a discussion about -- and I think |
| 13 | Are we all good? Strap on your | 13 | it was for problem solving. There was a -- I'm |
| 14 | bootstraps. Here we go. | 14 | going to try to find it. Because this was one of |
| 15 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Well, now I'm really | 15 | the questions that I had, that if you're working on |
| 16 | nervous. | 16 | having the students do this -- and I think the |
| 17 | THE CHAIR: No. So I -- once again, I | 17 | purpose was to get the students to think more |
| 18 | appreciate all the time and effort that you've put | 18 | creatively. And it was -- I think it was a course |
| 19 | into this. | 19 | that you -- |
| 20 | And I'm going to say that when I first | 20 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: It was just an |
| 21 | read the mission, my thought was, well, what school | 21 | elective, right. |
| 22 | wouldn't tell you that's what they're going to do? | 22 | THE CHAIR: Oh. So that was my question. |
| 23 | Had your purpose been your mission | 23 | So it's just -- it's just an elective. So a student |
| 24 | statement, I think the story of this application | 24 | doesn't have to take it. |
| 25 | would have been different; because I think the | 25 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: I would say an |


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| 1 | elementary thing. As an example -- all right? So |  | right? So you have to be able to give them real |
| 2 | for instance, there's a course at MIT that | 2 | examples. |
| 3 | essentially says like "How to Build Anything"; they | 3 | So I'll be encouraging teachers to pull |
| 4 | have a course like that. | 4 | from the resources outside the school to say, |
| 5 | So it takes you through these modules, | 5 | "Here's an example." |
| 6 | where you are exposed to various things. So that's | 6 | That's another thing. When I used to go |
| 7 | what the course would be -- | 7 | into schools and speak, teachers would use what I |
| 8 | So, for instance, let's say medicine. | 8 | would say as an example months from that time. |
| 9 | We'll just say medicine, for instance. There are a | 9 | "Remember what Dr. Campbell said? This is |
| 10 | lot of different fields within medicine. So the | 10 | why we're learning this [inaudible] today." |
| 11 | module -- this model is more about surgery. This | 11 | So exposure will be included in every |
| 12 | module is more about the ER. This module is more | 12 | single course and throughout the school. You won't |
| 13 | about optometry, about exposure. It's not linked to | 13 | go into the school without seeing examples of how |
| 14 | core standards or anything like that. Those are | 14 | these things can be applied, professionals in the |
| 15 | strictly an exposure opportunity. | 15 | community and beyond, and various fields and things |
| 16 | -- so, again, when you talk about students | 16 | of that nature. |
| 17 | not knowing what they want to be when they grow up, | 17 | So, just -- it'll be more holistic than |
| 18 | right, you would take them through these six-week | 18 | just -- and it's interesting -- if I can respond |
| 19 | modules where they have a project. And they'll | 19 | briefly to your question, one of the things that I |
| 20 | slay, "Well, I liked that, I didn't like it." But | 20 | think is overlooked is the extent to which we're |
| 21 | then they go to the next one and say, "Wow. This | 21 | forced to answer things a certain way, all right? |
| 22 | one was really interesting." | 22 | So this is a model that gives restrictive |
| 23 | If you don't expose them, there are so | 23 | questions. I had several examples in the past that |
| 24 | many things they won't know what they're interested | 24 | answered those questions. And if you want those |
| 25 | in. Like Mike said, they'll be 30 years old and | 25 | points, you'd better answer it this way. |
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| 1 | say, "Wow, I wish I would have seen this when I was | 1 | So I had to answer in a way that was |
| 2 | a kid." | 2 | acceptable, as opposed to extrapolating too much. |
| 3 | So when I think of my own past, you know, | 3 | You'll see in my data that I put a lot in there |
| 4 | I say, wow, I wish I had been exposed to some of | 4 | about the achievement gap. I wasn't asked for it. |
| 5 | these things. When I heard the word "electrical | 5 | So there are things I extrapolated areas of and |
| 6 | engineer," I had no idea what it was. But it | 6 | provided data and things like that. But I was sure, |
| 7 | fascinated me, right? But nobody ever took me | 7 | because we were told in our training, "You better |
| 8 | through a module, "This is the kind of thing they | 8 | hit every bullet." |
| 9 | do," right? That would be an exposure piece, not a | 9 | So you'll see I purposely went through and |
| 10 | core curriculum thing, more where we do, in other | 10 | answered bullet by bullet. And I got penalized -- I |
| 11 | words, like an elective. | 11 | would hit 11 out of 12 bullets and miss one and lose |
| 12 | THE CHAIR: Right. I understand that. | 12 | half my points, right? So that is why I took the |
| 13 | But to me, that's what -- that's what makes your | 13 | approach I did. |
| 14 | school so unique -- | 14 | So to some extent, you're forcing us into |
| 15 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Right. Right. | 15 | a shell, right, "You better do it this way." I feel |
| 16 | THE CHAIR: -- to offer that exposure. | 16 | if I had really put what I wanted to put into an |
| 17 | So my question -- my question is if it is | 17 | application, it probably would have been scored |
| 18 | an elective, I can then walk through the six years | 18 | really low. |
| 19 | of -- seven years of the school and not be exposed, | 19 | So that's the kind of contradiction that's |
| 20 | if I chose. | 20 | true, but is I think often overlooked. I had to |
| 21 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: No. Do you -- | 21 | answer these questions this way to fit the model |
| 22 | because every class will have a level of exposure, | 22 | that was required. |
| 23 | right? I always tie professional to core. | 23 | DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: Teaching to the test. |
| 24 | Otherwise, you have students -- like, the students | 24 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Right. And they |
| 25 | have asked me in the past, "Why am I learning this," | 25 | warned us, "You better answer these questions this |


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| 1 | way." | 1 | COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: And I was reading |
| 2 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: I will say, though, I | 2 | through the application. And you mentioned a |
| 3 | appreciate the level. Because we have seen a lot of | 3 | culture. And I equated that, a culture of learning |
| 4 | the schools fail that are charter schools. And so, | 4 | and succeeding, which is fantastic. |
| 5 | I mean, yeah -- | 5 | But I also looked at your intended purpose |
| 6 | THE CHAIR: I'm going to caution and say | 6 | to address those students, primarily |
| 7 | not a lot. | 7 | African-American, which is -- and I do understand |
| 8 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: We've seen some fail | 8 | there's a neglect, and it was shown in the recent |
| 9 | for different reasons. It's always good inte- -- | 9 | federal court, Martinez Yazzie, that there is a |
| 10 | and that's -- but I think, like, he's very | 10 | neglect, intentional or not; it is in effect. |
| 11 | passionate. And it was very evident, but, yeah, to | 11 | So I was very interested in this charter |
| 12 | stick to what -- so that we could get -- get into | 12 | school. But I did find that your intent, and by |
| 13 | the approval system. | 13 | having somebody from Chicano -- Chicano -- Africana |
| 14 | And we also -- he put a lot of statistics | 14 | studies in your team, it is that effort. And I |
| 15 | in the budget to really show, like, we're not coming | 15 | found it in the Emulated Characteristics 3, where it |
| 16 | together as just a board of random people who are, | 16 | talks about culturally competent educational |
| 17 | like, "Hey, let's just have a school." | 17 | environment. |
| 18 | He strategically even picked board members | 18 | And in that, I understood that you will |
| 19 | from different areas of expertise and background to | 19 | embed, in all of what has to be taught, English, |
| 20 | make sure that we could give our kids a well-rounded | 20 | history, literature, whatever, the -- the attainment |
| 21 | opportunity. | 21 | of culture. |
| 22 | DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: Again, the -- beating | 22 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Yes. |
| 23 | a dead horse, sort of -- that your question is dead | 23 | COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: I learned early |
| 24 | spot-on. And we -- you would have seen that story | 24 | on that in order to set your future, you have to |
| 25 | played out in our planning meetings and as we've | 25 | understand your past. And your past was who you are |
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| 1 | talked about things; because there are a lot of -- | 1 | presently as a human being. And so that was in |
| 2 | lots of times when we wanted to go there. | 2 | middle school. |
| 3 | But the format doesn't -- doesn't support | 3 | And so I began personally asking my |
| 4 | the "there." And so we wind up getting -- you know, | 4 | parents to tell me about our past. And within the |
| 5 | answering questions clearly, concisely, and trying | 5 | Hispanic culture, we have, in Christmas, tamalada. |
| 6 | to make sure that we conform with the schools that | 6 | And every -- we make tamales as a family or extended |
| 7 | have been successful. | 7 | family. And culturally, the elders take the time to |
| 8 | But we'd love to talk more about -- and we | 8 | convey for the children their story of grandma, |
| 9 | do talk a lot -- about the holistic part of about | 9 | great grandma, great grandpa, mama's side and the |
| 10 | what it is that we would do with our young people. | 10 | same for papa's side. |
| 11 | THE CHAIR: Hopefully, that's what we can | 11 | And so that became very important to me. |
| 12 | get a bigger picture about today. Because as an | 12 | And I think that those type of students -- and I'm |
| 13 | example, if you're looking at those modules, for a | 13 | not familiar with the area. I just know that it's a |
| 14 | school to be able to say, "Well, you know, in order | 14 | very low-income area, all those areas that you -- |
| 15 | to graduate from this school, a student will have to | 15 | that you're targeting -- and so I do understand that |
| 16 | take, you know, two, three, four modules, to me, | 16 | those students need to fully embrace their culture. |
| 17 | that shows a distinction between you and, you know, | 17 | And as a young man, I thought that |
| 18 | the school around the corner. | 18 | Mexicans did not produce any literature, that there |
| 19 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Uh-huh. | 19 | were no philosophers. And as I went through middle |
| 20 | THE CHAIR: So that's what helps to -- to | 20 | school and high school, I learned about all the |
| 21 | stand -- to stand you out. | 21 | literary greats from Latin America; not just Mexico. |
| 22 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Uh-huh. | 22 | All the philosophers, all the engineers. Learned |
| 23 | COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: On that, | 23 | about how math was very important to the Aztec and |
| 24 | Madam Chair? | 24 | the Inca and all those, that math was critical. |
| 25 | THE CHAIR: Sure. | 25 | And so I -- I concentrated on math and |


