

BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING
March 19, 2021
9:00 a.m.
Via Zoom Video Teleconference

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JOB NO. 4894N (CC)

2	<p>1 APPEARANCES</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONERS:</p> <p>3 PATRICIA GIPSON, Chair</p> <p>4 GLENNA VOIGT, Vice Chair</p> <p>5 REBEKKA BURT, Secretary</p> <p>6 MELISSA ARMIJO, Member</p> <p>7 STEVEN CARRILLO, Member</p> <p>8 MICHAEL CHAVEZ, Member</p> <p>9 GEORGINA DAVIS, Member</p> <p>10 KT MANIS, Member</p> <p>11 DAVID ROBBINS, Member</p> <p>12 MICHAEL TAYLOR, Member</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 PED STAFF:</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 CORINA CHAVEZ, Director</p> <p>17 Charter School/Options for</p> <p>18 Parents and Families Division</p> <p>19</p> <p>20 KAREN WOERNER, Deputy Director</p> <p>21 Charter School/Options for</p> <p>22 Parents and Families Division</p> <p>23</p> <p>24 BEVERLY FRIEDMAN, PED Custodian of Record</p> <p>25 and Liaison to the PEC</p> <p>PEC COUNSEL:</p> <p>ELIZABETH JEFFREYS, ESQ.</p>	4
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5	<p>1 THE CHAIR: Okay. I guess we can start.</p> <p>2 So good morning, everyone. It is -- I'm going to</p> <p>3 bring to order this meeting of the Public Education</p> <p>4 Commission.</p> <p>5 It is Friday, March 19th, 2021, and it is</p> <p>6 9:02 a.m.</p> <p>7 And I am going to ask Commissioner Burt to</p> <p>8 do roll, please.</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Armijo?</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Here.</p> <p>11 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Burt is</p> <p>12 here.</p> <p>13 Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>14 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Here.</p> <p>15 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Chavez?</p> <p>16 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Present.</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis?</p> <p>18 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Here.</p> <p>19 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Gipson?</p> <p>20 THE CHAIR: Here.</p> <p>21 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Manis.</p> <p>22 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Here.</p> <p>23 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins?</p> <p>24 (No response.)</p> <p>25 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right. Is not</p>	5

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1 present yet.
 2 Commissioner Taylor?
 3 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Here.
 4 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Voigt?
 5 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Here.
 6 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I have a question.
 7 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Excuse me,
 8 Commissioner Burt. Commissioner Robbins just got
 9 in.
 10 COMMISSIONER BURT: Okay. Commissioner
 11 Robbins? You have to say "Here."
 12 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Here.
 13 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right. We have
 14 everyone present.
 15 THE CHAIR: Thank you so much. I'm going
 16 to ask Commissioner Armijo to lead us in the Pledge
 17 of Allegiance and Commissioner Carrillo in the
 18 Salute to the New Mexico Flag.
 19 (Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to
 20 the New Mexico Flag conducted.)
 21 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins, I was a
 22 little worried, because we were talking about the
 23 vaccines, and you weren't there. So I was
 24 concerned.
 25 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Well, I appreciate

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1 that. I was a little slow in getting my son up this
 2 morning; so --
 3 THE CHAIR: Oh, okay. Okay. I feel
 4 better.
 5 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: I was a little
 6 tired from it. But I think he was tired, too; so --
 7 he was a little groggy, and his legs were a little
 8 stiffer than normal.
 9 THE CHAIR: He received his vaccine
 10 yesterday as well?
 11 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: No, no. He got his
 12 two weeks ago. So he's two weeks away from the next
 13 one.
 14 Thank you.
 15 THE CHAIR: Okay.
 16 So we are on to Item No. 2, which is the
 17 approval of the agenda. And I'll entertain a
 18 motion.
 19 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: This is Steve. A
 20 motion to approve. But I -- and I have a question.
 21 THE CHAIR: Sure.
 22 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: After a second.
 23 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: I'll second.
 24 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: My question is
 25 under, Consent, Item 4.b.G., The GREAT Academy. The

8

1 GREAT Academy is being litigated right now; right?
 2 So I'm curious as to why this particular --
 3 THE CHAIR: It's a notification of a
 4 change in their governance council, their current
 5 governing council. They're still operating. So
 6 they're obligated to notify us if there's changes in
 7 their governance council.
 8 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Got it. Thank
 9 you.
 10 THE CHAIR: Okay.
 11 I'm still contemplating this. I guess
 12 I -- I guess I need to ask a question. Actually,
 13 all right. I'll just let it go for now. I will
 14 deal with it later. I think that's the easiest
 15 thing to do at this point in time.
 16 So we have a motion to approve by
 17 Commissioner Carrillo and a second -- I'm sorry. I
 18 missed who did the second.
 19 Second by Commissioner Armijo.
 20 All in favor?
 21 (Commissioners so indicate.)
 22 THE CHAIR: Opposed?
 23 (No response.)
 24 THE CHAIR: Hearing no objections, the
 25 motion passes.

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1 We are on to Item No. 3, which is Open
 2 Forum.
 3 Bev, did anyone sign up?
 4 MS. BEVERLY FRIEDMAN: No.
 5 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.
 6 So we are now on to Item No. 4, which
 7 is -- okay -- which is the Consent Agenda.
 8 So this is where I'm going to ask -- it's
 9 come to -- I did look through the packet. And it
 10 has -- and I was reminded that 4.b., letter D.,
 11 School of Dreams, they've only had, it appears, four
 12 governing council members for most of the year,
 13 which is a little concerning.
 14 So I'm going to ask Commissioners if they
 15 would prefer that that be removed off of the Consent
 16 Agenda so that we can have a conversation with the
 17 school, or at the very least, make an inquiry as to
 18 what the issue might be, that they're -- they don't
 19 have the required five minimum most of the year. So
 20 that is a concern.
 21 Commissioner Carrillo?
 22 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I'd like it
 23 removed for discussion later, because if it was one
 24 month without five people or something, that would
 25 be one thing. But this is too long to go. So --

10	<p>1 THE CHAIR: Yeah. So --</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: -- I'd like it</p> <p>3 removed.</p> <p>4 THE CHAIR: Oh, okay.</p> <p>5 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: I agree with that.</p> <p>6 But I have a question regarding -- what is their</p> <p>7 specific amendment request?</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: It's -- it's to change a</p> <p>9 governing board member.</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Oh, okay. To add</p> <p>11 one. Okay.</p> <p>12 THE CHAIR: Okay. So we'll work on that.</p> <p>13 Because we're removing them now, the discussion will</p> <p>14 happen next month so the school can be notified.</p> <p>15 And, hopefully, we can get a little more information</p> <p>16 from them before the next month and get this cleared</p> <p>17 up. Okay.</p> <p>18 So a motion to -- I will make a motion to</p> <p>19 approve the Consent Agenda with the change of</p> <p>20 removing Item 4.b.D., School of Dreams Academy.</p> <p>21 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I second that.</p> <p>22 THE CHAIR: There's a motion by</p> <p>23 Commissioner Gipson, a second by Commissioner Davis.</p> <p>24 Roll, please?</p> <p>25 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Voigt?</p>	12	<p>1 ten votes for, and it unanimously passes.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Motion passes.</p> <p>3 And just to remind, Commissioners, our</p> <p>4 court reporter is recording right now because she's</p> <p>5 getting her second vaccine. So it's very important</p> <p>6 that we be heard, because she's going to make the</p> <p>7 transcript from the recording until she's able to</p> <p>8 log in live.</p> <p>9 So thanks.</p> <p>10 We are on to Item No. 5, which is Report</p> <p>11 from Options for Parents.</p> <p>12 Good morning, Director.</p> <p>13 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Good morning. I</p> <p>14 am so sorry. When you have multiple windows open,</p> <p>15 sometimes it's hard.</p> <p>16 Good to see everyone. I'm glad that Bev's</p> <p>17 shot went well, that, Commissioner Robbins, that</p> <p>18 you're here and smiling, and it seems the shot went</p> <p>19 well for you-all. And just wanted to say good</p> <p>20 morning to everyone.</p> <p>21 Give me a second to queue up.</p> <p>22 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Chair Gipson,</p> <p>23 while Ms. Chavez is queuing up, I have a question</p> <p>24 regarding -- this is a procedural thing.</p> <p>25 Are we not able to see participants other</p>
11	<p>1 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Taylor?</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.</p> <p>4 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins?</p> <p>5 (No response.)</p> <p>6 THE CHAIR: David, you're muted.</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER BURT: Okay.</p> <p>8 MS. KAREN WOERNER: He said "Yes." But</p> <p>9 he -- there you go.</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.</p> <p>11 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Manis?</p> <p>12 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes.</p> <p>13 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Gipson?</p> <p>14 THE CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>15 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis?</p> <p>16 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Chavez?</p> <p>18 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.</p> <p>19 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>20 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yes.</p> <p>21 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Burt.</p> <p>22 Yes.</p> <p>23 Commissioner Armijo?</p> <p>24 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Yes.</p> <p>25 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right. So there's</p>	13	<p>1 than panelists, like, people who are on?</p> <p>2 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Okay. You are a</p> <p>3 panelist. And so when you click on Participants --</p> <p>4 THE CHAIR: See them all.</p> <p>5 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: -- the way to see</p> <p>6 the panelist list and the attendees list. So it</p> <p>7 looks like there are 19 attendees. And you can</p> <p>8 read --</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Oh, I see. Oops.</p> <p>10 I see it up on the top. Sorry about that. Thank</p> <p>11 you.</p> <p>12 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Okay, good.</p> <p>13 You're welcome. You're welcome. All right.</p> <p>14 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Thank you.</p> <p>15 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: So, yes, we are</p> <p>16 in March. And it's good to see everybody. We have</p> <p>17 a lot of people in attendance today.</p> <p>18 And I just wanted to give the report this</p> <p>19 morning.</p> <p>20 I wanted to let you all know that AIMS,</p> <p>21 Albuquerque Institute of Math and Science, as you</p> <p>22 know, Commissioners, has a special ed CAP. And, at</p> <p>23 this point, we didn't feel like we are ready to</p> <p>24 bring them before the Commission. But we wanted to</p> <p>25 let you know that we have some concerns about them</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>1 meeting the items in the Corrective Action Plan. 2 We have reached out to the school's 3 leadership and requested that there be a meeting 4 between the Charter Schools Division, the school, 5 and the Special Ed Bureau, who we work very closely 6 with when there are Corrective Action Plans related 7 to special ed. 8 The school is on spring break this week. 9 So they were not able to meet with us. And to date, 10 we don't have a meeting set. They know that we are 11 concerned and that they're behind a little in some 12 of their cap requirements. And there is a -- there 13 is an ask in the e-mails for such meeting. 14 I just wanted to alert you in case next 15 month there hasn't been progress made. At that 16 point, we would probably bring them to the table 17 to -- to address concerns that you have. And I 18 could provide a lot more details at that time. 19 I want to give them an opportunity to 20 correct, or right-size, on the Corrective Action 21 Plan before then. And so this is just a heads-up. 22 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: So on that, 23 Ms. Chavez, how much time have they had thus far? 24 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: So last week, we 25 let them know that this meeting was happening. And</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>1 back last March. 2 So that this is, I believe, an ongoing 3 concern. But not seeing the CAP, I don't know if 4 we're still talking about the same concern. 5 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Thank you, 6 Commissioner Gipson. And, definitely, more details 7 will be provided, should they come before you next 8 month. 9 I know that you have asked us in the past 10 to work with the schools so that we don't bring them 11 to the table if they're able to address the areas of 12 concern. And they are notified. 13 And I didn't check the audience to see if 14 there's members of the school community here. But, 15 potentially, there is, because I did let them know 16 that I was going to mention that there was a 17 concern. 18 THE CHAIR: Okay. 19 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: All right. So 20 the other -- the rest of the report is not about any 21 particular schools, except for in the highlights 22 that I will share in a bit. 23 But I wanted to let you know how the 24 Division has spent a lot of its time and efforts 25 since we last met.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>1 I really was hoping that we could meet prior to this 2 meeting so that I could say that those items that 3 were not met in the Corrective Action Plan would be 4 addressed, or at least they be rescheduled to be 5 addressed. 6 And so I didn't realize it was their 7 spring break this week; but it is. And this also 8 coincided with about the same time that schools were 9 asked to create a plan to be in-person. 10 So -- so I understand that it was tight. 11 But, still, the meeting was to address some items on 12 the Corrective Action Plan that have not yet been 13 met. 14 So that is -- that is why we called the 15 meeting, and that is why I'm mentioning them to 16 you-all as a concern and a heads-up, that it could 17 be in April that we -- that we express more details 18 about the concern. And we will let you know. 19 THE CHAIR: Thanks. And just as a -- as a 20 reminder to Commissioners, the -- they've already 21 been up before us once for a special ed concern. 22 And it was actually -- there was a special -- and I 23 don't know if this is still all part of the same 24 concern -- it was also brought up that there was a 25 concern when we did contract negotiations with them</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>1 The announcement that there is an 2 expectation for schools to begin in-person learning 3 was made. And before that, several schools were on 4 the path towards implementing a hybrid program. 5 And so the Division has really been 6 terrific at taking on the walk-throughs of the 7 charter schools in and around the Albuquerque, 8 Santa Fe, and Taos areas, in collaboration with 9 other bureaus within the PED, and with the 10 collaboration of the local fire marshals, who were 11 doing the walk-throughs in the charters that are 12 further away from the central area. 13 So -- so to date, 28 of the State charters 14 have been approved to open in-person. And 22 of 15 those are already implementing a hybrid program 16 before the announcement for reentry. And, since 17 then, the rest of the schools have really been 18 working to get that visit scheduled. 19 Twelve have had recent visits, or there's 20 upcoming visits that are scheduled. And there's 11 21 that have not yet indicated that they're ready for a 22 visit. 23 Several of the charters who anticipated 24 being remote for the rest of the school year are 25 making sure that they have everything in place.</p>