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| 1 | science, even though it was not big in our school. | 1 | MS. VOIGT: It was under the Graduation |
| 2 | And so I look at this. And I think that it is | 2 | Requirements section. It talked about test -- |
| 3 | intentional on the school to do that. You say that, | 3 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Oh, okay. |
| 4 | "Our team will ensure that teaching and learning | 4 | MS. VOIGT: And it was something about the |
| 5 | modules is made relevant and meaningful to students | 5 | students will have an opportunity to take a test -- |
| 6 | of various cultures," because you are targeting not | 6 | THE CHAIR: I think this is the State's. |
| 7 | just African-American, but Native American and | 7 | MS. VOIGT: -- five times. |
| 8 | Hispanic, Indian. A lot of those folks, in your | 8 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: That is the State |
| 9 | community especially, probably are old-time | 9 | requirement, yeah. That's me again doing what the |
| 10 | New Mexican families that have been here for | 10 | State tells me I have to do. |
| 11 | generations, not the same as my Hispanic -- | 11 | MS. VOIGT: Is there any consideration |
| 12 | "Mexican," as in immigrants. | 12 | given that you're going to be embedding your |
| 13 | And then you say that it will facilitate | 13 | modules, these extra -- like an "elective wheel" |
| 14 | the opportunity to grow the cultural and individual | 14 | component, to your student experiences, a chance for |
| 15 | strength of all students, and teachers will | 15 | those students to be able to present their learning? |
| 16 | participate in professional development to emphasize | 16 | Because I don't know. Do you believe that |
| 17 | the cultural competency and effective instruction in | 17 | testing -- standardized tests represent everything |
| 18 | diverse classrooms. | 18 | that a child knows and is able to do? |
| 19 | So that satisfied the whole idea of the | 19 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Absolutely not. |
| 20 | push and what I believe would be the -- what will | 20 | MS. VOIGT: So it would be really great to |
| 21 | compel the school. | 21 | see some other alternative component to a student |
| 22 | And with that, Madam Chair, I just wanted | 22 | exhibition or presentation that really brings forth |
| 23 | to point it out. | 23 | the richness of a student's knowledge and what |
| 24 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. | 24 | they've learned at your school or at their job site |
| 25 | Commissioner Voigt? | 25 | or with their mentor. |
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| 1 | COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thank you. Good | 1 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: I absolutely agree |
| 2 | morning. Thank you so much for sharing your passion | 2 | with that. Before Ms. Sims chimes in, absolutely. |
| 3 | and your inspiration and your truth to bring forward | 3 | The project-based learning is a huge part of it. |
| 4 | this application. | 4 | Again being an engineer, I absolutely believe in |
| 5 | I wanted to just segue off of what | 5 | hands-on learning. |
| 6 | Commissioner Gipson was saying about those truths | 6 | Students will have the opportunity, as |
| 7 | coming forth in your application. Because when I | 7 | part of their classes, to do projects and present. |
| 8 | did read this -- and I was reading your mission -- | 8 | Every student at my school is on PowerPoint to be |
| 9 | it didn't sound very unique or innovative. | 9 | comfortable in front of people presenting. So |
| 10 | But with this experience that you're all | 10 | that's a very strong skill that builds confidence. |
| 11 | holding and bringing forward, to open this dynamic, | 11 | But you have to have something to present. |
| 12 | justice-related school is very exciting. So I know | 12 | So it would be part of the school environment and |
| 13 | that's going to come through with your programs and | 13 | the lessons that they learn. |
| 14 | your curriculum. | 14 | I encourage teachers -- some teachers |
| 15 | I just had some questions regarding some | 15 | aren't comfortable presenting. So it teaches them |
| 16 | of the traditional points that were put in your | 16 | those skills as well, what a strong presentation |
| 17 | application, such as, on Page 47, you were talking | 17 | looks like and what it takes to get a project done |
| 18 | about testing, the graduation test. I mean, the | 18 | effectively. You saw multiple intelligences. There |
| 19 | kids are going to be taking this test maybe up to | 19 | are multiple styles of teaching. There are |
| 20 | five times in order to receive their diploma. | 20 | definitely different ways of demonstrating learning |
| 21 | That -- it was on Page 47. | 21 | other than taking a test, for sure. |
| 22 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: You have a graded | 22 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: There's also, under |
| 23 | one | 23 | Section F of the application under the Instructional |
| 24 | THE CHAIR: We have a PDF format; so it is | 24 | part, it says, "Target college and career-ready |
| 25 | on this one, Graduation Requirements. | 25 | accomplishments." |

Every senior has to complete and present a STEM-focused senior project and then 40 hours of community service. We want to see they're, like -it could be a culmination. They could change through their classes; but before they leave, we want them to see this big project as another way to show mastery. Hopefully that helps.

MS. VOIGT: It does. Thank you. It would be really super for your school to have those represented in your -- in your goals and how you measure your school, not just reading and math. I mean, those are, you know, default pieces, right? But to be able to highlight the uniqueness that you are going to be doing and to really speak to that is going to, I think, help your school to speak to those creative qualities that are just ACES Tech.

Everyone is doing reading and math; right? So --

THE CHAIR: That's why I think if the purpose had been the mission, it would have been easier to create those goals; because that -- that would drive those goals. So I think maybe we need to look to see if we can change the mission around a little bit. Yeah, I -- I do.

DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: If I could add to

COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Thank you. I guess this is focused to Dr. Campbell. I like that you said, you know, you were data-driven. I, too, am data-driven. However, in the past, data has been used to change education in our public system and has kind of damaged teacher evaluations, kids taking tests every week, every day, whatever the case may be. I just kind of am interested in how you would use your data to -- not to do that.

DR. JERON CAMPBELL: All right. There's only one reason. Improvement. That's it. Data should be used to improve, not for punitive reasons. It should never be used for punitive reasons.

As a person who gives tests, designs tests, that's not the purpose. The purpose is to understand where we are today to establish a plan for being better today. Improvement. That means it can't be used in those punitive ways.

And I think it's a shame. As far as I'm concerned -- imagine a child walking to school -for instance -- I've been in several districts, so I've seen several teacher evaluation methods. I was over teacher evaluation in one of the districts.

And we would penalize a teacher based on a test score. But when you imagine a child walking
that, there's also -- you know, within the application, we talked about the value proposition of the school. But that's not present here. And that's where you would see more of that kind -- you know, "This is what we are offering," and having that kind of flip of the purpose and the mission, if you will.

THE CHAIR: Right.
DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: So hopefully at some point, you know, that will also become part of the process here, you know. I'm not sure how we have an application that has mission, purpose, and does not have the value proposition required. I think schools should be required to talk through that value proposition.

MS. VOIGT: I agree.
THE CHAIR: And I appreciate this. Because, you know, we're -- we're in an evolving group. So we changed the application. So we also -- it may not have been helpful for you; but ultimately, it becomes helpful for us and future applicants to hear this and understand the struggles and move on and make changes when they are appropriate. So we do appreciate this.

Commissioner Raftery?
through the school throughout the day, they don't see one teacher, right? You don't know which teacher is influencing reading, for instance. It doesn't have to always be the teacher you thought it might be, right?

You don't know which teacher is influencing various parts of what makes a child successful or not successful in school.

So to blame one teacher based on some test score -- I don't know how you prove that logically, right? But it's easy and convenient for people who are too lazy to dig deeper into data and are more involved in -- I would say their motive is improvement versus trying to penalize people.

COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: I think you should share some of that wisdom with PED. We really went overboard with the data and how it went and the direction it went in. And that's when I thought to --

DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: We also -- we distinguish, when we talk about using data, between assessing the student or assessing the teacher and talking about the student learning outcomes that we're after. Because we can use data to measure that.