18	<p>1 They have to have proper PPE, signage, they need to 2 make sure that their filtration system is as up to 3 date as possible, et cetera. And so they're getting 4 their facilities ready prior to the visit.</p> <p>5 So we are working closely with those 6 schools to make sure that they have a plan to -- to 7 be able to open.</p> <p>8 And there's only one school, as part of 9 your portfolio, as you know, who is approved to be 10 virtual-only.</p> <p>11 So that is the status. I think that 12 charters, as you know, are the most flexible group 13 of -- of schools there are. They work really hard. 14 Some of them are super-excited to be seeing their 15 kids for the first time. Several are having to be 16 creative with what the scheduling looks like so they 17 could accommodate the social distancing.</p> <p>18 And so we've worked really hard to 19 collaborate with them and to support them with 20 whatever needs they have, whatever barriers they 21 have to move towards in-person learning.</p> <p>22 Our -- our biggest concern is that 23 families that want for their children to attend 24 in-person learning have access to a full-time 25 program in-person, and families that choose to have</p>	20	<p>1 school leaders sitting in a Zoom chat next to some 2 new leaders and getting to know each other for the 3 first time.</p> <p>4 And so we're super-excited about being 5 able to host these. We have one -- the next one -- 6 scheduled in April on the 21st. And this one is 7 going to be centered around equity. As you recall, 8 we polled school leaders and asked them what they 9 were interested in, and this was a very 10 high-interest topic.</p> <p>11 And this time, we're going to invite some 12 regular public school principals to join in with the 13 charter school leaders. We think that'll be a 14 really dynamic opportunity for them to converse 15 around a topic that matters to everyone.</p> <p>16 Yes, Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Is this -- is this 18 something that, if one of us wanted to attend, more 19 as just kind of a fly on the wall, not -- just to -- 20 to learn from all of the charter school leaders, is 21 that something that you'd permit?</p> <p>22 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: I'm sure that 23 that is possible, yes. Let's talk about this 24 afterward.</p> <p>25 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Okay. Thank you.</p>
19	<p>1 their students stay remote have that option as well.</p> <p>2 So that -- that has been a lot of work 3 that we've done, in addition to the work that is 4 ongoing providing technical assistance to schools 5 that are up for renewal, schools that are in their 6 Implementation Year, which is just the one school -- 7 that's the Explore-Las Cruces -- providing technical 8 assistance to governing board members. And so I 9 just want to give kudos to my staff who work really 10 hard in all of these efforts.</p> <p>11 I also am so happy to share that we had 12 the first School Leadership Roundtable discussion 13 with charter school leaders on February 24th. And 14 at this time, it was -- it was limited to charter 15 school staff.</p> <p>16 We -- we had three breakout sessions: one 17 to discuss ways that schools think about and work 18 towards achieving their school mission. Another 19 session was focused on COVID innovations that might 20 outlast the pandemic. And the third was around 21 virtual learning and other innovative strategies 22 that schools are implementing.</p> <p>23 This is an opportunity for school leaders 24 to engage with one another in a very open forum. 25 And it was great, because there were some veteran</p>	21	<p>1 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Yes. We have a 2 way to register. There's a link off of our website. 3 And so you might be able to find it there. But if 4 you want to call me after this meeting --</p> <p>5 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Okay.</p> <p>6 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: -- and talk a 7 little bit more about it, I don't know -- we have 8 asked the school leaders to pick a topic that they 9 would like to focus on. But few of us have had the 10 ability to pop into each of the three breakout 11 rooms. So we're moving from place to place.</p> <p>12 But I think that's a great idea. You'd be 13 able to hear directly from the school leaders, in a 14 really nonthreatening forum, for them to just be 15 sharing their -- their innovations, their thoughts.</p> <p>16 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Thanks.</p> <p>17 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: All right. Thank 18 you.</p> <p>19 So -- so the next one is April 21st, as I 20 said, from 3:00 to 4:30, and, yeah, focused around 21 equity.</p> <p>22 We are also in the midst of planning a 23 charter schools conference. And when we decided to 24 plan it, this was before schools were going back to 25 in-person. And so we decided that this year's</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>1 conference is going to be virtual. 2 It will be June 2nd through the 4th. And, 3 absolutely, again, would love to have PEC 4 participation. In fact, I know that you-all have 5 facilitated sessions in the past, and I invite you 6 to consider that, or to be participants, whichever 7 you choose, or both. 8 And so, yeah, just let us know. It will 9 be all virtual. And there's a team within the 10 Charter Schools Division who is planning that 11 conference. 12 We are asking school leaders also to 13 consider facilitating -- and because our travel 14 expenses, and we probably will not have a keynote 15 speaker -- we tried to get Brené Brown, but she was 16 charging way too much money. 17 So our expenses are down for other aspects 18 of the conference. So we're looking to provide a 19 small compensation to those who will present, those 20 charter school leaders that are committed to 21 presenting. 22 We're also hoping that, as part of that, 23 that any session that is provided has some concrete 24 take-aways, tools, templates, other things that the 25 schools would find useful when they are shared as</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>1 had requested that they remove that from their 2 website, has removed that from their website. 3 Commissioner Gipson, I thought you would 4 be (indiscernible due to audio distortion) to hear. 5 And then I wanted to talk about Taos 6 International School. 7 So this is a school who received their 8 International Baccalaureate certification for the 9 Middle Years Programme in January 2020. And the 10 school recently received their IB certification for 11 their Primary Years Programme. 12 So this is a huge celebration. They got 13 the letter January 15th, 2021. The school has been 14 working really hard to establish a full 15 certification for both the Primary and the Middle 16 Years Programmes, and they have secured that. 17 So big kudos to Nadine and the team at 18 Taos International School. 19 I also want to mention that Explore 20 Academy was recently named as a National 21 Distinguished School by the State Education Agency 22 in New Mexico. 23 Explore Academy is one of up to 24 100 schools throughout the country that is being 25 nationally recognized for exceptional student</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>1 part of the session. 2 As I mentioned before, we have been doing 3 ongoing governing board observations. Missy and 4 Dylan, who are staff members in the Charter Schools 5 Division, attend the virtual governing council 6 meetings. 7 And we had a recent e-mail from one of the 8 governing board presidents who said -- and I'm going 9 to quote: 10 "I would like to personally thank you for 11 this report. It's immensely helpful to have an 12 outside perspective in the PED on what gaps you see 13 in our meeting and in our governance. As always, 14 you are very insightful. I'm already considering 15 how to structure the meeting so we can improve on 16 finance reporting and improve discussions on student 17 outcomes. I hope to present this report to the 18 board for next month's discussion." 19 So this is just an example of how we are 20 working, really, to support charters. And I think 21 Missy and Dylan have just done a really excellent 22 job. And so kudos to them. 23 A few other highlights and appreciations. 24 I just wanted to let you know that one of the 25 schools whose website said "Barney Schools," that we</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>1 achievement in 2020, specifically in the area of 2 experience in serving special populations of 3 students; for example, homeless, migrant, English 4 Learners, et cetera. 5 And a final highlight that I would want to 6 make is to share with you a commercial that was 7 featured in -- actually, the U.S. Department of Ed 8 is recognizing the Albuquerque Sign Language 9 Academy, who received an Outdoor Equity Fund grant. 10 And so this is approximately a 11 three-minute video that I'd like to share. And so 12 I'm going to queue it up, and then ask if I can have 13 my screen shared with you-all. 14 MS. KAREN WOERNER: You should be able to 15 share, Director Chavez. 16 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Thank you. Just 17 give me a sec to get it all ready. 18 And I hope the audio works. And if it 19 doesn't, there are some -- there is some -- some 20 closed caption. 21 (Audio-video material presented.) 22 THE CHAIR: Thank you for that. 23 So, Director, can I just ask a couple of, 24 I guess, clarifying questions on the reopening? 25 Reentry?</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>1 So the -- my understanding is the guidance 2 now is that schools can be four or five days? Am I 3 correct? 4 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: So we are not 5 approving schedules necessarily. We are -- we are 6 asking school leaders to work very closely with 7 their community and to make sure that whatever 8 schedule they create, that it's done in 9 collaboration with their families. 10 And schools are really challenged to be 11 able to accommodate both the full-time and the 12 students that are remote. I heard them being 13 referred to as the "Roomers" and the "Zoomers." 14 So -- so one teacher is attempting to meet 15 the need of both those populations. And sometimes 16 it -- they want to have time alone with just the 17 virtual students. 18 So I've seen really creative schedules 19 where there's a four-day-a-week regular schedule 20 with the academic subject areas. And then the fifth 21 day maybe incorporates social-emotional learning and 22 extra support for the students who are Zooming in 23 and other ways of having small groups. 24 And so, again, we -- our most important 25 concern is that families' needs and students' needs</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>1 can, they are attempting to -- to come back. I know 2 that one of the schools had a permitting issue with 3 their facility. 4 So I'm working very closely with those 5 schools to help them troubleshoot any barriers they 6 may have and to -- to ensure that they have what 7 they need so that they're ready. 8 And, you know, I'm glad you asked that 9 question. Because some schools had planned a 10 portion of their program to be outdoors. And so I'm 11 working with those schools to see how that is still 12 possible. Because we are really encouraging the 13 schools to think about using outdoors as places 14 where kids can eat, places where instruction 15 actually can happen. 16 And we have some real leaders in the 17 charter schools community for how that is happening. 18 And I hope that, at some point, either during the 19 conference, or maybe at one of the roundtables, 20 we'll be able to highlight what the outdoor learning 21 has looked like. 22 THE CHAIR: Thanks. And I know, through 23 various times during this past year, there has been 24 funds available through a number of sources. CSP 25 was able to open up some.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>1 are being met. And -- and we're letting that be a 2 local decision. 3 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thanks. 4 And for the -- what was it? -- the ten 5 schools that are not yet ready, I guess -- I guess 6 we don't have an identification as to what the 7 challenges are as to why they're not ready yet. I'm 8 thinking maybe some of it is facility, but I'm not 9 sure. 10 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Right. So there 11 is a range of -- of reasons that those schools 12 are -- have not yet set a date for full-time 13 in-person. 14 A few of them are on tribal land, and so 15 tribal sovereignty -- 16 THE CHAIR: Right. 17 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: -- is a concern 18 that we are recognizing. It is a reason that we are 19 recognizing for a school that might remain remote. 20 And so I think that there's a few schools that are 21 working towards that, having tribal consultations. 22 Some are still working with their parents 23 to poll the desire for what the schedule might look 24 like. 25 And so, yes, as soon as -- as soon as they</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>1 Are any of them still challenged in terms 2 of facilities with monies to be able to successfully 3 open? Are you aware of any schools that are having 4 that challenge particularly? 5 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Schools have 6 various HVAC systems. And some are not able to have 7 the full MERV 13 filtration. They have -- they have 8 filtration that is MERV 8, 9, 10, et cetera, and 9 might need to supplement that with HEPA air 10 purifiers. 11 So one of the things that we've done to 12 support them is share an agreement that the State 13 has made for the purchase of HEPA filtration 14 systems. So I know a few schools are in the process 15 of obtaining those. 16 And, otherwise, I think that between the 17 charter schools program grant and the federal 18 CARES/ESSER -- and we're about to receive -- I think 19 you've probably seen in the news that there's 20 another round of federal funds that is coming down. 21 And schools have not yet received 22 notification about those funds; but I'm 23 understanding that they are substantial, and they 24 will be incredibly helpful, and schools will have a 25 couple of years to be able to spend that down. But</p>