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| 1 | And so we will stick to that and | 1 | going into the Alvin Ailey program at Fordham in |
| 2 | rigorously see if we think that we're teaching you | 2 | New York. And to this day, she's a dancer in |
| 3 | $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$, and Z , and we're only teaching you X and Y , we | 3 | Brooklyn, New York. |
| 4 | need to know that. That isn't necessarily a mark on | 4 | And so why can't a dancer know calculus? |
| 5 | you, the student, or even a mark on the teacher. In | 5 | There's nothing wrong with that, you know? So she's |
| 6 | terms of professional development, is our | 6 | just a really smart dancer, you know. |
| 7 | professional development producing the kind of | 7 | And so my students -- again, it's about |
| 8 | outcomes from our students that we -- and using | 8 | finding the innate talents in the student and then |
| 9 | data, that's the only way we can connect those dots. | 9 | doing everything we can to help develop those |
| 10 | COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: And we are | 10 | talents, you know. |
| 11 | changing, and the new administration has proved we | 11 | So STEAM and STEM are the same, just |
| 12 | are changing that, and we are going in a different | 12 | because you add letters. I don't know what will be |
| 13 | direction. So I think that maybe this direction | 13 | next. STEAMSHIP. But at the end of the day, the |
| 14 | might be a good one. Thank you. | 14 | focus really will be the technical side, right, |
| 15 | THE CHAIR: So I'm a history major. So | 15 | concerning a lot of opportunities and plans. We |
| 16 | I'm a humanities-driven person. Somehow I got out | 16 | will have the advanced math and the advanced |
| 17 | of my undergrad with a minor in biology, and I still | 17 | science. But that is by no means -- you can be an |
| 18 | can't figure that out. But I embrace STEAM. I | 18 | engineer and also know how to play trumpet, right? |
| 19 | certainly understand STEM. But where are the arts | 19 | So nothing is wrong with that. We will try to find |
| 20 | in the program, you know? So -- | 20 | those innate talents in those kids. |
| 21 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Absolutely a huge | 21 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Can I add to that? |
| 22 | part of this program, all right? So if you look at | 22 | It ties back. As an educator, Commissioner Raftery, |
| 23 | my schedule, four classes before lunch, four classes | 23 | I appreciate your take on the data. It is a means |
| 24 | after. Every single student in my school will take | 24 | to improve, and we're looking at that. |
| 25 | art; every single student will take music. There's | 25 | But then the really exciting part of the |
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| 1 | no exceptions. | 1 | arts that I really was just enthused about is not |
| 2 | So -- I played cello as a young person. | 2 | just the exposure; but when we incorporate that Tech |
| 3 | My family could not afford private lessons or an | 3 | Time, to have the teachers to really give them solid |
| 4 | instrument. I had to give it up. My nephew started | 4 | PD on how to foster that and let the kids drive this |
| 5 | playing violin at 3 , changed to cello at 6 . I paid | 5 | moment every day that they get to work on their |
| 6 | for lessons, and I paid for an instrument. | 6 | passion. So if we had our pre-AP calc girl who |
| 7 | He played my cello through his formative | 7 | wants to do AP calc, that wants to do dance, we have |
| 8 | years. Joshua is now amazing, one of the top | 8 | the teachers take on that mentorship and really help |
| 9 | cellists in the country. He's just finished his | 9 | them explore it. |
| 10 | freshman year at Juilliard under scholarship. Every | 10 | Because I 100 percent agree there's so |
| 11 | kid is not going to be an engineer or a doctor. And | 11 | much more than data points, just like the art of |
| 12 | that's okay. Whatever your passion is, I'm going to | 12 | teaching. It's so much more than teaching to a |
| 13 | support it. As long as it's legal, I'm good. | 13 | test. It's an art. And that's what we're trying to |
| 14 | So -- you know. And so music, arts. And | 14 | show them is everything you do is an art. Culinary |
| 15 | I'll give one more example. My program in Detroit, | 15 | arts. It's an art. It's not just throwing stuff |
| 16 | the ACT prep, there was a young lady who came in as | 16 | into -- everything is an art. |
| 17 | a student, AP calc student, right? So she told me | 17 | DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: Your question was |
| 18 | she had AP calculus. | 18 | essentially my very first question when I was asked |
| 19 | I said, "I know you want to be an | 19 | if I want to participate in this. And I was very |
| 20 | engineer," right? | 20 | interested in ideas like when you have a student |
| 21 | She was, like, "No, I want to major in | 21 | that's interested in poetry, when you talk about |
| 22 | dance." | 22 | scansion and the science of scansion, how does that |
| 23 | I was, like, Dance? You know, it really | 23 | work? When you talk about music, how do we use |
| 24 | threw me off. She was a great example for me. This | 24 | music theory to, you know, add the scientific |
| 25 | was very early in my program. And she ended up | 25 | element to the arts for those kids who are |


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| 1 | interested in it. | 1 | information. |
| 2 | And I was satisfied immediately with the | 2 | MR. DAN HILL: Okay. |
| 3 | rigor of the curriculum and the broad -- its breadth | 3 | THE CHAIR: So I'm going to tell you that. |
| 4 | and its depth in the arts as well. | 4 | So that's concerning to me. But that's not on you. |
| 5 | So we're excited about -- the STEM will | 5 | MR. DAN HILL: Sorry. |
| 6 | clearly be our focus. But we are going to use some | 6 | THE CHAIR: So then I have less of a |
| 7 | creative ways to integrate the arts and -- STEAM, I | 7 | concern here. So we're kind of -- you're off the |
| 8 | think, is probably what we should be calling it. | 8 | hook on that one, because we're not -- so we're -- |
| 9 | THE CHAIR: Thanks. I appreciate that. | 9 | so that's not -- that's not a concern. |
| 10 | So let's talk a little bit about facility. Because | 10 | But I do have -- I guess I just have a |
| 11 | usually we're talking to a school that's, wow, you | 11 | couple of general questions about the use of the |
| 12 | know, here's the real estate book, and maybe we can | 12 | building. |
| 13 | find someplace in there. So you're in a different | 13 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Okay. |
| 14 | position with that. | 14 | THE CHAIR: Because it is -- it's a large |
| 15 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Yes. | 15 | building. So your initial plan is to just use a |
| 16 | THE CHAIR: And we're kind of familiar | 16 | small piece of it for the early lease-out and -- |
| 17 | with the building. | 17 | 'cause -- and not make use of the -- I guess the |
| 18 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Uh-huh. | 18 | athletic facilities that -- or -- or no? |
| 19 | THE CHAIR: So -- but I guess maybe a | 19 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: No. I would lease |
| 20 | concern, you're only a mile away from another | 20 | the whole -- I mean, my opinion, it's not that |
| 21 | charter that we're opening. I think it's about a | 21 | large, it used to be church; she did do some |
| 22 | mile. | 22 | remodeling. But 125 , if I get my full complement of |
| 23 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Which one? | 23 | enrollment I think we would probably fit in the |
| 24 | THE CHAIR: From Solare. | 24 | current building in the first two years, right? |
| 25 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: They're across the | 25 | So -- now that building, if you look at |
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| 1 | river. | 1 | the -- there was -- you've probably been in there. |
| 2 | THE CHAIR: My understanding, they were a | 2 | But there's this big gym area with these steel |
| 3 | mile when they came to us and said they had to | 3 | beams. And she said when this building was built, |
| 4 | temporarily move. We were told a mile. | 4 | it was built so that you could actually put a second |
| 5 | MR. DAN HILL: Madam Chair, can I answer | 5 | floor there. |
| 6 | that? | 6 | There's actually multiple options in that |
| 7 | THE CHAIR: Sure. | 7 | particular building. When I met with Rachael -- and |
| 8 | MR. DAN HILL: I represent Solare, and I | 8 | this is random -- there's been some movement with |
| 9 | can speak to that. So this first school year for | 9 | that building over at SAHQ Academy. I met with |
| 10 | about half the school year, they're actually going | 10 | Rachael. |
| 11 | to be in this building. | 11 | She said, "Oh, yeah. We're the ones going |
| 12 | THE CHAIR: Right. | 12 | to be in there for the first half of the year." |
| 13 | MR. DAN HILL: And their permanent | 13 | I look at that as a positive. It |
| 14 | location is actually almost out on the Southwest | 14 | alleviates the landlord wait, wait to get another |
| 15 | Mesa. So it's like 98th and Bridge, I think. It's | 15 | tenant. But I know somebody's in there, and I know |
| 16 | pretty south of us. | 16 | it's a school, and I know she has similar age groups |
| 17 | THE CHAIR: We were told that the | 17 | and population as myself. So I'm actually getting |
| 18 | temporary move was only a mile from the -- from the | 18 | to see that building in action with a school in |
| 19 | original site, and that's why they'd still be in the | 19 | there similar to my same-age students. |
| 20 | same neighborhood. So that's why. | 20 | So -- and I know Rachael. So actually, |
| 21 | MR. DAN HILL: I don't think that's | 21 | that is very much a positive. I did meet with the |
| 22 | accurate. I know they're providing transportation | 22 | owner with CPRE as well. So we did discuss how it |
| 23 | from their permanent site. | 23 | might work in terms of -- she has a church using it |
| 24 | THE CHAIR: I know. I'm going to tell you | 24 | on Sundays. She has multiple people leasing in |
| 25 | the information that came to me was that | 25 | terms of arrangement. But I think in terms of size, |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | it should be okay. It's not that huge a space for | 1 | And I'm glad to see Mr. Vigil here. His |
| 2 | classrooms, at least, if you have that many | 2 | support and knowledge will be able to help you a |
| 3 | students. | 3 | lot. That would be one area that I'd really stress |
| 4 | THE CHAIR: Right. And not for you -- so | 4 | attention to. Minor things, not having a PO in |
| 5 | do you anticipate that at some point in time, you | 5 | place when your purchases are made, overpaying for |
| 6 | may be looking at actually expanding that building | 6 | certain expenses, personal expenses, some travel or |
| 7 | or having to -- because -- what? You're | 7 | something like that, paying the federal rate instead |
| 8 | 8-and-a-quarter or -- | 8 | of what the state allows, little things like that. |
| 9 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Yes, at full | 9 | But they do cause a lot of concerns from a |
| 10 | enrollment. | 10 | financial standpoint, because we are using State |
| 11 | THE CHAIR: At full capacity. | 11 | dollars to support the school and everything. |
| 12 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: We wouldn't fit into | 12 | One of the things that you mentioned, |
| 13 | the current building. So either I would move to | 13 | Dr. Campbell, was bringing in that component of how |
| 14 | another location after the first couple of years or | 14 | what they're learning can be applied, why are they |
| 15 | we would go into the whole lease-purchase. | 15 | learning it? |
| 16 | I know I can't improve a private person's | 16 | One of the things that I enjoyed most in |
| 17 | building. So if we were to go into a lease-purchase | 17 | growing up, when I was in sixth grade -- I don't |
| 18 | and decided we wanted to build there, maybe that was | 18 | know if they do this anymore -- I was required to |
| 19 | cheaper than trying to do something else, finding | 19 | select six professions that I might be interested |
| 20 | grant money or something like that to help us do | 20 | in. And, of course, fireman, police, doctor, those |
| 21 | that, that would be an option maybe for the third or | 21 | were all there, lawyer. Those were all there. |
| 22 | fourth year to expand that size. | 22 | But then I had contractor. My dad was a |
| 23 | So I don't know if the building in its | 23 | contractor, okay? Easy to talk with a contractor. |
| 24 | current state is large enough for my full | 24 | I don't know if students do that. And that was in |
| 25 | enrollment. But it definitely is a great location | 25 | sixth grade. |
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| 1 | in the meantime for the first couple of years and, | 1 | And I had to write at least a one page on |
| 2 | potentially, a couple of years from now, depending | 2 | what this profession does, what is the educational |
| 3 | on what we do. But the location overall is | 3 | requirements, what areas do you really have to |
| 4 | excellent. Being right near CNM, UNM, Presbyterian, | 4 | stress and build. |
| 5 | as a resource, it's awesome. | 5 | My dentist likes to work with students and |
| 6 | THE CHAIR: It is. And it certainly takes | 6 | mentor them, because a lot of students -- you know, |
| 7 | tremendous weight off of a new charter, because | 7 | nowadays we have huge problem with at-risk students. |
| 8 | that's probably the biggest hurdle that all of our | 8 | They get involved in gangs; they get involved in |
| 9 | new schools face is finding a place and getting that | 9 | drugs; they get involved -- that can knock them out |
| 10 | plan and getting in in time; so that you would have | 10 | of any medical or dental school. It knocks them |
| 11 | all that time to truly plan out your first -- you | 11 | out, period. They have that on their record, boom, |
| 12 | know, your start. | 12 | they're gone. |
| 13 | So that's -- and, you know, you don't like | 13 | Bring in that expertise and knowledge from |
| 14 | to have to close a school. But that's the ideal | 14 | people in the community. And what I'm hearing is |
| 15 | situation is someone else can come in and occupy | 15 | that's your intent. That enriches -- when I taught |
| 16 | that space. I think that makes everyone feel a | 16 | finance at the University of New Mexico, the |
| 17 | little more comfortable. | 17 | Anderson School, I used to love to bring in bankers, |
| 18 | Commissioners? | 18 | you know, or someone who did, you know, a trade, |
| 19 | Commissioner Robbins. | 19 | bring in people that had that experience and talk |
| 20 | COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: This was addressed | 20 | with the students that this is what the application |
| 21 | a little bit in some of the comments. Because they | 21 | of what you're learning does, to see are they really |
| 22 | address the financial and administrative. That's | 22 | interested in pursuing that. |
| 23 | usually the area where charters tend to have | 23 | Mine was an undergraduate class. Everyone |
| 24 | problems that we wind up having to address with | 24 | wanted to get into business and they had to take it. |
| 25 | them. | 25 | So a lot of them are going into human resources or |


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| 1 | marketing or something other than finance. | 1 | read the words, they don't understand the concept |
| 2 | But letting them know what that field | 2 | that those words are trying to convey. And it's |
| 3 | does, I think, is so empowering. It's just like | 3 | either because of lack of experience or they haven't |
| 4 | what your colleague on your right said about wanting | 4 | been encouraged to be creative. |
| 5 | to be an astronaut; you know, what is it that it | 5 | And my mom was an elementary schoolteacher |
| 6 | takes to be an astronaut, you know. | 6 | for over 30 years. And first grade was most of |
| 7 | I also watched every launch when I was a | 7 | that. She loved the creativity of her first few |
| 8 | kid. I would watch those with awe. My mom bought | 8 | grandkids and everything that she spent much time |
| 9 | us one of these little displays with the little | 9 | with. And up until the time that she passed away, |
| 10 | lights and everything. It was a Mercury capsule | 10 | she loved playing pirate and stuff like that, |
| 11 | inside, and the lights would flash on. It didn't do | 11 | because the creativity that it would give that child |
| 12 | anything other than flash on. | 12 | and bringing that in, the innovation, you know. |
| 13 | But it kept us interested in the science | 13 | As an engineer, you know, if you don't |
| 14 | and things like that. I was one of these odd kids | 14 | have creativity -- you can do the project, but it's |
| 15 | that when I was in high school, I took trig and calc | 15 | going to be rote stuff that's just kind of the same |
| 16 | as an elective. Less than 10 percent of my | 16 | old thing. Having that creativity allows you to |
| 17 | calculating class took trig and calc. But I went on | 17 | expand and bring in that -- I'm very, very glad to |
| 18 | and got my degree in finance. So go figure, right? | 18 | see that you have that as a background, a lot of the |
| 19 | But the numbers, I loved the numbers and | 19 | individuals, but also that you want to stress that |
| 20 | the data. I was a statistician originally and then | 20 | in the school. |
| 21 | a financial analyst in former lives. One of the | 21 | Because a lot of times it is just |
| 22 | things that I think that creativity is is not just | 22 | language, that you go through -- maybe our |
| 23 | doing the numbers. What do the numbers show? The | 23 | application does the same thing, we can work on |
| 24 | numbers are numbers. They don't mean a whole lot | 24 | that, to really allow people to demonstrate who they |
| 25 | unless you can get the story behind those numbers. | 25 | are, not just what they are. |
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| 1 | And, you know, a lot of people, they don't | 1 | So thank you. |
| 2 | put the two together. Having that combination is | 2 | THE CHAIR: Commissioner Ruiz? |
| 3 | going to be very, very important. | 3 | COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Good morning. And |
| 4 | So having the support from the community, | 4 | thank you for the time and effort that you all put |
| 5 | having professionals that have gone through the | 5 | into this. I know it's a lot of work. |
| 6 | experiences that a lot of the students that you will | 6 | A couple of questions. I really like that |
| 7 | be targeting have had and letting them know, "This | 7 | you said that you were -- I liked the breakdown. |
| 8 | is how you go from where you're at, where you may | 8 | You have 62 percent Hispanic, 21 percent Caucasian, |
| 9 | want to go," that's going to be very, very powerful. | 9 | 8 percent Native American, 6 percent Black, |
| 10 | But, again, I wanted to stress and address | 10 | 3 percent Asian, 16 percent special needs, |
| 11 | what Mr. Vigil's area -- his expertise and | 11 | 28 percent ELL, and 76 percent free-and-reduced. |
| 12 | background will be able to provide. Because it's | 12 | And I like where you wrote that, in the application, |
| 13 | not just for the administration; it's for the | 13 | that you were going to try to work with women of |
| 14 | teachers, too. Because that's something that I | 14 | color, female, and all the different |
| 15 | think gets embedded. | 15 | underrepresented populations. |
| 16 | I remember when I took civics in ninth | 16 | I know you talked about having family |
| 17 | grade. I was taught how to balance a checkbook. | 17 | meet-and-greets. And so I guess one of my |
| 18 | Okay. That was just part of my civics class. It | 18 | questions -- I have two questions. One of them |
| 19 | wasn't financial education, per se. It was how to | 19 | would be -- so when you're in an economically |
| 20 | balance a checkbook. | 20 | depressed neighborhood, in New Mexico, we're high up |
| 21 | And so these are the little things that | 21 | on the poverty level. You have a lot of families |
| 22 | you can incorporate into every type of thing. Like | 22 | who work two jobs or who have potential childcare |
| 23 | you said, you incorporate things, not just, "Here's | 23 | issues. |
| 24 | the numbers," or, "Here's a story." And a lot of | 24 | So I guess my question is I know you're |
| 25 | people, you know, that I've experienced, they can | 25 | going to do family outreach. What are we going to |