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1 I don't think it's going to provide the kind of
 2 financial support for schools to be able to do this
 3 work.
 4 THE CHAIR: Thanks. And just one last
 5 thing. Of the schools that are in that category
 6 of -- have had their visit, but perhaps the report
 7 hasn't been made or have a visit scheduled so that
 8 they can reopen, is there any concern -- is there a
 9 backlog? Are schools challenged with getting
 10 someone in to make the visit so they can open?
 11 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: We are working
 12 really closely with them and with the local fire
 13 marshals. We've had great partnership with other
 14 folks at the PED.
 15 Karen has done a lot of work. Two staff
 16 members within the Charter Schools Division have
 17 been out to the school sites. Melissa and Meghan,
 18 kudos to them, they've really just been terrific at
 19 jumping into the schedule and visiting schools.
 20 We had the Taos Fire Marshal -- his wife
 21 was about to have a baby, so, typically, he would
 22 have gone. But Megan was able to make the trip to
 23 Taos and visit three schools in one day.
 24 So it's been an incredible partnership.
 25 And we have not run into any problems. We are all

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1 working really closely. Charter school in Deming
 2 was missing some PPE, and we were able to connect
 3 him with -- with the CES, who has the face shields,
 4 so that that could go into the isolation room that
 5 schools need to maintain in case somebody is
 6 exhibiting symptoms.
 7 So I feel like it's gone really smoothly.
 8 It's been a collaborative effort. And it's --
 9 it's -- we've kept to a timely schedule of being
 10 able to meet the schools' needs.
 11 THE CHAIR: Great. Thank you for all
 12 that. Welcome, Cindy.
 13 Okay. Thanks so much for that update.
 14 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Sure.
 15 Commissioner Voigt?
 16 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thank you. The
 17 ultraviolet lighting, I know there's some vendors
 18 and contractors out there that are using the UV
 19 lighting within the air filtration systems. I
 20 believe Aces and CES have contractors that utilize
 21 that less expensive installation for air filtration.
 22 So that might be something to turn schools on to.
 23 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Thank you. If
 24 you send me some information, I will definitely
 25 forward it.

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1 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: I will. I'll do
 2 that.
 3 And then I wanted to say, also, I notice
 4 that Commissioner Manis had left; but I see he's
 5 back now, so --
 6 COMMISSIONER MANIS: I was in the other
 7 area. I was demoted and promoted.
 8 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins?
 9 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes. Another thing
 10 besides what Commissioner Voigt said on the
 11 ultraviolet, one of the things -- they're relatively
 12 inexpensive, I mean, less than a thousand dollars.
 13 And they're set up -- for that price, about \$800 --
 14 they're designed to filter and kill particles in the
 15 air up to 900 square-foot; and that's a large
 16 classroom.
 17 So they're not real expensive. I was at
 18 the GREAT Academy last week, and they have air
 19 filters in all their rooms, in addition to their
 20 ventilation system. But I mentioned to them about
 21 the ultraviolet, because that's something that kills
 22 the particles rather than just trying to filter out
 23 the particles.
 24 And, you know, I know in some of the
 25 schools, even some of the APS schools, I was reading

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1 in the paper that some of their windows were painted
 2 shut. And I thought, you know, they've had seven
 3 months to work on that, and they're still painted
 4 shut. And I was a little surprised that they hadn't
 5 identified that as an issue, to be able to open up
 6 some of these windows.
 7 But I thank you for the efforts you're
 8 doing, PED.
 9 Also the schools can collaborate with the
 10 PSFA on applying for and getting some funding. I
 11 know there's a lot of funding floating around. But
 12 that's something that I think is an urgent thing is
 13 to make sure that the schools aren't remaining
 14 closed simply because of the ventilation issue.
 15 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Thank you,
 16 Commissioner Robbins. And, again, if there is some
 17 information that I could forward to the schools
 18 about that fund -- I don't know if it's a special
 19 COVID-related fund; but I would be happy to share
 20 with the schools.
 21 THE CHAIR: Okay. All right. Thank you
 22 so much for all that. And really thank you for
 23 that -- the video of the ad. People that haven't
 24 had an opportunity to meet and talk with and
 25 experience the Albuquerque Sign Language Academy, it

<p style="text-align: right;">34</p> <p>1 is -- it's phenomenal, the work that they do. So 2 when everyone's able to move around, I would 3 absolutely encourage you to take a visit and see all 4 that they do. It is -- it's amazing. 5 Okay. So if there's nothing else, we'll 6 move on to Item No. 6, which is Discussion and 7 Possible Action on Amendment Requests. And our 8 first one up is the Roots & Wings Community School. 9 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Madam Chair, before we 10 begin, I add the school folks? 11 THE CHAIR: Yeah. 12 MS. KAREN WOERNER: And Jon Orris is the 13 school administrator at Roots & Wings. And so he 14 can advise me who else we need to add, if anyone. 15 Jon, are you there? 16 MR. JON ORRIS: Yes. Can you hear me? 17 MS. KAREN WOERNER: We can hear you, Jon. 18 Who else should we add from your school, or are you 19 it? 20 MR. JON ORRIS: I think I'm it. We're on 21 spring break this week. So I'm actually calling in 22 from the wilds. Yeah, if Erica Lannon is there, she 23 would be the only other one that I know that might 24 be calling in. But I said I'd make sure it would 25 happen.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">36</p> <p>1 see that's being improved over the years, as well as 2 their overall general performance on Page 114 on all 3 the indicators. You can see a very upward trend, 4 meeting standards in all areas, except for one this 5 last report, and that was due to the repeat finding. 6 But it was not a material weakness or a 7 significant deficiency. So the school is performing 8 well, and they're asking to increase by 10 students. 9 And then the rest of the packet, Page 115 10 through 123, is the information submitted by the 11 school that was in your materials. And both Jon and 12 I are here if you have any questions. 13 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Good morning, Jon, 14 and thanks for joining us. 15 Just wanted to give you an opportunity, if 16 there's anything in addition that you would like 17 to -- to say at this point in time. 18 MR. JON ORRIS: No, I think everything is 19 explained in there. We have room for this, and it 20 would help us to achieve some of our goals if we are 21 able to do this small increase. And I appreciate 22 your time and consideration of it. 23 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. And, you 24 know, excited, when I saw that you were asking for 25 an enrollment cap increase. You know, it's a shame</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">35</p> <p>1 MS. KAREN WOERNER: I don't see Erica. 2 So, Madam Chair, should I present the -- 3 THE CHAIR: Absolutely. 4 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Okay. So 5 Commissioners, in your packet, if you look at the 6 complete packet, it's Page 112 we're on, or it's, of 7 course, Item No. 6 if you're looking at the 8 individual materials. 9 Roots & Wings Community School is a school 10 in Questa, New Mexico, serving students in grades 11 kindergarten through eighth grade. Their enrollment 12 cap has been at 50, and they've maintained that 13 enrollment over the years; small school, rural 14 school. 15 But they're seeking to increase their 16 enrollment cap to 60. So there's a summary of the 17 request in the school's data provided there for you, 18 again, on Page 113. 19 As you can see, the school had a dip in 20 the first couple of years -- '17 and '18, but, in 21 2019, actually scored as -- pretty high as a 22 Spotlight School, so doing well. 23 They have had some historical financial 24 audit findings, that were material weaknesses and 25 significant deficiencies. But on Page 114, you will</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">37</p> <p>1 it can only be 10; but I certainly know that your 2 building presents those challenges. So just wanted 3 to say really glad that you're able to even do this. 4 Commissioner Carrillo? 5 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Hi, Jon. Steve 6 Carrillo here. We've e-mailed back and forth; so 7 it's nice to kind of virtually meet you. 8 Congratulations as well on being a Spotlight School 9 and growing your school. 10 My question is, just, is the 10 increase 11 kind of spread throughout the grades, or is there on 12 a focal point? 13 MR. JON ORRIS: No, it's through all three 14 grade levels. We have all of our grades cohorted. 15 So we have three teachers, and we cover -- one 16 teacher covers K-2, 3-5, and then 6-8. So we're 17 spreading it among the three grade levels. 18 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Well, look forward 19 to getting up there, because it's -- Northern 20 New Mexico is so beautiful. So I'll make the trip 21 soon so I can meet you and see your school. So 22 thank you. 23 MR. JON ORRIS: Great. No problem. 24 THE CHAIR: Commissioners -- 25 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Chair Gipson?</p>

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1 THE CHAIR: Yes.

2 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I would then -- I

3 know there could still be discussion. But I would

4 then make the motion to go ahead and approve the

5 enrollment cap increase for Roots & Wings.

6 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Second.

7 THE CHAIR: There's a motion by

8 Commissioner Carrillo, a second by Commissioner

9 Robbins.

10 Is there any other discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 THE CHAIR: If not, Commissioner Burt?

13 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right.

14 Commissioner Manis?

15 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes.

16 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis?

17 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

18 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Carrillo?

19 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Armijo?

21 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Yes.

22 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Voigt?

23 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins?

25 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.

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1 COMMISSIONER BURT: Chair Gipson?

2 THE CHAIR: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Chavez?

4 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.

5 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Taylor?

6 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER BURT: And Commissioner Burt,

8 yes.

9 So that's ten for, zero against. The

10 motion passes.

11 THE CHAIR: Motion passes.

12 Thank you. Congratulations, Jon. Really

13 excited that you're able to make even this small

14 increase. Hopefully, you know, in the future, it

15 can be even bigger.

16 Thanks.

17 MR. JON ORRIS: Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yeah. Thank you.

19 MR. JON ORRIS: Yes. If we could double

20 our school to still be sized, we could add more

21 students; but --

22 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Carrillo?

23 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I have a quick

24 question. I'm sorry I didn't think of it. I'm

25 always curious. Did anybody from the district --

40

1 from Questa High School or from the district -- come

2 out in opposition to this?

3 MR. JON ORRIS: Not that I heard of. I

4 don't --

5 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Okay.

6 MR. JON ORRIS: I didn't necessarily tell

7 them we were doing this, because we're authorized by

8 you-all, not --

9 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yeah.

10 MR. JON ORRIS: -- by the district.

11 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yeah. Well, it's

12 incumbent upon the community to kind of do it. And

13 I'm always just curious about that, if there's

14 opposition, where it is and why. But I didn't think

15 there would be; so thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thanks. And have a good rest

17 of your spring break.

18 MR. JON ORRIS: Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thanks.

20 MR. JON ORRIS: Thanks, Karen.

21 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Thanks, Jon. Have a

22 good break.

23 MR. JON ORRIS: Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Okay. So, Karen, we can bring

25 in the Southwest Aeronautical folks.

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1 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Okay. That would be

2 Bridget and Jill Brame.

3 Anyone else?

4 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: No, just the two of

5 us today.

6 MS. KAREN WOERNER: So, Commissioners,

7 again, Southwest Aeronautics, Math and Science

8 Academy, serving grades 7 through 12, they want to

9 add Grade 6 to make it a full middle and high

10 school, Grades 6 through 12.

11 And the school's information, basic

12 information that you request as part of their

13 request, shows, on Page 124, that the school has

14 been performing well. It was a Spotlight School for

15 2018 and '19; so strong academics.

16 Their fiscal financial audits have been

17 improving. They -- a few years ago, they had some

18 material weaknesses and significant deficiencies;

19 but those have been removed, and their chart, as you

20 see, shows improvement over the course of their

21 contract term, with, you know, all of those Does Not

22 Meets are gone. They now have all Meets Standards

23 or Working to Meet Standard.