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| 1 | do specifically to reach those families? Because | 1 | be involved and engaged in the school, you gave a |
| 2 | historically, when you have parents -- well, | 2 | leadership role, now that person's now getting out |
| 3 | anywhere, it's hard to get parents involved. | 3 | and getting other parents involved. That worked out |
| 4 | So talk to me about your parental | 4 | for that school. |
| 5 | engagement, please. | 5 | I always think of that as an example. |
| 6 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Okay. In the | 6 | It's not so much for us to tell a parent how to get |
| 7 | application under Engagement, I actually did a | 7 | involved. But a lot of parents themselves will come |
| 8 | little research on it. I have my own personal | 8 | in and look for ways to get engaged and involved as |
| 9 | experience, obviously. I did want to look at | 9 | well. And to lead the parent involvement |
| 10 | research as well. | 10 | opportunity, it doesn't have to be the school leader |
| 11 | One of my figures is six types of | 11 | or somebody in the school designated to do all the |
| 12 | involvement. The reason you want various types, | 12 | talking at the parent meeting, right? Let a parent |
| 13 | various people get involved for different reasons. | 13 | lead the effort, come up with new ideas, find ways |
| 14 | Different people need for you to approach them in | 14 | to help kids get more acclimated at the school. |
| 15 | different ways to be reached, right? | 15 | We understand there's a lot of cultures in |
| 16 | So, obviously, there's the SIS -- I'll | 16 | this area. There's parents who have the need for |
| 17 | just start with a few things. But the SIS is one. | 17 | interpretation, that type of thing, language |
| 18 | Using PowerSchool, for instance, as an example. The | 18 | services and things like that, or even help make |
| 19 | parents has access to the data from school and home; | 19 | sure things are translated correctly, things of that |
| 20 | right? So they're at least putting them in their | 20 | nature. |
| 21 | hands, presuming they have cell phones, Internet, | 21 | So I look for ways of parents to be |
| 22 | that type of thing. So this is for that population. | 22 | involved in a number of ways. We're going to reach |
| 23 | But they will be able to communicate with teachers, | 23 | you at home through technology, flyers, e-mails, |
| 24 | write using their phone. They'll be able to see the | 24 | that kind of thing, but give you opportunities to |
| 25 | student, whether they attended that day, right? So | 25 | come in the building and be engaged as well, through |
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| 1 | attendance, their grades, their quiz scores, things | 1 | having a parent portal, station, right there in the |
| 2 | like that, so the parent has a way to stay involved | 2 | building, and also finding other ways for people to |
| 3 | using electronics and technology. So that's one | 3 | be involved. |
| 4 | level. | 4 | Another thing we're offering, |
| 5 | Obviously, when students register, you | 5 | communicating with parents and offering services. |
| 6 | have access to the parent. So you can ask the | 6 | So there are resources in the community. The school |
| 7 | parent at that time, you know, "Is getting involved | 7 | should be a place where parents can come to learn |
| 8 | something you'd be interested in doing? Here's an | 8 | about resources in the community that may even help |
| 9 | example of how you can be involved." | 9 | their own personal situation. So whether it be |
| 10 | Make sure when you do have them that you | 10 | language acquisition in the community here, |
| 11 | ask them, that you ask them, "Hey, you can come | 11 | something along those lines, but also just city |
| 12 | utilize resources here at the school." | 12 | services that are available, that's something that |
| 13 | One thing I've seen is a parent center in | 13 | we can do in terms of involving the parents is |
| 14 | the school. You have a computer there; they can use | 14 | making sure we do workshops and things where parents |
| 15 | the computer when they come in. | 15 | could learn about resources in the community. |
| 16 | Of course, I'll give you my best example | 16 | And a lot those are tied to education |
| 17 | from Detroit Public Schools. There was a parent | 17 | anyway. We'll find that some of the hurdles that |
| 18 | who, let's just say the principal wasn't too happy | 18 | our kids are having from being engaged in while |
| 19 | when this person came in the door, right? But they | 19 | being successful in the school have to do with |
| 20 | found a way to turn what they looked at as annoying | 20 | things at home. So helping the parent get over |
| 21 | into a positive. And basically, she -- the | 21 | those things through services we can offer, even if |
| 22 | principal, instead of, like, being combative with | 22 | it's just information, would be helpful as well. |
| 23 | the parent, asked the parent to lead the parental | 23 | So I am a firm believer. You cannot be |
| 24 | involvement efforts, right? | 24 | successful as a school without the involvement of |
| 25 | And so now a person who has the passion to | 25 | the parents. They are the primary teacher. Their |


|  | influence is greater than -- even as much time as | 1 | volunteering to learning at home, decision-making, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | they spend at school, a parent can say one thing, | 2 | and then I think probably most important |
| 3 | and the kid remembers that, right, because that's | 3 | collaborating with the community, building that |
| 4 | their mom, that's their dad, that's who they listen | 4 | sense of community service beginning with the family |
| 5 | to and want to be like. | 5 | unit. |
| 6 | So I understand the importance of making | 6 | So very much interested in parental |
| 7 | sure parents are engaged and involved. | 7 | involvement. |
| 8 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: Can I add to that, | 8 | COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Thank you. |
| 9 | too? We're not the experts. We look at schools who | 9 | And so my second question -- I know it's |
| 10 | have good parent engagement. We've looked at | 10 | in your application, but I'd kind of just like to |
| 11 | parent-teacher conferences and even, you know, how | 11 | hear it from you, too. So I did see that you had |
| 12 | can we accommodate for childcare, like things that | 12 | included all of those. So for SpEd and those other |
| 13 | we think can come along the road -- I was at a | 13 | underrepresented populations, our SpEd, our kids |
| 14 | school where all parent-teacher conferences were at | 14 | with disability, our ELs, the IEPs, can you talk to |
| 15 | night where the whole family came. And you'd be | 15 | me a little bit more about what your plan for them |
| 16 | overwhelmed how many people actually showed up. And | 16 | is, please? |
| 17 | it was wonderful. | 17 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: I know that Cassandra |
| 18 | But having the workshops, like he was | 18 | has a lot more experience than me with this. I |
| 19 | saying, to help the parents understand what a 4 | 19 | would say from an overall standpoint, again, I've |
| 20 | means compared to a 3. Or looking at the data. | 20 | never been a traditional teacher. I walked into |
| 21 | "What does that mean for my kid? Okay. So what | 21 | education at a director level based on my experience |
| 22 | does this PARCC score actually mean?" | 22 | and everything. I shouldn't say -- I've taught ACT |
| 23 | And helping them see -- because a lot of | 23 | prep for 20 years taught in classrooms. That's |
| 24 | our parents, especially once you get to the middle | 24 | traditional kind of teaching. |
| 25 | and secondary, they kind of pull back. I don't know | 25 | But when I was at Harvard, I took a class. |
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| 1 | how to help you anymore, and I don't know what that | 1 | And it's interesting, because even though I was a |
| 2 | means and I don't know so I'm going to push back." | 2 | non-traditional educator, I was the only one of my |
| 3 | So we want to help our parents and empower | 3 | cohorts who took this class on special education. |
| 4 | our parents to want to be a part of that by helping | 4 | The professor, Tom Hehir, he made one statement that |
| 5 | them understand the data part, too. | 5 | totally changed my philosophy in terms of how I feel |
| 6 | COMMISSIONER RUIZ: And that's correct. I | 6 | towards special education. He said, "Everybody has |
| 7 | want to [inaudible] parental engagement. I still | 7 | a disability." |
| 8 | work at a high school. It's a traditional public | 8 | And it's just that one statement that |
| 9 | school. And parental engagement is a challenge for | 9 | really made me think, "What challenges do I have, |
| 10 | every school. So I always want to hear, you know, | 10 | right?" Here's the first one, you know. I mean, |
| 1 | what we're going to do to do that, because that | 11 | you know -- (Indicates.) |
| 12 | continues to be a challenge for all of us. | 12 | COMMISSIONER RUIZ: I think we all do. |
| 13 | DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: One of the things | 13 | She doesn't. |
| 14 | that we found really encouraging in the data | 14 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: This is an |
| 15 | collection, if you will, from that community, Jeron | 15 | accommodation. So just because it's popular and, |
| 16 | went out and did surveys around the community. And | 16 | quote, unquote, easy to fix doesn't mean that it's |
| 17 | that was one of the key factors that the parents | 17 | not a disability. |
| 18 | identified as being key to success in the school. | 18 | So if I have the opportunity to have my |
| 19 | And so we have that predisposition for | 19 | own physical challenge, or whatever, addressed, |
| 20 | parental involvement that we might not have | 20 | every student deserves that exact same amount of |
| 21 | anticipated. We didn't have those data from Jeron's | 21 | effort and support to make sure they can be |
| 22 | study. In the application, Figure 81, if you look | 22 | successful and access the curriculum as well. |
| 23 | on the sample practices, all -- for instructional | 23 | So that class was extremely beneficial to |
| 24 | support, all of those instructional support sample | 24 | me in terms of my just learning the various |
| 25 | practices involve parents, from communicating and | 25 | disabilities and the laws behind it and all that, |

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1 and making sure we knew the law. But it became a core part of how I feel toward education and making sure that we address the needs of students -- you've got to follow the rules. Obviously, when the student is enrolled, we want to make sure we ask whether you've had services in the past so we can get a copy of the IEP from past schools. That's not always possible, I've heard from some people.

So you can do another IEP meeting for the student to make sure that you reassess them right there.

For new students that are suggested, we have the SAT process, et cetera, with the three tiers. So all of that is in the application, as you stated.

But at the end of the day, the bottom line is to make sure that any student who requires services receives those services. So for me, the 30-day limit is the law, and we'll make sure we meet that. But it's more than meeting the law. It's ensuring that every student has equal access to the curriculum. Cassandra?

MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: That's my super-passion. I get super-passionate about that area. Especially like you mentioned ELLs. So

I finally learned, like, it isn't. I think of it as a super-power. Like, we want them to embrace it. It makes you who you are.

Like, okay, my daughter is dyslexic.
She's graduating at 17 this year with three associate's degrees, top of her class, for someone who's dyslexic.

So it's really something that we're super-passionate about. It all goes down to teaching your teachers. They just don't know how to do it. We're really focused on teacher development. And the whole thing that hooked me is if we take really good care of our teachers and we teach them well, they're going to take care of our students. I was, "All right. I'm on. Let's go."

I think that's going to help with the ELL and the IEP, the special education population.

COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Just the last thing just to comment. Thank you all for sharing your story. I think Commissioner Armbruster and I were both fighting back tears over here. I think it's a wonderful example that you set for our children that we can come from places of challenges and obstacles and still overcome those, whether it's a disability, our race, whatever that is, and -- you know -- and

1 that's what my second master's is in is TESOL.
2 That's where my mom got me into education. So we're looking, when we say data-driven, I want to know what is their access level? How close are they? Where are they in this? Where are they in that? What parts of the access level?

We, as a board, have committees set up to where he brings us the data. And I'm going to be like, "Oh, no, no, no."

That's where I am very passionate. A lot of times students on IEPs are underserved. And I don't think teachers do it on purpose. So that's something else I told them. I said I will volunteer to teach your teachers how to look at an IEP at a glance and what they can do. I will volunteer to teach students.

Like, I am allowed to ask for additional repeated instructions. Oh, I'm doing an assignment. I can actually ask for extended time.

But a lot of these kids don't even know what they can ask for. And so we really want to empower the kids, too, and we're trying to build a culture where -- I obviously have a disability of ADHD if you can't tell. I'm all over, right? So I was always taught that it was a bad thing. And then
want better for our kids. So I thank you for that.
THE CHAIR: Commissioner Voigt?
COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thank you. It's great that you're coming from a strength model rather than a deficit model. So thanks for explaining that.

I just had a couple of questions regarding your career preparation for your students. And it was awesome to see all the business representation here at this community input meeting.

Do you plan on having any of your partners help design your curriculum?

DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Absolutely. I intend to recruit a professional advisory committee, I've already started. Some of the people here I've already asked for -- to participate. And essentially the main goal of that is to ensure that as we -- I can't say I'm preparing students for the future and not bring the future into the school, right?

So these are the people who can tell us at [inaudible] and at Sandia, this is what we're seeing, right, and these are skills we want kids to know. And by the way, ten years from now, this is a big project that's coming in that kids can help

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| 1 | prepare for. These are the computer languages that | 1 | that I found amazing, too, is why should a kid not |
| 2 | have become hot, being used more frequently. | 2 | graduate from high school with two or three |
| 3 | So those are the kind of things that will | 3 | certificates in their pocket? These programs are |
| 4 | help drive what we're offering in the school. I've | 4 | available; right? |
| 5 | already started talking to partners in terms of what | 5 | So we're going to actually put a plan in |
| 6 | computer languages we should offer. Pick a random | 6 | place that says, by grade, what certificates these |
| 7 | one. Why not pick one that's going to lead to a job | 7 | kids can go through. And my hope is that the |
| 8 | when they graduate? | 8 | majority of the students will take advantage of |
| 9 | The medicine component, there are just | 9 | that, right? |
| 10 | things that a person who's in the profession can | 10 | Sometimes it's just a two- or three-day |
| 11 | tell you that you just can't learn at school or | 11 | course, right, and they go through the course and |
| 12 | don't learn at school, right? | 12 | they've got a certificate. Now you qualify to get a |
| 13 | MS. VOIGT: And the schools don't know | 13 | job that last week, you weren't qualified to do. |
| 14 | what careers to educate for, right? | 14 | So, yeah, that would be an important part |
| 15 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Times are changing | 15 | of involving the professional community. |
| 16 | very rapidly, right? And so I did some -- and I put | 16 | MS. VOIGT: Super. And those successes |
| 17 | in the application some of the research and data | 17 | with those kids, attaining those certificates will |
| 18 | around up coming New Mexico; but even that changes | 18 | speak volumes, too, towards the success of your |
| 19 | over time. I talk to these employers in town, and | 19 | school as far as, like, a mission-specific goal or |
| 20 | they always say, "I could hire five people today if | 20 | something. |
| 21 | they had the skill set," right? These aren't | 21 | DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: And also to kind of |
| 22 | Ph.D-level careers. Some of them, you need a | 22 | speak to Commissioner Robbins' earlier point about |
| 23 | six-month certificate from a community college. And | 23 | career development and laying out your -- each |
| 24 | they're well-paying jobs. | 24 | student will have their own individualized plan for |
| 25 | So keeping that arms' reach to the | 25 | how their career is going to develop and what it is |
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| 1 | community to say, "Hey, guys, if you graduate with | 1 | they'd like to go into and how do these certificates |
| 2 | this certificate, you can get a job right out of | 2 | and other opportunities align with what their |
| 3 | school and use that to help you pay for college," | 3 | individualized plans dictate. |
| 4 | right? | 4 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: And we also want to |
| 5 | There's lots of different things students | 5 | know how they're doing. We were going to create |
| 6 | can do. I like the phrase, "Every scholar needs a | 6 | ways to measure. If we have a student mentoring at |
| 7 | skill." | 7 | Presbyterian, we want to know when they're out |
| 8 | The skill part is something that's been | 8 | there, how are they actually doing. So the constant |
| 9 | lost. I've seen high schools where you have this | 9 | communication, the portal of knowing what we can do |
| 10 | whole row of welding machines, and they haven't been | 10 | to make them better. |
| 11 | used in 30 years, right? So my first thought is if | 11 | Even -- my husband owns Territorial |
| 12 | I had came here in 1965, I could learn how to weld. | 12 | Scaffolding. You have no idea the amount of |
| 13 | But I come in 2015, and I can't learn that. How is | 13 | students, they graduate from high school, they don't |
| 14 | that forward progress, right? | 14 | walk through the door, they don't even have a work |
| 15 | So it's amazing that a lot of our schools | 15 | ethic to call in. And he's like, "I can offer your |
| 16 | actually don't offer things that were readily | 16 | kids an OSHA certification class at 16." Like, you |
| 17 | available to students 50 years ago, right? And it's | 17 | have no idea the difference. |
| 18 | not like these skills aren't needed, right? When a | 18 | So we really want to keep that constant |
| 19 | leak happens in the house, you've got to pay a | 19 | chain. Like, that's one of our big focuses is |
| 20 | plumber. And whatever price they give you, that's | 20 | communicating with our partners. |
| 21 | what you have to pay. So I think we're in a pretty | 21 | MS. VOIGT: Thanks. |
| 22 | good spot, right, you know, as long as we keep | 22 | THE CHAIR: And I'm going to say I |
| 23 | drinking water. | 23 | appreciate your -- the support for teachers. |
| 24 | So a lot of these skills are very | 24 | Because you've embedded into the day's schedule the |
| 25 | necessary and very attainable. That's the thing | 25 | two 50-minute prep periods. Someone who negotiated |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | contracts, that's just astounding. Because as we | 1 | I work in Los Alamos. They have enormous |
| 2 | all know, they're not free periods. That | 2 | issues with working well with others, as you can |
| 3 | opportunity to be able to be collaborative and to | 3 | imagine. |
| 4 | truly be able to quickly target the students where | 4 | So I think that those are really important |
| 5 | the problems are beginning is that engagement time | 5 | things, and I'm glad that you're looking at those |
| 6 | that is so important for the school. | 6 | and stressing them because it's important in every |
| 7 | So I -- I truly do appreciate that you've | 7 | way. |
| 8 | put that into the schedules. | 8 | On the other hand, I'm going to say that I |
| 9 | Commissioner Armbruster? | 9 | grew up in a bubble. I'm not like most people |
| 10 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So I've written | 10 | around. I am trying not to be embarrassed by the |
| 11 | more and more notes as everyone's talking here. | 11 | fact that I did not live in poverty. I wasn't rich |
| 12 | First of all, I want to say that I am that | 12 | by any means. But I didn't live in poverty. I have |
| 13 | old white teacher. I am. I'm probably -- but, | 13 | never attended a school that was not integrated. |
| 14 | anyway, it's okay. I'm going to embrace that. | 14 | It never even occurred to me, whether |
| 15 | But I have been in special education for | 15 | people were Hispanic or they were Black or whatever, |
| 16 | 39 years. So I have a couple of comments and | 16 | because I just thought that was normal. That |
| 17 | questions as I was going along. | 17 | doesn't mean it's good, I guess. It was just where |
| 18 | Number one, I really appreciate that you | 18 | I was. So I'm particularly happy to see people of |
| 19 | were able to -- and I know this will go to your | 19 | color. I don't know how you're going to find |
| 20 | students as well -- to play the game. Because when | 20 | teachers of color; but I certainly hope you do, |
| 21 | you don't play the game, you don't win. We all play | 21 | because we know from all the research that students |
| 22 | this game in everything. We get, in this particular | 22 | need to see people like them teaching them or being |
| 23 | circumstance, an application that -- "Well, we | 23 | in places of positions of power. |
| 24 | thought you meant that," or, "You wouldn't be able | 24 | And you all are those examples. I hope |
| 25 | to read that in," or, "We didn't think this was | 25 | you find teachers who are similar to that. You know |
|  | Page 95 |  | Page 97 |
| 1 | really what that was." | 1 | what I mean by that? |
| 2 | You can't play that game. It's like | 2 | MS. CASSANDRA SIMS: I'm already building |
| 3 | getting grants. You have to play the game and do | 3 | a team, just so you know, with the double preps. |
| 4 | all the things they ask you to do whether you think | 4 | Like, I've already got some of the -- I'm building |
| 5 | it's right or wrong. | 5 | my little secret team of -- to take over. So I'm |
| 6 | Another thing -- you may certainly use | 6 | glad. They're awesome. They're amazing. |
| 7 | this, and I wish I knew this -- the origin of it. | 7 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: And the other |
| 8 | But I took a study skills class for students when I | 8 | thing I wanted to just ask, in my experience, |
| 9 | was -- a long, long, long, time ago. And one of the | 9 | oftentimes students -- I taught in Los Alamos for |
| 10 | things that stood out for me was that it turns out | 10 | 17 years. I taught in California for 22 years. But |
| 11 | that kids who have struggled all their life and | 11 | oftentimes we would get students from other |
| 12 | really had to work hard to achieve, as opposed to | 12 | districts which perhaps were not as high functioning |
| 13 | those who have -- you know, look at one and say, | 13 | as this particular district that I was working in. |
| 14 | "Okay, I'm ready to take the test," they are the | 14 | And I found that kids were put in special ed -- not |
| 15 | most successful. | 15 | necessarily saying that they didn't have some |
| 16 | And in my 39 years of teaching students, | 16 | disabilities. But they were often put in higher |
| 17 | I've always told them that, because it's always that | 17 | restrictive areas -- like here, we call them |
| 18 | work ethic, which you have just referred to, that | 18 | A-levels and B-levels and all those things -- |
| 19 | gets you through. It doesn't really matter how | 19 | because of their behavior. |
| 20 | smart you are. If you don't have that work ethic, | 20 | And when you were talking -- someone here |
| 21 | if you're not aware of others and being able to work | 21 | was talking about gifted. I'm sorry, I don't |
| 22 | with them, and you don't know very common things | 22 | remember who. When they have these enriched |
| 23 | which we just discussed, was not there many times, | 23 | environments and they feel a part of that, their |
| 24 | "please" and "thank you" get you a long way in life, | 24 | behavior isn't all that bad. They actually are far |
| 25 | and working well with others. | 25 | more controlled and don't act out as much when |

they're in an inclusion setting.
Saying that, I also want to say that I hope that you will look at those students with IEPs coming in. Clearly, you do have to serve them. But maybe having an IEP early on to see if they can be in a more inclusive environment. That's just my experience, and then it may be going to be yours.