24 And while we're looking at this, I just

25 want to acknowledge Dylan Wilson who prepares these

<p style="text-align: right;">42</p> <p>1 packets for amendment requests. So thank to Dylan 2 for all this work. He prepares these cover sheets 3 for you.</p> <p>4 Following that, Page 126 and on is the 5 actual school's packet and information they 6 provided, including curriculum samples and all of 7 that. That was in your materials; I'm sure you've 8 reviewed them. But they start on Page 126 of the 9 complete packet if you want to review those again.</p> <p>10 And, with that, that's our report.</p> <p>11 THE CHAIR: Thank you.</p> <p>12 Good morning, Bridget and Jill. Thanks 13 for joining us today. Just wanted to give you an 14 opportunity. If there's anything you would like to 15 add, please feel free of at this point in time.</p> <p>16 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: I would just like to 17 add that adding the sixth grade would really make it 18 more cohesive, a better transition for many 19 students. There's a gap between elementary and then 20 joining us in seventh grade. So that's why we're 21 seeking this change.</p> <p>22 MS. JILL BRAME: Yeah. And thank you for 23 letting us present today. And we -- I think, too, 24 to add to Bridget, that every year, we have many, 25 many students asking, and families asking, "Do you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">44</p> <p>1 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: That used to be our 2 model. We're actually working very hard to change 3 that to where the students travel through classrooms 4 and they have individualized instruction time with 5 each of their content teachers.</p> <p>6 THE CHAIR: Okay. And that's great.</p> <p>7 MS. JILL BRAME: And still using 8 Edgenuity.</p> <p>9 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: And still using 10 Edgenuity.</p> <p>11 THE CHAIR: That leads me to the question 12 I was going to ask, especially because we've had -- 13 we know the challenges that so many students have 14 had being online so much and needing a little more 15 contact, I think it's great that you're changing 16 that little bit and having that opportunity for a 17 little more human contact.</p> <p>18 I think that's especially -- you know, I 19 say this all the time. Middle school is my 20 kryptonite. So anyone that wants to spend time, it 21 is -- I know how critical that time period is. So I 22 think it's really important that students be able to 23 engage with folks as much as they can during those 24 years, because I think it helps to identify any 25 issues that may be coming up with the students.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">43</p> <p>1 have sixth grade," you know. And, "Sorry, no." And 2 every year, it's kind of a heartbreaking "no." And 3 so I know we can fill that space soon. Immediately.</p> <p>4 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thanks. And I -- and I 5 know we brought this -- this was part of the 6 discussion during contract negotiations, because I 7 think, as we looked at enrollment, it absolutely is 8 incredibly challenging to try to grab a 9 seventh-grader when they've already started and made 10 friends and has already gotten involved in 11 activities in sixth grade, to say, "Now I'm going to 12 switch schools again." It is -- it's tough.</p> <p>13 So -- and I don't know. I think this all 14 probably came about when there was the divisions 15 that happened. So it just -- yeah, this gap 16 occurred. And it -- it isn't -- it's kind of -- 17 it's very disjointed. Not kind of disjointed; it's 18 very disjointed. So appreciate that.</p> <p>19 So just -- I guess just to refresh 20 everyone -- sorry, I let the dog in -- we -- I know 21 you use Edgenuity. So the students -- so if I 22 remember correctly -- and just correct me if I'm 23 wrong -- they're in larger rooms, so that there's an 24 instructional person that's in the room with the 25 students while they're online; correct?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">45</p> <p>1 So, really, thanks for that clarification.</p> <p>2 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: Thank you.</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: Commissioners?</p> <p>4 Commissioner Robbins?</p> <p>5 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yeah, just real 6 quick.</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: My hand has been up 8 for a while.</p> <p>9 THE CHAIR: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry.</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thank you. So -- and 11 I even raised my hand digitally.</p> <p>12 So, anyway, I just had a question. And 13 it's awesome to see your community growing out there 14 on the west side.</p> <p>15 Do you all have any collaboration with 16 the -- the pilots that do that light aircraft out 17 there at that Coronado Airport?</p> <p>18 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: At Coronado --</p> <p>19 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah. There's a 20 little airport out there on the west side.</p> <p>21 MS. JILL BRAME: Double Eagle II is what 22 we work with.</p> <p>23 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes, the Double 24 Eagle, the Double Eagle. Are you familiar with the 25 community of pilots out there that fly those light</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">46</p> <p>1 aircraft?</p> <p>2 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: I'm sure our</p> <p>3 aviation director is. He's very connected to</p> <p>4 everybody out there. But we do have a plane at</p> <p>5 Double Eagle, and our students do learn to fly and</p> <p>6 get their license at our school.</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: That's very cool.</p> <p>8 That's very cool. I just wanted to check, because a</p> <p>9 friend of mine -- this is just off the record,</p> <p>10 nothing to do with you. But a friend of mine flies</p> <p>11 his light aircraft out there. He's been doing it</p> <p>12 for decades. And he's been inviting me to come out</p> <p>13 and do -- I'm just (indicates).</p> <p>14 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: Do it. And if you</p> <p>15 do, come and say hello to us over here. We're right</p> <p>16 down the road.</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Do you have a landing</p> <p>18 strip on your campus yet?</p> <p>19 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: We actually do.</p> <p>20 MS. JILL BRAME: It's close. It's pretty</p> <p>21 close.</p> <p>22 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: It comes up to it,</p> <p>23 almost.</p> <p>24 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Super. I just had</p> <p>25 that question.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">48</p> <p>1 COVID. So we're at about 230 right now. In the</p> <p>2 past, we've been around 260 to -70. So we did drop</p> <p>3 with COVID, I think, like many other -- other</p> <p>4 schools did this year.</p> <p>5 Our enrollment cap, we're a little</p> <p>6 different than a lot of schools in that our charter</p> <p>7 actually reads that we have a cap of 500. But our</p> <p>8 building cap is 400, because our students aren't</p> <p>9 here all the time. And so our cap is set pretty</p> <p>10 high right now.</p> <p>11 So we definitely can take the increase</p> <p>12 with the sixth-graders. And staffing-wise, we're</p> <p>13 set for that as well; so...</p> <p>14 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Well -- and I</p> <p>15 understand. You're no longer part of the Southwest</p> <p>16 Primary and Secondary. They're similar. They have</p> <p>17 a higher enrollment cap than the facility. But they</p> <p>18 have to manage within what the facility limits are,</p> <p>19 because they do a little bit of hybrid. And they've</p> <p>20 always been that way. Thank you very much.</p> <p>21 MS. JILL BRAME: Yes. Thanks.</p> <p>22 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: Thank you.</p> <p>23 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Armijo?</p> <p>24 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Good morning. Thank</p> <p>25 you, Chair Gipson.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">47</p> <p>1 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: That's great.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Thanks. Commissioner Robbins?</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes. Thank you. I</p> <p>4 think light aircraft, if I'm -- you may be referring</p> <p>5 to gliders?</p> <p>6 THE CHAIR: No.</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Just small</p> <p>8 aircraft. And that's fine. Gliders are fun, too.</p> <p>9 You can go out to Moriarty and catch a ride with a</p> <p>10 glider. It's very peaceful; it's very quiet when</p> <p>11 you get up and everything.</p> <p>12 I went with a gentleman who's now retired</p> <p>13 from that. But he actually reached an elevation --</p> <p>14 or an altitude -- of 25,000 feet once. Of course,</p> <p>15 you have to have oxygen. But that's pretty high for</p> <p>16 a glider.</p> <p>17 Just real quick. What's your current</p> <p>18 enrollment and enrollment cap? I know you're not</p> <p>19 asking for an increase, just adding the grade. But</p> <p>20 what's your current enrollment and enrollment cap?</p> <p>21 MS. JILL BRAME: Do you want me to take</p> <p>22 that, Bridget?</p> <p>23 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: Yeah, please.</p> <p>24 MS. JILL BRAME: So our current</p> <p>25 enrollment -- we did drop a little this year with</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">49</p> <p>1 Bridget and Jill, I just wanted to</p> <p>2 introduce myself. You are in my district. So I</p> <p>3 just wanted to let you know as soon as things open</p> <p>4 up at some point, I just want to come out and visit</p> <p>5 with you. So just wanted to let you know that.</p> <p>6 Thank you.</p> <p>7 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: We would love that.</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: Okay. Commissioners --</p> <p>9 Commissioner Burt?</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER BURT: Thanks. I am -- I was</p> <p>11 really happy to see this. I'm a big supporter of</p> <p>12 continuity for students. It's big transition years</p> <p>13 from fifth grade to sixth grade, and to have that</p> <p>14 support of, "I know I'm going to be here next year,</p> <p>15 too," I think is going to be really positive for</p> <p>16 students in many ways. 'Cause it's just challenging</p> <p>17 anyway.</p> <p>18 So I am definitely happy. Anything that</p> <p>19 allows students to have that more continuity,</p> <p>20 more -- they can breathe a little as they go into a</p> <p>21 school.</p> <p>22 And I'm sure you do have a lot of</p> <p>23 seventh-graders who knew they were going to want to</p> <p>24 come there in seventh grade, and that whole</p> <p>25 sixth-grade year, they're just waiting on getting</p>

50	<p>1 into seventh grade to get to your school. It</p> <p>2 definitely seems like it's going to be better for</p> <p>3 students and allow them that opportunity to figure</p> <p>4 out your model right away and grow with you</p> <p>5 throughout their year.</p> <p>6 So I'm really glad to see this. Thank</p> <p>7 you.</p> <p>8 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: Thank you.</p> <p>9 THE CHAIR: Commissioners, any other</p> <p>10 questions?</p> <p>11 (No response.)</p> <p>12 THE CHAIR: Okay. So, Commissioner Voigt?</p> <p>13 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah, if we're ready</p> <p>14 for a motion?</p> <p>15 So -- okay. I move that the PEC approve</p> <p>16 the amendment request for Southwest Aeronautics,</p> <p>17 Math and Science Academy to increase their grade</p> <p>18 levels served to add Grade 6.</p> <p>19 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Second.</p> <p>20 THE CHAIR: There's a motion by</p> <p>21 Commissioner Voigt. There's seconds by</p> <p>22 Commissioners Manis and Armijo.</p> <p>23 So, Commissioner Burt?</p> <p>24 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right.</p> <p>25 Commissioner Armijo?</p>	52	<p>1 THE CHAIR: I apologize.</p> <p>2 Thank you so much for joining us today.</p> <p>3 Congratulations and good luck as we all reopen.</p> <p>4 MS. JILL BRAME: Yes. Thank you so much.</p> <p>5 MS. BRIDGET BARRETT: Thank you so much.</p> <p>6 THE CHAIR: Can we take a short,</p> <p>7 ten-minute break?</p> <p>8 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.</p> <p>9 THE CHAIR: Thanks.</p> <p>10 (Recess taken, 10:04 a.m. to 10:17 a.m.)</p> <p>11 THE CHAIR: Okay. So I think we're all</p> <p>12 back, and Elizabeth has finally gotten in, and her</p> <p>13 little furry friend there. I thought it was an</p> <p>14 Easter rabbit there for a minute.</p> <p>15 All right. Thanks, all.</p> <p>16 We are on to Item No. 7, which is</p> <p>17 Discussion and Possible Action on the Board of</p> <p>18 Finance Application, Explore Academy-Las Cruces.</p> <p>19 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Thank you, Chair</p> <p>20 Gipson. I know that Justin Baiardo is in the room.</p> <p>21 And I think Elisha Varela is also.</p> <p>22 Justin, are there others that we should</p> <p>23 let into the panel?</p> <p>24 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Hello. Good morning,</p> <p>25 everyone. Yes, I e-mailed a list over to Karen. So</p>
51	<p>1 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Yes.</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: There we go. Yes.</p> <p>4 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis?</p> <p>5 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.</p> <p>6 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Manis?</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes.</p> <p>8 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Taylor?</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Burt,</p> <p>11 yes.</p> <p>12 Commissioner Chavez?</p> <p>13 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.</p> <p>14 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Gipson?</p> <p>15 THE CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>16 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins?</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.</p> <p>18 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Voigt?</p> <p>19 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.</p> <p>20 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right. That is</p> <p>21 ten-zero, and the motion passes.</p> <p>22 THE CHAIR: Congratulations.</p> <p>23 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Commissioner Gipson,</p> <p>24 I think it was Commissioner Taylor who made the</p> <p>25 second. I just wanted to clarify that.</p>	53	<p>1 she --</p> <p>2 MS. KAREN WOERNER: I'm adding them,</p> <p>3 Thanks, Justin.</p> <p>4 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Yeah.</p> <p>5 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: All right. And</p> <p>6 while that's happening, so PEC members, as you know,</p> <p>7 that Explore Academy has -- all court issues with</p> <p>8 Explore Academy have gone away, and Explore Academy</p> <p>9 is ready to open up the doors.</p> <p>10 We've met with them and started to work</p> <p>11 with Explore Academy on the items in the</p> <p>12 Implementation Year Checklist.</p> <p>13 And the very first item is the Board of</p> <p>14 Finance Application, which they submitted to us and</p> <p>15 should be in your packet. I'm not sure which page,</p> <p>16 but it's also a separate item within the SharePoint</p> <p>17 system.</p> <p>18 And so, as part of that, they need to</p> <p>19 submit an affidavit by the entity that's going to</p> <p>20 serve as their budget managers, in this case is the</p> <p>21 Vigil Group; and a statement from every member of</p> <p>22 the governing body that they agree to consult with</p> <p>23 the Department on any matters that are not covered</p> <p>24 in the Manual of Accounting and Budgeting for taking</p> <p>25 actions as it relates to funds held as a Board of</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">54</p> <p>1 Finance; a signed affidavit from each governing body 2 member declaring that that board member is not on 3 any other governing board of a charter school that 4 was suspended or failed to receive or maintain their 5 Board of Finance designation; a letter from Poms & 6 Associates that verifies that the school is a 7 participant in the Public Schools Insurance 8 Authority and indicating that the person who will be 9 entrusted with handling the funds of the charter 10 school is adequately insured. 11 So that packet is in your materials. 12 THE CHAIR: So, good morning, Justin. 13 Good morning, everyone. Appreciate the time. I 14 don't know if you're on spring break this week or 15 not. It's -- but if you are, thank you additionally 16 for taking that time out. 17 So just to remind Commissioners, this is 18 really, really important, so that schools can begin 19 to accept funds like grants, CSP money, and any 20 other grants and be able to -- if they were choosing 21 to pay a head administrator during this 22 implementation time, they would be able to do so. 23 So it is a critical step, and thank you for the 24 completeness of this. 25 If there's anything that folks from the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">56</p> <p>1 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: We'll do Gabriela and 2 then Val. 3 MS. ELISHA VARELA: Gabriela is having 4 connection issues, because she called me earlier to 5 help troubleshoot it. That's probably why. She's 6 having connection issues right now. But Val was 7 able to come in. Sorry, Karen. I did not send you 8 the name. 9 DR. VAL GALVAN: Good morning, everybody. 10 I'm Dr. Val Galvan. I'm the vice chair for the 11 Academy. And I currently hold the position of 12 Director of Education for Vista College here in 13 Las Cruces. 14 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: That was all I wanted 15 to do. I just wanted them to introduce themselves. 16 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Thank you, 17 Justin, for introducing the board. 18 Commissioners, I know that this is not on 19 the table. I just wanted to advise you that the 20 Board of Finance Application is the first step in 21 this Implementation Year Checklist. And the school 22 has submitted all of the Implementation Year 23 submissions for November and March, and our staff is 24 in the process of reviewing them. 25 But it's nice to meet the board. And this</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">55</p> <p>1 school want to say, please, you have the opportunity 2 to. 3 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: I don't think I have 4 anything specifically to say. I just -- our board 5 members are here. I want to -- I would like them 6 to, I guess, introduce themselves very quickly, as 7 they've been -- they've been with us in this 8 planning process. 9 I think four of the five are here today, 10 if you guys want to -- Clara, I'll let you go first. 11 MS. CLARA WELLES: Hi. My name is Clara 12 Welles, and I am the chair of the governing board 13 for Explore Academy-Las Cruces. I'm actually here 14 in Las Cruces, and I work for the College of 15 Engineering at New Mexico State University. 16 MS. CLAREN WILSON: I am Claren Wilson. 17 I'm the secretary for the board for Explore 18 Academy-Las Cruces, and I co-own a dog training 19 business in town. 20 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Karen, why don't you 21 go next? 22 MS. KAREN DIXON: Hi. My name is Karen 23 Dixon. I'm a member of the board here in 24 Las Cruces. I worked with the Las Cruces Public 25 Schools here and New Mexico State University.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">57</p> <p>1 is the first step, as you mentioned, Chairwoman 2 Gipson. 3 THE CHAIR: Right. So thank you. And 4 it's good to see that many people from Las Cruces. 5 I'm just down the road right now from NMSU. I'm a 6 resident of Las Cruces; so welcome, and glad you 7 didn't have to drive to Santa Fe. So it makes it a 8 little bit easier. 9 So, if there are any questions? If not, 10 we can -- oh, I'm sorry, Glenna. 11 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thanks. I just want 12 to congratulate Explore on their national 13 recognition from the SEA. And that's huge. And it 14 speaks volumes to the work that you're doing at your 15 campus. So kudos to that. 16 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Burt? 17 COMMISSIONER BURT: That's exactly what I 18 was going to say, too. It's so amazing, so 19 congratulations. And I think that's a pretty high 20 bar for Explore-Las Cruces as well, which is a great 21 thing to, you know, go off of to know that that's 22 where you -- that's where you're looking to go. 23 So I think that's really exciting. And, 24 yeah, I'm so grate- -- thank you for all the 25 governing board members to join. I know it's a lot</p>

58	<p>1 of work and appreciate you taking time out of your 2 day to come and join us. 3 So congratulations on the award. And 4 now -- I mean, that's where the bar is; so good 5 luck. 6 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins? 7 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Well, I want to 8 congratulate you, and I look forward to working with 9 you. I know over the next several months, we will 10 probably be talking with several of you at regular 11 meetings and through the -- the implementation 12 process. 13 And if you have any questions, I know the 14 Options for Parents, Charter School Division, is 15 very helpful in that way. Also be willing to reach 16 out to your local Commissioner or any of us if you 17 have questions. Welcome. 18 THE CHAIR: Commissioners, any other 19 questions? 20 Commissioner Carrillo? 21 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Justin and members 22 of the board, Elisha, I would echo what the other 23 members have said. Based on the presentation you 24 gave -- maybe it was in December or January, I can't 25 remember. It was a lengthy presentation about the</p>	60	<p>1 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Voigt? 2 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes. 3 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins? 4 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes. 5 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Gipson? 6 THE CHAIR: Yes. 7 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Chavez. 8 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes. 9 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Burt is a 10 yes. 11 That is ten votes for and zero votes 12 against, and so the motion passes. 13 THE CHAIR: It passes. Congratulations. 14 Thank you so much for taking the time out, and, 15 hopefully, we'll be able to see you in person soon. 16 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Thank you. 17 THE CHAIR: Thanks. 18 MS. KAREN WOERNER: So that it's going to 19 take me a few seconds to get everybody back to 20 Attendees. So bear with me, folks. 21 Are we all still here? Did I move 22 somebody? I lost Rebekka Burt, Secretary Burt. 23 Just so you know, when you're moving people, it 24 jumps, and so you can't do it too quickly. 25 COMMISSIONER BURT: It's funny being on</p>
59	<p>1 school. I was certainly very impressed and glad 2 that our kids down south -- I'm up in Santa Fe -- 3 our kids down south are going to be able to benefit 4 from your school as well. 5 And I know that while there might be more 6 comments or discussion, I am going to go ahead and 7 make a motion to approve your Board of Finance 8 Application. 9 COMMISSIONER BURT: Second. Oh. 10 THE CHAIR: I will second. 11 So there's a motion by Commissioner 12 Carrillo, a second by Commissioner Gipson. 13 THE CHAIR: If there's no other 14 discussion, Commissioner Burt? 15 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right. 16 Commissioner Taylor? 17 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. 18 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Manis? 19 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes. 20 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis? 21 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes. 22 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Carrillo? 23 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yes. 24 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Armijo? 25 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Yes.</p>	61	<p>1 that side, too, because I'm, like, waving my arms. 2 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Sorry. My apologies, 3 Commissioner. I think we're back to how we -- 4 THE CHAIR: I think except Commissioner 5 Manis is -- I think has stepped away. 6 Okay. We are on to Item No. 8, which is 7 Discussion and Possible Action on the Expedited 8 Renewal Process and Application, which we did spend 9 some time yesterday with. 10 Do Commissioners have any additional 11 questions or concerns regarding the process for 12 expedited -- Commissioner Carrillo? 13 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: It's not a 14 question or concern. But it's basically for people 15 watching and attendees and things like that, so that 16 they know we really spent a good deal of time going 17 over the renewal process. 18 So if we make a motion or something moves 19 quickly, it's not because we're acting in haste. We 20 did a lot of homework yesterday. And if you're 21 interested in seeing how the homework is done, I 22 would say you should attend our Work Sessions as 23 well. 24 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Burt? 25 COMMISSIONER BURT: Thanks. I don't have</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">62</p> <p>1 any concerns, either. I wanted to say I'm really 2 excited at the opportunity for our really 3 high-achieving schools to have the opportunity to 4 save some time. You know, the more time that we can 5 give back to our charter leaders to serve their 6 students and their staff, the better.</p> <p>7 So I think it's a great opportunity for 8 folks to, like, when you are working really hard 9 throughout your charter contract, and you're doing 10 really well throughout the charter contract, to take 11 that little bit of a breath at the end and be able 12 to not have to put in as much effort right then.</p> <p>13 So it's putting in the hard work up front 14 will really pay off in the end for you. So really 15 excited to be able to provide this opportunity for 16 folks and get them back into their -- back into 17 their schools as quick as possible.</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: Right. Agreed.</p> <p>19 I mean I think one of the areas that is 20 always perplexing with charters is that they're 21 supposed to have all this autonomy. But as time 22 goes on and regulations get more and more, it seems 23 there's fewer and fewer opportunities for autonomy.</p> <p>24 And not that this really falls into that 25 area, but it does; it's the one -- one of the few</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">64</p> <p>1 renewal packet -- this is my fault I didn't raise it 2 yesterday -- but the expedited renewal packet 3 includes being able to submit an application early. 4 And it had August and September.</p> <p>5 August 1st is near impossible, if you want 6 us to provide any data to you. So I am proposing 7 that it be September 1st and October 1st, like the 8 normal renewals.</p> <p>9 It was August, September, and October. I 10 am proposing September and October, just to make 11 sure we have the data we need to prepare the packets 12 for you for the --</p> <p>13 THE CHAIR: And thanks for reminding us of 14 that. I think when we first set that timeline, we 15 were looking at schools, with the expedited renewal 16 getting some -- the site visit and that all being 17 able to be cleared out before having to do the 18 traditional renewals. But certainly, I think 19 because this year in particular, it makes more sense 20 that it all be submitted October 1.</p> <p>21 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Well, okay. Then, 22 right. I was suggesting September 1, if they 23 wanted.</p> <p>24 THE CHAIR: Oh. If they wanted to 25 expedite it? Okay.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">63</p> <p>1 places we can really say the thank-you to schools 2 for all the work that they do. You've worked really 3 hard for the four years completed of the contract, 4 and excited that we can finally begin the 5 implementation of this.</p> <p>6 Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: But Ms. Woerner 8 had her hand up before me. I don't know if 9 that's --</p> <p>10 THE CHAIR: Oh, sorry.</p> <p>11 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: That's okay.</p> <p>12 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Commissioner, I would 13 defer to you. Thank you.</p> <p>14 I wanted to point out that, in your 15 packet, Commissioners, on Page 169, I did try to 16 summarize the conversation from the Work Session, 17 and just wanted to be -- it's just recommended 18 proposals that are there.</p> <p>19 But I just wanted to be sure that I 20 captured it correctly and would ask you to review 21 Page 169. Depending on the motion you make today, I 22 just want to be clear with what we discussed and if 23 that's okay.</p> <p>24 There was something I don't think we did 25 discuss yesterday, and that was that your expedited</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">65</p> <p>1 MS. KAREN WOERNER: If the Commission 2 wants to do renewal approvals in October, we can 3 make that work with a September 1st deadline.</p> <p>4 THE CHAIR: No, I don't think that's 5 necessary. So whatever fits -- you know, I'm fine 6 with whatever fits best into your schedule. I think 7 that's what we -- you know. So if your suggestion 8 is September, that's absolutely fine. I'm fine with 9 that.</p> <p>10 MS. KAREN WOERNER: The way the packet is 11 currently worded is they could submit August 1st, 12 September 1st, or October 1st.</p> <p>13 THE CHAIR: Right.</p> <p>14 MS. KAREN WOERNER: I'm proposing just 15 September 1st.</p> <p>16 THE CHAIR: Just September 1st. Right. 17 Yeah. And I am absolutely fine with that.</p> <p>18 Are -- is there any discussion on that? 19 So there would, in the motion, have to be that 20 wording that the application would be submitted 21 by -- by September 1st, because we always do the 22 "by."</p> <p>23 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Right. And then 24 schools could still elect to wait till October 1st.</p> <p>25 THE CHAIR: Yeah.</p>

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1 MS. KAREN WOERNER: And then, Commissioner
 2 Carrillo, I interrupted you.
 3 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: You didn't
 4 interrupt. But I -- so I want to go back now. I
 5 had a question based on what Chair Gipson said.
 6 But I was going to echo what Secretary
 7 Burt said, because that was, of the higher
 8 performing schools in District 10, that was an issue
 9 that came up numerous times was to have expedited
 10 renewal as kind of a way to -- you know, to
 11 acknowledge the excellence of these schools and not
 12 having to go through an extended process.
 13 So -- now. But Ms. -- I might have
 14 misunderstood, Chair Gipson, between what you and
 15 Ms. Woerner were saying. So we're taking out
 16 August 1st. But if they do want to apply early,
 17 they can do it on September 1st or October 1st.
 18 THE CHAIR: They can -- well, they -- no,
 19 they'd have to have it in by September 1st. So they
 20 would not be able to do it October. They would --
 21 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Okay.
 22 THE CHAIR: But they can send it in early.
 23 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Got it.
 24 THE CHAIR: I mean, they can. But they
 25 can't do it October 1st. October 1st is going to

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1 be -- that's the deadline for traditional renewals.
 2 So that deadline --
 3 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: That's right. Got
 4 it.
 5 THE CHAIR: -- is set. So the expedited,
 6 they will have to do it by September 1 --
 7 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Okay.
 8 THE CHAIR: -- or whatever the first
 9 business day is in September. I'm not sure what
 10 that date is.
 11 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Then based on what
 12 you're saying -- and I know there will be more
 13 discussion -- I would say to make a motion to
 14 approve the expedited renewal process, as worked on,
 15 but with the change of eliminating August 1st and
 16 saying they can -- they can apply early, and it
 17 needs to be on or before September 1st for expedited
 18 renewal. Got it.
 19 THE CHAIR: I appreciate that. But I
 20 think the motion has to specify that it's only for
 21 five-year contracts. We can't just say, "as worked
 22 on," because there's not a record of -- there's not
 23 a public record of the "as worked on." So that the
 24 motion has to specify.
 25 Commissioner Voigt?