The other thing -- my little notes here. I also want to say that I'm probably the only person in special education who does not believe in full inclusion. I believe that there should be some pullout sometimes, because I find it hard to imagine that a sixth or seventh or eighth or whatever high school teacher can actually teach reading -actually how you teach and learn to read for a child who is truly dyslexic if you don't give them special -- not necessarily one-on-one, but a small group setting. So having said that, those are just my comments about special education.

The other thing I want to ask, as a former American Federation of Teachers president -- you know how we are here -- I just wanted to understand something about Tech Time. And so I'm reading that kids could -- I don't want to say do what they want -- but engage in what their interest was. Not

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Instagram and not Facebook, thank you.
So -- and that was a time when special eds could get some extra help. But we know that in general, special ed is always behind, that's why they're in special ed.

So do those kids -- it's on at least one day a week, they get to participate in that. And so I wanted to ask how that would work so that they would also get -- you know, they kind of need everything. So I just wanted to see how that was working.

DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Yeah. Tech Time, to me, is something I've been thinking about for over a decade just working in these various districts, what I found with my own nonprofit. Kids don't stay after school and they don't come on Saturday. What I learned, as an after-school kind of program, you have to do it during the school day. Same with teachers. You should not force teachers to work after work. They should have time during the day to do things or what they're required to do.

If you don't help the students during the day, first of all, you capture more students, right. Yeah, you might get 10 percent; but you need 90 percent to be there. It doesn't help the overall
school performance, right, and then the kids, et cetera.

So Tech Time, to me, is the embodiment of what I -- all these things I learned from the various districts. First, you put this center -you force the schedule around Tech Time, which to me is the most critical part of the day. So lunch is in there. So technically 30 minutes lunch, 30 minutes Tech Time. But I like how it serves everybody. So the teachers are working. They still need to prep for lunch. [Inaudible] time, right? You're working during Tech Time, not fully staffed.

The school is a lunchroom. I don't worry about kids eating in one spot. We'll clean up the place. But we need the kids to be comfortable taking their food to the classrooms where they get the support.

But you have students who, I would say, place into Tech Time, meaning you're not -- you're failing with a "C" or worse in a class; that's automatic Tech Time, right? So your grade determines whether you go or not.

And then if you need special services, that is actually a time we can give you that, to the extent that you need it. So some -- especially in

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | you're serving, potentially, teachers. | 1 | come in. If you have intense supports, |
| 2 | So for instance, Mondays, math teachers | 2 | multicultural supports, language services, special |
| 3 | don't do Tech Time; they do PLC. Tuesday, | 3 | needs services, you can bring that in during that |
| 4 | humanities do it. So you can figure out ways like | 4 | hour to support that student during the time. It's |
| 5 | that to utilize that space where you may not need | 5 | not even a period, right? But that student is |
| 6 | the whole staff, but you can take segments of the | 6 | receiving those services. |
| 7 | staff and use that time for them to do their | 7 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I clearly missed |
| 8 | PLC-type work. So it's an amazingly flexible time | 8 | the part about lunch. So I thought -- I mean, I got |
| 9 | frame. | 9 | two prep periods; but I thought, "Don't they get |
| 10 | Some of these schedules with classes at | 10 | lunch in?" |
| 11 | 9:15-- 9:16, and the next one -- I was, like, I | 11 | Sorry, I missed it. |
| 12 | don't know how you guys keep track of this. Keeping | 12 | THE CHAIR: Commissioner Caballero? |
| 13 | it nice and simple where kids can remember the | 13 | COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes, I'll be |
| 14 | schedule, they know where to be, they know how long | 14 | brief, Madam Chair. I'm just going to go through |
| 15 | the classes are. And if you look, just to bring up | 15 | things that you might want to look into. |
| 16 | another part of my schedule, you notice that it was | 16 | In terms of parenting, there's an emphasis |
| 17 | a three -- Monday through Wednesday, you go to all | 17 | now with PED on communities in schools. There's |
| 18 | eight classes. Thursday and Friday, I call those -- | 18 | money in it. I was enrolled in communities in |
| 19 | it's like a block, so to speak. But what the | 19 | schools as a young man in El Paso County. And I saw |
| 20 | research says, you have certain classes where the | 20 | the involvement of parents through going to English |
| 21 | teachers really do need that block, right? So to | 21 | classes, citizenship classes, and they felt |
| 22 | give them an opportunity you have the whole year | 22 | comfortable in the school. They got to meet all the |
| 23 | where you can schedule your exams, your quizes, your | 23 | teachers. And it was my only time that my mom got |
| 24 | experiments, during the longer periods of the day, | 24 | involved with my behavior. She was able to go to |
| 25 | at least you have the option as a teacher and that | 25 | the school and address the bad behaviors. |
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| 1 | flexibility. | 1 | Otherwise, she wouldn't have done it. |
| 2 | So this schedule again is just kind of a | 2 | So the other thing is the tracking of |
| 3 | culmination of years and years of me trying to think | 3 | students after they graduate. You can probably be |
| 4 | through what is an ideal schedule that allows you to | 4 | the only school doing that. I have read that |
| 5 | give a lot of different courses, eight full-type | 5 | approximation, and it hasn't been met with success |
| 6 | courses, plus give teachers the opportunity to have | 6 | because of money. So you need to figure out ways of |
| 7 | longer periods during the week and also have a Tech | 7 | doing it very, very inexpensively. |
| 8 | Time type where you can serve the students who need | 8 | My son graduated from a parochial private |
| 9 | the supports during the middle of the day, and also | 9 | school. And they built into the students a pride in |
| 10 | give the students who are ahead an opportunity to do | 10 | their school. And so they themselves give the |
| 11 | a project. | 11 | information to the school. So they're able to say, |
| 12 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: And my very last | 12 | "Our graduates have a 99.8 percent success in |
| 13 | question. So during this Tech Time, which, in a | 13 | completing college and becoming professional," |
| 14 | sense, is an hour or 30 minutes over lunch, so the | 14 | because of that. Otherwise, it wouldn't do it -- |
| 15 | teachers would have 30 minutes of lunchtime -- | 15 | they couldn't do it. |
| 16 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: No. They're working | 16 | And so the other thing is be mindful of |
| 17 | the full hour. Their lunch is a whole separate | 17 | the Every Student Succeeds Act and its requirements. |
| 18 | period. In the schedule, they have a lunch, two | 18 | So I'm going to also suggest that if you are going |
| 19 | preps and a lunch, built into that eight hours. | 19 | to try new models, which I wish you would, how your |
| 20 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: They can snack | 20 | model of mixed students, and primarily concentrating |
| 21 | with the kids. | 21 | on minority students, Hispanic and Black, and, of |
| 22 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Yeah, they can snack | 22 | course, you having that area of Native American, |
| 23 | with the kids. Because each project, slash, | 23 | with your data, and do it early. Because under the |
| 24 | support, needs a teacher sponsor. And so it's not | 24 | Every Student Succeeds Act, other students can |
| 25 | only the teachers; but you can have your partners | 25 | replicate only if it's data-based. |


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| ---: | :--- |
| 1 | DR. JERON CAMPBELL: Oh, I see. |
| 2 | COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: And so also maybe |
| 3 | PED can support that for you in terms of money. |
| 4 | They do have some money there. |
| 5 | In terms of the classroom, let me start |
| 6 | with the Chicano studies. Chicano studies, UNM |
| 7 | provides interactive classrooms to about five high |
| 8 | schools -- or schools. And they present the Chicano |
| 9 | studies, history, literature, and all that stuff. |
| 10 | So if you can just tap into that. I know that |
| 11 | Africana Studies had thought about it and planned to |
| 12 | do it. I don't know if they started it. We have to |
| 13 | understand that Chicano Studies, Africana Studies |
| 14 | Native American Studies have been underfunded by the |
| 15 | State historically. So that's another issue that |
| 16 | lawsuit addressed. And maybe we'll get more |
| 17 | funding. |
| 18 | $\quad$ Even now, they've got some money, but not |
| 19 | enough. But Chicano studies have tracked all their |
| 20 | students that they've had classes with and tracked |
| 21 | them into the universities in New Mexico. And their |
| 22 | success rate is in the 90-some percent success rate |
| 23 | from high school through college and finishing. |
| 24 | Some of those kids are now in master's programs. |
| 25 | You might want to tap into -- that's a freebie. |

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The -- your teachers and professional development, I did attend several presentations by a group in New Mexico that are putting together teachers that are doing national certification. And there is an expense for that. A lot of times the teachers pay it themselves. It may be something that you can offer as a benefit; I don't know. Everything's money, as you know.