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1 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah. If we're ready
 2 for the motion I can attempt to make that.
 3 THE CHAIR: Okay. Sure.
 4 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Okay. So I move that
 5 the Public Education Commission approve the
 6 expedited renewal process and five-year application
 7 to be submitted by September 1st.
 8 THE CHAIR: Five-year -- only for schools
 9 that have had a five-year contract.
 10 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Okay.
 11 So I move that the Public Education
 12 Commission approve the renewal process and
 13 application for schools that are on a five-year
 14 contract to have their applications submitted by
 15 September 1st.
 16 THE CHAIR: Okay. Can I just ask, did you
 17 use the word "expedited" in that motion?
 18 I don't think so.
 19 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Okay. This is the
 20 last time I'm going to try.
 21 So I move that the Public Education
 22 Commission approve the expedited renewal process and
 23 application for charter schools currently on a
 24 five-year contract, and that their applications be
 25 submitted by September 1st.

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1 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Second.
 2 THE CHAIR: There's a motion by
 3 Commissioner Voigt, a second by Commissioner
 4 Robbins. If there's no further discussion?
 5 MS. KAREN WOERNER: I'm sorry. But does
 6 that require them to submit September 1st?
 7 THE CHAIR: It says "by." The motion says
 8 "by."
 9 MS. KAREN WOERNER: But wouldn't they be
 10 able to go October 1st if they so desire, or not?
 11 THE CHAIR: If they did -- so my
 12 understanding of this motion is they're applying for
 13 expedited renewal by September 1st. If they don't
 14 apply for expedited renewal by September 1st, then
 15 if they submit October 1, they're submitting for
 16 traditional renewal, and they'd have to do the whole
 17 packet.
 18 The expedited re- -- because the motion
 19 specifically says it has to done by September 1. So
 20 if they don't do it by September 1, then they have
 21 to do a traditional renewal process.
 22 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: And that was my
 23 understanding through the discussion. When, Karen,
 24 you were presenting those three dates, and then you
 25 said, "But I would recommend September," that's what

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1 I heard was that your recommendation of that
 2 September date being the one for expedited renewal
 3 application.
 4 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Yeah. And that's
 5 fine. My intent was that the September 1st -- we
 6 would only entertain expedited renewals; but
 7 October 1st could be either.
 8 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: That's what Chair
 9 Gipson just said.
 10 MS. KAREN WOERNER: No. She just said --
 11 THE CHAIR: No. What I said is if they
 12 don't do it by September 1st, then they're saying
 13 they don't want expedited renewal; they're going to
 14 go the traditional route. That's the way I read
 15 this.
 16 MS. KAREN WOERNER: That -- that places
 17 more work on everybody for -- like, I would -- for
 18 the Department standpoint, I would -- Division
 19 standpoint -- I would say that the -- we would still
 20 be willing to do an expedited renewal in October.
 21 Because what it's going to require is if they don't
 22 submit till October 1st, then you're going to want a
 23 whole preliminary analysis.
 24 THE CHAIR: We're really going out of sync
 25 here with motions, because we should only be

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1 talking, when we've got a motion on the table, with
 2 those that can vote. So this is a little
 3 uncomfortable.
 4 However, I'm going to say, then, why need
 5 the September 1 in there, because they can apply at
 6 any time for the expedited renewal up to October 1?
 7 So I don't understand why we need the September 1
 8 language.
 9 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Exactly. I think
 10 Commissioner Burt wants to say something.
 11 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Burt?
 12 COMMISSIONER BURT: Thanks. So I just
 13 read through it. And it looks like, if they applied
 14 by September 1st, that we would actually be able to
 15 approve their application earlier as well.
 16 So I think that's -- the September 1st is
 17 actually, like, they would be able to expedite their
 18 own approval as well. If they submitted their
 19 expedited application by September 1st, they
 20 actually could get their contract approval done by,
 21 like, October -- in October.
 22 So that's the -- I think that's -- so hold
 23 on before -- hold on.
 24 So that's the way that the timeline is
 25 written in the proposal is that if they do it by

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1 September 1st, that we would do their contract
 2 approval in October. Now, if they don't do it, I
 3 don't want to penalize people --
 4 THE CHAIR: I don't, either.
 5 COMMISSIONER BURT: -- for not submitting
 6 their expedited application if they don't do it by
 7 September. Okay. But we wouldn't consider their
 8 application renewal until December with everyone
 9 else's. So I think that's the difference that we're
 10 considering.
 11 And if that -- I think that's the -- the
 12 September 1st or October 1st, that's the difference
 13 is allowing them to have, like, kind of -- and the
 14 other cool thing that I kind of think about that is
 15 if we did -- let's say there's one or two expedited
 16 applications. If they submitted by September 1st,
 17 that's two less than we have to do in our big
 18 December sweep.
 19 So giving them that opportunity could be
 20 really great for us as well as far as efficiency.
 21 THE CHAIR: That's why we actually put
 22 those earlier dates in, because the anticipation was
 23 that we would be able to deal with them earlier. I
 24 don't know if there's enough turnaround time from
 25 that September time to be able to do it at the

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1 October meeting. That's my only concern.
 2 COMMISSIONER BURT: It seems like, with
 3 the expedited applications, it's a lot less; so --
 4 THE CHAIR: I understand that.
 5 COMMISSIONER BURT: -- that's the only
 6 thing I would assume, too. Which October --
 7 submitting by October, that's really only -- I mean
 8 I guess that is a whole other month that CSD would
 9 have. But then you're combining them with everyone
 10 else's they're doing these deep dives into. So it
 11 makes sense to have a little bit more time.
 12 And, like, if they turn it in by
 13 September 1st, that's the only thing CSD is really
 14 reviewing at that time, or maybe those one or two --
 15 or three -- I don't know how many -- I think there
 16 were several that could technically get it for this
 17 time. But, I mean, it's not as many as probably the
 18 whole gamut done in December.
 19 THE CHAIR: So this is still my question.
 20 If they do it by -- if we still hold to the October
 21 date, if they did it by September and it could be
 22 done, we can hear it. It doesn't -- it doesn't
 23 preclude us from being able to hear it.
 24 So I don't -- I still don't get why we
 25 need the September date. If they do it by

<p style="text-align: right;">74</p> <p>1 September, and everything is ready, we can hear it 2 in October. There's no -- there's no clear -- 3 COMMISSIONER BURT: I think it's, for me, 4 just giving it very clearly to the charter leaders. 5 That way, they don't turn it on September 15th and 6 think they're going to be heard October. I think 7 it's making it very clear to charter leaders. Like, 8 that's your -- if you turn it in after September 9 1st, we're going to hear you in December. 10 It just makes it just very clear, the 11 timeline, you know, very succinct for our charter 12 leaders, specifically. 13 And it also gives the nut to where, you 14 know, CSD doesn't have to have -- or even, Chair, I 15 can imagine you having to field those calls on 16 September 10th and saying, like, "Hey, we wanted to 17 get it done by October. It says by October 1st, and 18 we have it done by September 10th; so we want to 19 have it heard in October," just to have to field 20 those calls, "Well, we don't have enough time now to 21 do it, you know, October." 22 So I think it's just setting those 23 timelines very clearly, making it make sense for our 24 charter leaders, and allow a process for CSD to 25 follow.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">76</p> <p>1 them from submitting it by October as well. 2 Is that correct, does that seem right? 3 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yeah. Okay. 4 Cool. 5 THE CHAIR: I'm not sure. 6 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I'm not, either. 7 COMMISSIONER BURT: I feel a little like 8 one more step. 9 THE CHAIR: If applications are submitted 10 by October 1st -- by September 1st, I'm concerned 11 that that language says you can't submit it after 12 September 1. That's what concerns me. Am I the 13 only one that's a little worried about that? 14 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Glenna, what if you 15 changed the motion -- 16 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: I'm not doing any 17 more changing. 18 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: -- that the 19 application may be submitted by September 1st for 20 expedited approval? 21 THE CHAIR: No. I think we have to amend 22 it, because schools could still do it October 1 for 23 expedited. I think if we amend it to say "if 24 submitted by September 1, consideration at the 25 October meeting, otherwise, consideration will be</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">75</p> <p>1 So I would -- I would suggest going with 2 that. Like, if they do it by September 1st, they 3 can be heard on October, after the -- for the 4 Commission. If they don't it by September 1st, and 5 they do it by October 1st, just like everyone else, 6 that they could then be heard along with everyone 7 else, but they could still do the expedited 8 application. 9 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: So, then, with 10 that, the motion that Vice Chair Voigt made would 11 still be valid. 12 THE CHAIR: Yes. 13 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Okay, then. 14 THE CHAIR: I think so, yeah. 15 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Let's roll. 16 THE CHAIR: Okay. Okay. So if there's no 17 other discussion? 18 COMMISSIONER BURT: Is there a way -- can 19 we get the -- I don't know if Cindy is -- is there a 20 way we can get that motion read back? 21 THE REPORTER: Yes, you can. Just a 22 moment. I'll scroll back and find it. 23 (The record was read as requested.) 24 COMMISSIONER BURT: It does seem like that 25 could cover it; because then it doesn't preclude</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">77</p> <p>1 made at the December meeting," does that clarify 2 better? 3 Okay. Do you want me to try it? 4 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah. 5 THE CHAIR: Okay. So I move that the 6 Public Education Commission -- 7 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I'm sorry. 8 Procedurally, you have to withdraw the other motion 9 before you can make a new one. 10 THE CHAIR: Yes. Sorry. Sorry. 11 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Glenna, you have to 12 remove it. You have to withdraw your motion. 13 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Oh. I withdraw the 14 motion I previously made. 15 THE CHAIR: So I'm going to move that the 16 Public Education Commission adopt the expedited 17 renewal process for charter schools that have been 18 on a five-year contract. Schools that wish to 19 submit their application for expedited renewal by 20 September 1 will be considered at the October 21 meeting. All other expedited renewals will be 22 submitted by October 1 to be considered at the 23 December meeting. 24 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I second that. 25 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Second. Everybody</p>