But if you do have a school with all your teachers nationally certified, that's going to do wonders, even for bringing in grant money. I don't know.

The other thing that I'm interested in is the whole idea of reading, professional reading methodology, into the schools. I didn't really learn how to read until I was in the ninth grade. And I thought I knew. But reading is comprehension. And I had a very low comprehension. And speed -- I only learned speed as a graduate student, because I had a wandering eye and I couldn't read fast enough to keep up with my classmates, keep up with the graduate reading.

So somebody who was skilled enough to notice that, that I had to read with my finger on the page. And so that was corrected. Now I have to
have glasses.
The math in your school is going to concentrate on math. I wish you could look at how do we -- and this is how do we model -- how do we move at a faster pace from your middle school; in other words, can you go beyond the required testing by certain grades. And my feeling is is that yes. The answer is yes.

And New Mexico supposedly is 49th. But I've read that the state that was 50th has moved up in improvement. So we still stay 49th. I don't think so. But I do wish that some of our charter schools early on get embarked on a data-driven model that our other charter schools and public schools -they're all public schools -- but other schools can replicate.

And the only way we can replicate under federal guidelines, Every Student Succeeds Act, is through data. And I'm sharing this because reading through what you're proposing, that everything Madam Chair has brought up in terms of your mission statement -- and I had missed that. And it's -- she is correct, that a lot of what you're saying is on target to be a great school.

And so if you embark in this journey

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through meeting these Every Student Succeeds Act as a model, I'm only going to borrow -- you have to borrow models that are out there. But I'm sure as you teach, and I'm sure as you develop, there's going to be changes. And I hope that that modeling is data-driven so that we can replicate.

That's all I have.
THE CHAIR: Thank you. I would also suggest that you take a look at the Perkins Grant, if you're not familiar with it. And fortunately, the Perkins Grant has opened up a little bit more than -- than in prior years. And it's going to funnel through, my understanding is, partnerships with those outside organizations. That's where the money is going to flow in.

And it looks, to a great extent, at non-traditional jobs. So I would look to see, you know, what you might be able to access through the Perkins Grant. The State put in a little bit more money for this coming-up school year for also career readiness. And I think the plan is for that to open up more and use the community partnerships. And that's where the money would go to for the schools.

There used to be a requirement -- our charters never really could make use of the Perkins

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| 1 | Grant in prior years, because the cohort was -- I | 1 | know, it's just one of those things where I'm just |
| 2 | don't know -- 1,500 or -- it was a large cohort, and | 2 | sitting here that I just want to stand up and cheer |
| 3 | our schools were never large enough to be able to | 3 | for you guys. |
| 4 | even apply for the grant. That has gone away. And | 4 | But Dr. Coleman, I believe it was you that |
| 5 | you partner with other schools with it. So I think | 5 | said you were -- you studied at the University of |
| 6 | there's really great opportunities to be able to | 6 | Virginia. And so that sparked something in my head. |
| 7 | engage with the career tech programs. | 7 | I had the opportunity to be in a couple of classes |
| 8 | And I'd also look at WorkKeys, you know, | 8 | with Dr. June West from the University of Virginia |
| 9 | for those certificates. And I think both partner | 9 | at Darden. And one of the things that she taught us |
| 10 | with CNM with that. | 10 | was communications and the effectiveness of |
| 11 | COMMISSIONER CRONE: That's what I was | 11 | communication. |
| 12 | going to say. | 12 | And so she focused on, you know, the |
| 13 | If you're near CNM, you know, you can | 13 | incorporation of ethos, pathos, and logos. And I |
| 14 | access -- career tech is very expensive. One | 14 | don't know if you guys -- if this was strategic in |
| 15 | program that surprised me that is very expensive is | 15 | your presentation. But you hit all of them. And I |
| 16 | barbering and cosmetology. | 16 | think that's what really made this really strong. |
| 17 | THE CHAIR: Yeah, it is. | 17 | But I want to circle back around to |
| 18 | COMMISSIONER CRONE: I thought about | 18 | Madam Chair's comments about capturing, you know, |
| 19 | automotive and those sorts of things. | 19 | your stories that you are bringing to the table. |
| 20 | THE CHAIR: Yeah. Perkins doesn't do | 20 | And so a couple of key words just really struck out. |
| 21 | cosmetology and -- | 21 | Dr. Campbell, with the -- you know, your emphasis on |
| 22 | COMMISSIONER CRONE: What they do is for | 22 | data analysis and the use of data to inform |
| 23 | the film industry. | 23 | decisions, it's so powerful. And I just -- as |
| 24 | THE CHAIR: Right, yes. Oh, you're | 24 | Commissioner Raftery said, you know, sometimes it |
| 25 | absolutely right. If it's through the film | 25 | could be used in the wrong way. |
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| 1 | industry, they do. Yeah. Yeah. | 1 | But what I'm hearing is that you're |
| 2 | COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: The Perkins | 2 | looking to use it as a form of improvement to |
| 3 | looks at non-traditional jobs for females and | 3 | accomplish your goals. And so that's very -- but |
| 4 | non-traditional jobs for males. So male | 4 | other things, like creativity. Something that we |
| 5 | engineers -- a female engineer would be something. | 5 | don't do enough of with our kids is develop that |
| 6 | Unfortunately, they spend too much time on a girl | 6 | creativity. And you are -- and the other thing is |
| 7 | with pink welding gloves and a man in nursing. And | 7 | saying that all kids have gifts and all kids do have |
| 8 | that was -- you know, that was what -- the model of | 8 | gifts and not all kids fall into this box that we |
| 9 | Perkins. | 9 | put into this thing we call education and the system |
| 10 | And it's, like, that's not really -- yes, | 10 | within education. And so thank you for that. |
| 11 | it can be. But that's not all that it has to be. | 11 | And the last thing was you mentioned |
| 12 | So it's -- they've -- it's evolved, | 12 | relevance. Because I, too -- I encounter kids, and |
| 13 | fortunately, here in the state. And we're excited | 13 | they always say, "When are we going to use this? |
| 14 | about where it's going to go. So -- I do -- | 14 | Why do we have to learn this?" So bringing |
| 15 | Commissioner Chavez? | 15 | relevance to that is so important. |
| 16 | COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Thank you. I just | 16 | Ms. Sims, thank you for talking about it's |
| 17 | have a -- I don't have any questions, because I | 17 | more than just culinary arts in your example; |
| 18 | think a lot of the questions that I had have already | 18 | because there is a science to it, and it sparked a |
| 19 | been answered from some of the other questions that | 19 | memory of mine. I know a culinary arts teacher |
| 20 | my fellow Commissioners have asked. | 20 | that's incredible. But she teaches the kids that |
| 21 | But I do want to make a couple of | 21 | there's more to culinary arts than just food |
| 22 | statements. First of all, thank you. Thank you for | 22 | preparation, right? She talks about -- she gets |
| 23 | your inspiring stories. And not just the three of | 23 | people to see beyond that. You mentioned the |
| 24 | you, but all of you that -- in the audience that | 24 | science behind it, and that's absolutely true. She |
| 25 | contributed to that as well. What a -- gosh, you | 25 | also takes them into -- to get kids to see that |

there's legal career fields that deal with culinary
MS. KAREN WOERNER: I'm looking to see if arts.

And so it's getting kids to think of beyond what we're focusing on when we're talking about a career -- you know, careers and the jobs that they may be seeking.

And so -- and thank you for mentioning Dr. Rita Pierson. I'm a huge fan of hers, may she rest in peace, but her legacy continues. I'm very familiar with her and I'm a fan as well.

And then, Dr. Coleman, coming back to you, thank you for sharing your story about Ms. Glass -Ms. Glass; is that right?

DR. FINNIE COLEMAN: Right.
COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Your first-grade teacher. And I could relate to that. My wife's grandmother was a principal in South Carolina during the time period that you're talking about, and the struggles that she faced. And so I could definitely relate to your story.

And thank you, all of you, for bringing -making us aware that the application process may not allow for us to include, you know, ethos, pathos and logos. And so I love your suggestion about value -the value proposition that could be maybe included they're in the -- yes. Some people picked them up already.

THE CHAIR: They should be in the back of the room so you don't have to write this all down.

So the only thing, if you're providing input electronically, there's a drop-down box to indicate the school. If you're going to provide the input handwritten, please make sure that the school is identified in the comments.

And that any written input must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the third business day following the hearing on the application on -- on which you wish to comment.

For ACES, that would be July 22nd, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.

Thank you all for your presentation today. The Public Education Commission will meet in Santa Fe August 21st to the 23rd, 2019, to render their decision on approval or denial of this and other new charter applications.

So thank you once again, and we are in recess with these hearings until Friday, July 19th, at 9:00 a.m. in Las Cruces. So thank you all once again. We appreciate this.
or somehow for us, as a Commission, to consider in the future when we -- when we're looking at this.

It was extremely powerful. And so I just want to thank you all again and everybody that is behind you that's supporting you. It's very exciting. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Thank you. And certainly today helped to, I think, prove the importance of the community input hearings and this opportunity that it's not just a flat black-and-white application that we're looking at; so that this was, I think, critical for us today to be able to truly hear. The story, as I said, wasn't written there in those words.

So we appreciate, once again, all your time, your effort, and your energy.

And I have to open up my script again.
Okay. So any member of the public, including the applicants, may submit written input following this hearing.

Written comments can be sent to the Commission via charter.schools@state.nm.us, mailed or hand-delivered. And the details and the addresses -- Karen, are they back there? Or are you --

UNIDENTIFIED SPAKERS: Thank you. (Proceedings in recess at 11:21 a.m.)

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