78	<p>1 is seconding.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Motion by Commissioner Gipson,</p> <p>3 a second by Commissioner Davis.</p> <p>4 Is there any further discussion?</p> <p>5 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Nailed it.</p> <p>6 THE CHAIR: Roll, please.</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right.</p> <p>8 Commissioner Chavez?</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Burt,</p> <p>11 yes.</p> <p>12 Commissioner Voigt?</p> <p>13 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.</p> <p>14 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins?</p> <p>15 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.</p> <p>16 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Armijo?</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Yes.</p> <p>18 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Gipson?</p> <p>19 THE CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>20 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>21 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yes.</p> <p>22 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Taylor?</p> <p>23 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.</p> <p>24 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Manis?</p> <p>25 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes.</p>	80	<p>1 Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Thanks. And I</p> <p>3 think we did really great work, everybody,</p> <p>4 yesterday.</p> <p>5 I wouldn't say this is a -- well, maybe</p> <p>6 it's a concern. I just want to make sure -- and I'm</p> <p>7 glad we're doing this early -- that when it comes to</p> <p>8 contract time, that relative to the tier levels as</p> <p>9 well as the renewal process that we've set up, that</p> <p>10 we make sure that we're always in complete alignment</p> <p>11 so we don't end up in any hot water later, where</p> <p>12 somebody comes back to us and says, "Hey, well,</p> <p>13 that's not the guideline that you said it was going</p> <p>14 to be," or something like that.</p> <p>15 Because it is -- we have to be careful</p> <p>16 with all of these -- all of our language so that</p> <p>17 later it doesn't come back to haunt us.</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: I think we do as best a job as</p> <p>19 we can to make sure that that doesn't happen. But,</p> <p>20 of course, as we know, the challenges are we've</p> <p>21 got -- we deal in a system that has multiple</p> <p>22 iterations of the contracts out there. So that's --</p> <p>23 that's the -- that's one of the difficulties, and,</p> <p>24 certainly, one of the great difficulties for staff,</p> <p>25 is being able to keep track of what contract schools</p>
79	<p>1 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis?</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right. That</p> <p>4 passes, ten-zero.</p> <p>5 THE CHAIR: All right. Motion passes.</p> <p>6 and, hopefully, there's not confusion with that.</p> <p>7 Thank you.</p> <p>8 We are on to Item No. 9, which is</p> <p>9 Discussion and Possible Action on the Tier Levels in</p> <p>10 the Academic Performance Framework.</p> <p>11 Thanks, everyone, once again for that work</p> <p>12 yesterday. Those are always not only good</p> <p>13 discussions, but it also helps to lead us in what</p> <p>14 our work still needs to be. And there's a lot of</p> <p>15 work that we know that we need to do going forward.</p> <p>16 This was a system that was created at the</p> <p>17 very end of the letter-grade system, and there's</p> <p>18 been so many changes since then. And, of course,</p> <p>19 with the pandemic, there's -- there's a lot of</p> <p>20 unknowns.</p> <p>21 So yesterday's work, hopefully, will help</p> <p>22 to inform for this year's renewal process and this</p> <p>23 year's reports that CSD has to do.</p> <p>24 So is there any additional discussion</p> <p>25 about yesterday's work?</p>	81	<p>1 are specifically on.</p> <p>2 It would be great when we make those</p> <p>3 changes to contracts that schools had to fall into</p> <p>4 place with that. But, unfortunately, we can't. So</p> <p>5 that does create challenges for us. But thank you</p> <p>6 for that.</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah.</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: Sure. Commissioner Voigt?</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah. Thanks.</p> <p>10 Commissioner Carrillo, I think that is</p> <p>11 actually the overarching lens through which we</p> <p>12 operate is to make sure that everything is going to</p> <p>13 be legally on the up-and-up, and also in the best</p> <p>14 interests of the charter schools, as well as</p> <p>15 operationally sound on both sides.</p> <p>16 So -- but thanks for that reminder.</p> <p>17 THE CHAIR: We do a deep dive into that</p> <p>18 contract with the schools during contract</p> <p>19 negotiations. So I find it difficult that a school</p> <p>20 would come back and say, "I didn't know that" you</p> <p>21 know, because they -- we do a thorough dive into it</p> <p>22 with them. And governing board members are there as</p> <p>23 well. And we absolutely encourage that so there</p> <p>24 isn't any -- hopefully, none of those concerns</p> <p>25 arise.</p>

82	<p>1 So that being said, if there's no other --</p> <p>2 if there's no further discussion on this, can we</p> <p>3 have a motion on this?</p> <p>4 (No response.)</p> <p>5 THE CHAIR: So I am going to move that the</p> <p>6 PEC adopt the tier level -- the tier levels aligned</p> <p>7 with the State Accountability System, with the</p> <p>8 exception that no school would move down a tier</p> <p>9 level.</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Second.</p> <p>11 THE CHAIR: There's a motion by</p> <p>12 Commissioner Gipson, a second by Commissioner</p> <p>13 Chavez.</p> <p>14 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Do these need to be</p> <p>15 specified for those eleven schools in particular --</p> <p>16 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER MANIS: -- in the motion?</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: Our concern was with the --</p> <p>19 those specific -- because the school -- okay.</p> <p>20 Because it's only the schools that have that kind of</p> <p>21 contract. So if you want me to specify that it's</p> <p>22 for only the eleven schools.</p> <p>23 But they are the only ones that are on</p> <p>24 that specific contract. So I don't think it affects</p> <p>25 any -- it doesn't affect any other schools.</p>	84	<p>1 THE CHAIR: But I don't -- so -- shoot.</p> <p>2 So these are -- just try to just nod your head.</p> <p>3 These are the schools that are on the --</p> <p>4 just to make sure -- on the 2018-'19 contract.</p> <p>5 MS. KAREN WOERNER: (Indicates.)</p> <p>6 THE CHAIR: Okay. I can do that. All</p> <p>7 right. I just wanted to double-check.</p> <p>8 So I move that the Public Education</p> <p>9 Commission adopt the tier levels aligned with the</p> <p>10 State Accountability System for charter schools that</p> <p>11 are on the 2018-2019 charter contract, the tier</p> <p>12 levels aligned, with the exception that no school</p> <p>13 would move down a tier level.</p> <p>14 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Second.</p> <p>15 THE CHAIR: There's a motion by</p> <p>16 Commissioner Gipson, a second by Commissioner</p> <p>17 Chavez.</p> <p>18 If there's no further discussion, roll,</p> <p>19 please?</p> <p>20 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right.</p> <p>21 Commissioner Voigt?</p> <p>22 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.</p> <p>23 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Taylor?</p> <p>24 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.</p> <p>25 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins?</p>
83	<p>1 But I'll gladly amend it -- Karen, I</p> <p>2 struggle with recognizing you, because I'm really</p> <p>3 not supposed to. And I apologize. But it's</p> <p>4 really --</p> <p>5 COMMISSIONER MANIS: I just wanted to</p> <p>6 check because I (inaudible) --</p> <p>7 THE CHAIR: So I will gladly amend it. If</p> <p>8 that makes people comfortable, I'll gladly amend it.</p> <p>9 So I will amend the motion to adopt the</p> <p>10 tier levels aligned with the State Accountability</p> <p>11 System. But I don't have a list of those eleven</p> <p>12 schools.</p> <p>13 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Chair Gipson, should</p> <p>14 we also maybe include that this is just for this one</p> <p>15 particular moment in time? It's not for future --</p> <p>16 future cases as well, right? Do we need to specify</p> <p>17 that?</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: I think, at this point -- I</p> <p>19 don't think so. I think we're going to look at it</p> <p>20 later as an overarching question --</p> <p>21 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Okay.</p> <p>22 THE CHAIR: -- to fix it permanently,</p> <p>23 after -- after this year is -- these reports are</p> <p>24 out.</p> <p>25 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Okay.</p>	85	<p>1 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Manis?</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes.</p> <p>4 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Gipson?</p> <p>5 THE CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>6 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis?</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.</p> <p>8 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Chavez?</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>11 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yes.</p> <p>12 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Burt,</p> <p>13 yes.</p> <p>14 Commissioner Armijo?</p> <p>15 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Yes.</p> <p>16 COMMISSIONER BURT: All right. That's ten</p> <p>17 for, zero against; the motion passes.</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: The motion passed. Thank you</p> <p>19 so much.</p> <p>20 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Chair Gipson?</p> <p>21 THE CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>22 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: As a matter of</p> <p>23 process, you are allowed to call on staff for --</p> <p>24 THE CHAIR: We don't after a motion is</p> <p>25 made. The only people that should participate in a</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">86</p> <p>1 discussion after a motion is made is those that can 2 vote.</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: It can be. But 4 you do have -- but this came up in our district. 5 You do have the right to do that if you -- because 6 that's why staff -- that's why it's so great that 7 they're here.</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: Right. And I appreciate that. 9 And that's why they participate prior to the motion. 10 But once the motion is made, then it should be held 11 to just those that are voting.</p> <p>12 Okay. We are on to Item No. 10, the 13 Annual Reports.</p> <p>14 And I don't think we've -- we're, at this 15 point in time, looking to do anything with this. 16 Yes?</p> <p>17 MS. KAREN WOERNER: That's correct, 18 Madam Chair.</p> <p>19 THE CHAIR: I should have removed it. 20 Yeah. Yeah. That's my error. And I apologize. So 21 we are going to hopefully -- we're going to take off 22 Item No. 10, and hopefully be able to -- be able to 23 look at it next month, aspirationally.</p> <p>24 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Do we need to make a 25 motion to table this until our next meeting?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">88</p> <p>1 So I will move that the Public Education 2 Commission table Item No. 10 until next month.</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: I'll second.</p> <p>4 THE CHAIR: Motion by Commissioner Gipson, 5 a second by Commissioner Voigt.</p> <p>6 Roll, please?</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Taylor? 8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Manis? 10 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes.</p> <p>11 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis? 12 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.</p> <p>13 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Carrillo? 14 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Yes.</p> <p>15 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Armijo? 16 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Yes.</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Voigt? 18 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.</p> <p>19 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins? 20 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.</p> <p>21 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Gipson? 22 THE CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>23 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Chavez? 24 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.</p> <p>25 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Burt,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">87</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: I'm just double-checking and 2 making sure.</p> <p>3 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Madam Chair, we don't 4 have the actual final annual reports. You saw the 5 template yesterday, which we would be happy to share 6 today if you wanted to.</p> <p>7 But we do have -- what has been finished 8 is all the documentation and the ratings in the 9 Web EPSS instrument. And those reports have been 10 provided to the schools and have been provided to 11 you as well in SharePoint, as well as the rating 12 charts over the course of their contract term on an 13 Excel spreadsheet for you to review. But we haven't 14 actually transferred all that information into the 15 Annual Report template and haven't provided that to 16 the schools yet.</p> <p>17 So in terms of approval, we would ask that 18 you wait till next year -- next month. Excuse me. 19 But if -- but the information is available to you 20 and happy to entertain any information or discussion 21 if you wish, but ask that there not be an approval 22 vote today.</p> <p>23 THE CHAIR: Right. Okay. But we're good 24 with saying that next month, we should be okay with 25 it. Okay. All right.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">89</p> <p>1 yes.</p> <p>2 The motion passes, ten-zero.</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much. We are 4 on to Item No. 11, Discussion and Possible Action on 5 the Modified Site Visit Plan for 2020-2021.</p> <p>6 And, Commissioner -- Director Chavez? 7 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Yes. Thank you.</p> <p>8 So I've wanted to say that yesterday -- we 9 had a really rich discussion yesterday on the idea 10 of modifying the site visits and the site visit 11 process for this school year, which has been an 12 unusual year. And I appreciate the feedback that 13 the Commissioners gave to that process and the 14 feedback that school leaders provided via the 15 survey, which Commissioners were able to review the 16 results of yesterday.</p> <p>17 I also wanted to say that this is unusual 18 to ask the PEC to approve this, because it's 19 typically a staff and a staff management function to 20 organize and structure the site visits, which 21 ultimately lead to the annual reports, which you all 22 get as the final wrap-up.</p> <p>23 That said, I know that you had little time 24 to take a look at that plan. And it is modified; it 25 is intended to reduce some of the effort on the part</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">90</p> <p>1 of school leaders to provide additional information 2 by relying heavily on this top monitoring 3 information that is already taken to the PED and to 4 engage school leaders in a conversation via virtual 5 site visits or, if requested, an on-site visit. 6 The tool that I provided to you-all that 7 is in SharePoint provided a general discussion -- 8 agenda and discussion. It didn't indicate every 9 question that might be asked. 10 So I just wanted to share with 11 Commissioners that, for example, the discussion 12 around how the school is monitoring the academic 13 progress of students might include additional 14 questions, such as confirming the district test 15 coordinator, confirming whether that district test 16 coordinator completed PED trainings, and asking the 17 schools about the assessments that they are using 18 for interim and formative purposes at the school, 19 and to identify challenges that the school might 20 have, as there has been a shift in guidance from the 21 PED as we continue to work with the waiver process 22 that we are requesting from the United -- from the 23 U.S. Department of Ed. 24 It is not a wholesale waiver. The 25 participation rate is waived. But it is -- it has</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">92</p> <p>1 on the site visit protocol? 2 If not, I'll make a motion to adopt the 3 site visit protocol for 2020-2021. 4 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Second. 5 THE CHAIR: There's a motion by 6 Commissioner Gipson, a second by Commissioner 7 Chavez. 8 If there's no further discussion, roll, 9 please? 10 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Davis? 11 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes. 12 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Gipson? 13 THE CHAIR: Yes. 14 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Manis? 15 COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes. 16 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Robbins? 17 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes. 18 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Taylor? 19 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. 20 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Voigt? 21 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes. 22 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Armijo? 23 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Yes. 24 COMMISSIONER BURT: Commissioner Burt, 25 yes.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">91</p> <p>1 shifted in time. 2 This year has been unusual. And I just 3 wanted to point out those contexts to -- to the 4 Discussion and the Action item. 5 THE CHAIR: Appreciate that. And thanks 6 for working on that survey. As we talked yesterday, 7 I know there was a quick turnaround on it. We 8 appreciate not only the efforts of the Division on 9 this, but the fact that 44 of the schools took the 10 time to participate also is really important and 11 informative for us as well, because it does give us 12 a clearer idea of what schools are challenged with 13 and thinking about. 14 So thanks for that. We have always been 15 part of the discussion on the site visits and been 16 actively involved in that. We talked yesterday 17 about the fact that, you know, one of the reasons 18 why the classroom visit was taken out was through 19 that. 20 So -- and appreciate, you know, these 21 are -- these are special times, and we're 22 challenged, and we just want to make sure, most 23 particularly, that schools are meeting the needs of 24 students and families, most importantly. 25 So, Commissioners, any further discussion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">93</p> <p>1 Commissioner Carrillo? 2 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Oh, I'm sorry. 3 Yes. 4 COMMISSIONER BURT: And Commissioner 5 Chavez? 6 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes. 7 COMMISSIONER BURT: The vote was ten-zero. 8 The motion passes. 9 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you so much. 10 And excuse me. We're on to Item No. 12, 11 and kind of left that on. Obviously, there's no 12 legislation that's going to be introduced anymore. 13 This is the last full day of the Legislative 14 Session. 15 But just to offer an opportunity for some 16 updates. The -- and my thank you to everyone for 17 participation in the Special Meeting, because it 18 certainly helped to inform and drive the 19 conversation. 20 I want to publicly thank the Cabinet 21 Secretary for all the time that he afforded me. 22 There were a lot of phone calls, text messages that 23 went back and forth. I think it -- it opened, 24 hopefully, some doors that won't close for continued 25 conversation, because I think there is a general</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">94</p> <p>1 understanding that some of these things can be fixed 2 through other ways outside of legislation and having 3 to wait for a 30-day or a 60-day session to fix some 4 of these issues.</p> <p>5 I want to also thank, publicly, Senator 6 Padilla. There were a lot of late-night calls as he 7 was driving home out of Santa Fe. So it took a lot 8 of time and effort. But, 401, we were successful in 9 getting that tabled.</p> <p>10 So thank everyone for the time that you 11 spent in that discussion; because it really was 12 important.</p> <p>13 The -- happy to say that the -- the 14 facilities bill to hopefully start a little seed 15 money to get schools working on being able to get 16 into their own facilities, this is the baby step 17 into hopefully what will continue to be a very 18 positive trend to free up some more money so that 19 schools can gain access to that money and get into 20 their -- their own facility. So that really -- this 21 is an important milestone.</p> <p>22 The enrollment preference did go through. 23 As of last night at 10:30 is the last time I 24 checked, the per diem was still on the floor, hadn't 25 been heard. It was still on the floor of the House</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">96</p> <p>1 So if we had a meeting in Santa Fe that 2 people had to drive from, you know, Las Cruces or 3 Hobbs up to, and, you know, you're spending all that 4 time driving and everything, and we have a 5 three-hour meeting, you get \$45.</p> <p>6 The issue is not that, you know, we're in 7 this for the money. But the State has a huge 8 problem -- when I was at Workforce Solutions, they 9 have a huge problem getting enough people to serve 10 on all the boards and commissions, because the time 11 it takes to serve on those boards and commissions, 12 to be appointed. And if you're only going to 13 receive a \$45 or a \$95 stipend, even the \$95 stipend 14 for many people, they say, "Why should I take a day 15 away from my work and have to take a day of vacation 16 or a day without pay for \$95?"</p> <p>17 So I think what I would personally do is 18 write a letter to the Governor asking her to veto 19 that or line-item-veto that.</p> <p>20 I think the rest of the legislation is 21 good. But cutting down for virtual or for meetings 22 less than four hours, I think it's a disservice for 23 people who are trying to better this state. That's 24 just my personal opinion.</p> <p>25 THE CHAIR: Okay.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">95</p> <p>1 calendar. It passed the Senate. It's on the House 2 floor calendar.</p> <p>3 I haven't been able to check this morning 4 to see whether it's been -- it has been heard. But 5 there is a reasonably good chance that it will be 6 heard.</p> <p>7 I would anticipate that, as quickly as it 8 did move through committees, that it would pass. It 9 passed very easily on the Senate floor. So I would 10 anticipate that it would pass.</p> <p>11 But, like I said, they had 68 pieces of 12 legislation this morning still to be heard. So I 13 don't know whether it's -- it will have time to be 14 heard. But it may.</p> <p>15 Commissioner Robbins?</p> <p>16 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes. On SB 345, 17 which deals with the per diem, you know, it may have 18 passed so quickly, because I think people were 19 focusing more on -- and may have been focusing -- 20 more on getting the State per diem in line with GSA 21 rates rather than the 15-year-old State rates that 22 they were using. And they don't realize that things 23 like virtual meetings of any length, you'd reduce 24 the per diem to \$45, and for any meeting less than 25 four hours.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">97</p> <p>1 Commissioner Carrillo?</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I will echo what 3 Senator Robbins -- "Senator Robbins" -- what 4 Commissioner -- putting the cart before the horse 5 there, David -- said.</p> <p>6 And I think when we -- when we ask people 7 to take these cuts, and when we ask people to 8 volunteer so much, we're basically just telling 9 them, "You're not worth being paid." We're 10 devaluing the work that they do.</p> <p>11 And not that we're all doing it for money. 12 But you do devalue the work when you say -- you 13 know, as David said, you're driving all the way up 14 from the southern part of the state to Santa Fe, and 15 we're telling you, "We're only going to give you 16 \$45."</p> <p>17 I mean, it's nothing short of insulting, 18 because none of those people sitting in the 19 Roundhouse, none of them would do it.</p> <p>20 THE CHAIR: Just to be clear, for those of 21 us who travel, we don't get per diem. If we're 22 traveling, we do the actuals. Whether the meeting 23 is an hour, two hours, 12 hours, we get actuals for 24 expenses. It's your choice. You either take your 25 expenses, or you take the per diem. And for most of</p>

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1 us, the actuals are more than what the per diem is.
 2 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: It's their lack of
 3 principle in it. That's all.
 4 THE CHAIR: Yeah, I get it. I do
 5 understand it.
 6 And I will say that through discussions
 7 that I had, I think more people were -- as
 8 Commissioner Robbins identified, the GSA alignment
 9 was -- and there was -- if you look at any of the
 10 fiscal impacts or anything, there was nothing that
 11 came out negatively about it.
 12 So it's like, "Well, what's the big deal?"
 13 And for some legislators, it's a difficult
 14 discussion, because they don't get actuals. So it's
 15 like, well, you're actually better off already than
 16 us because you get the actual expenses.
 17 So it's -- you know, it's -- it's a
 18 conversation that some don't understand on the
 19 legislative side.
 20 Okay. So I think that's my --
 21 MS. FRIEDMAN: Madam Chair?
 22 THE CHAIR: Uh-huh.
 23 MS. FRIEDMAN: Madam Chair, I would just
 24 like to mention that you always get mileage if you
 25 travel. So if you're traveling to a meeting, you

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1 will get that mileage, plus your per diem.
 2 THE CHAIR: I was referring to those of us
 3 that travel a distance that stay. We don't get the
 4 per diem. We get our actuals paid.
 5 MS. FRIEDMAN: Correct.
 6 THE CHAIR: Right. Right.
 7 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: And if I could add,
 8 the mileage is just to compensate for the use of
 9 your private vehicle, not for the time it takes to
 10 drive. And I understand -- you know, there are many
 11 legislators that drive back and forth from
 12 Albuquerque for -- you know, every day. Like you
 13 mentioned, Chair Gipson, that Michael Padilla was
 14 driving home.
 15 I understand. You don't want to stay in
 16 Santa Fe. You have a nice home that is an hour or
 17 so away. Why not? But you only get that one trip
 18 for the legislators. I'm not saying what the
 19 legislators receive is generous or anything. I have
 20 long advocated that they -- we should have a paid
 21 legislature, you know.
 22 But I think it hurts various boards and
 23 commissions around the state to find qualified
 24 individuals willing to put in the time and effort to
 25 do an adequate job that those board and commissions

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1 do, serving the people of this state, when you're
 2 not willing to recognize, as Commissioner Carrillo
 3 said, the value that they bring.
 4 And a nominal stipend, I think, is --
 5 is -- you know, it's -- the present is a nominal
 6 amount. I'm not asking that it be increased. But I
 7 think that disregarding that and passing this bill
 8 as whole, I would personally write the Governor and
 9 ask her to strike the line-item language; because,
 10 again, many boards around the state have trouble
 11 finding people to serve.
 12 THE CHAIR: Agreed. Agreed. Because
 13 you're right. As professionals, there's got to be
 14 some degree of respect for the time. And I'm
 15 certainly in agreement with you on that.
 16 Okay. If there's nothing else in regard
 17 to that, we're on to Item No. 13, which is
 18 Discussion and Possible Action on Open Meetings Act
 19 Training for all PEC Commissioners.
 20 And this was an item that was proposed by
 21 several Commissioners. So I think I should turn it
 22 over to Commissioner Carrillo.
 23 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Okay. Thanks. I
 24 mean, it is what it is. We should have open
 25 meetings training, Open Meetings Act training, for

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1 all Commissioners. We should probably make it part
 2 of our -- our rules, that every two years, whenever
 3 Commissioners come on, that we have a training.
 4 Generally takes about 90 minutes.
 5 I think it's incredibly important for us
 6 so that we do not make mistakes that come back to
 7 haunt us by maybe going into executive session when
 8 maybe we shouldn't have, really fully understanding
 9 what is a rolling quorum, can we have -- are we able
 10 to reach out and either e-mail or call other
 11 Commissioners.
 12 I remember seeing an e-mail the other day
 13 that pertained to me. And it went through Bev to go
 14 to three other Commissioners when someone could have
 15 just sent that directly. And my understanding is
 16 our counsel has said we shouldn't be sending e-mails
 17 at all directly to one another. And that's actually
 18 completely false. It's completely false. You just
 19 can't break the rule of a rolling quorum. And it's
 20 tricky. But it's really having a firm understanding
 21 of what that means.
 22 Also, I believe, that from the meetings
 23 that I've attended -- and this goes back to last
 24 fall. Because as I was running, I was looking in on
 25 meetings, and, certainly, December and so on -- I

<p style="text-align: right;">102</p> <p>1 believe that we feel have run afoul on going into 2 executive session.</p> <p>3 And -- and I know that I disagree with our 4 own counsel on that. But I think it hasn't been 5 litigated, that specific item of "licensure" and 6 what that means. And so I think that we should have 7 somebody from the AG's Office -- I mean I suggested 8 possibly an attorney up here, Geno Romero -- Geno 9 Zamora -- I'm sorry.</p> <p>10 And that's because he teaches the 11 New Mexico School Boards Association classes every 12 year. He was the Assistant Attorney General, and he 13 also is probably the foremost expert on Open 14 Meetings Act in the state.</p> <p>15 And -- but I understand that possibly 16 hiring somebody from the outside in the building and 17 ya-ya-ya-ya, all the rigmarole that relate to that 18 may make that untenable.</p> <p>19 And I know that there are two people that 20 often teach Open Meetings Act training from the AG's 21 office. And you may even know them, Pattie, because 22 of your years in government and work; John 23 Kreienkamp and also Sally Malave. And both of them 24 would be able to teach.</p> <p>25 I would ask that this be done in a work</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">104</p> <p>1 I'm going to say that -- I'm going to 2 completely disagree with the aspect of our going 3 into -- and I don't want to get in -- because it's 4 really not necessarily part of the agenda. But it 5 has been part of appeals, and we have never been 6 ruled in violation of the Open Meetings Act by going 7 into executive session. That has been part and 8 parcel of any number of appeals, so that we have 9 successfully prevailed on that.</p> <p>10 So I am going to publicly say that is -- 11 that's a false statement to say that it hasn't been 12 successfully litigated, because it has been in our 13 appeals. And it's been a fabric of almost every 14 appeal that we've had over the past three years. 15 And it is not -- and we have not been found in 16 violation.</p> <p>17 So -- with that being said -- 18 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah. Hello. 19 THE CHAIR: I know Elizabeth -- oh, she -- 20 she jumped. So can we hear from Elizabeth first and 21 then -- Glenna, thanks. Elizabeth? 22 MS. ELIZABETH JEFFREYS: I just wanted to 23 say -- can you hear me okay, first of all? Okay. 24 Yes. 25 I just wanted to say, Chair and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">103</p> <p>1 session in April. The reason I'm pushing for April 2 is we have a lot of stuff coming up where this could 3 be an -- not could be -- where it will be an issue 4 as to whether or not we go into exec.</p> <p>5 And so that's why I feel like this needs 6 to be made a top priority.</p> <p>7 I know that the Charter School Division 8 does Open Meetings Act training to governing boards, 9 which I think is fantastic. But that would also 10 allow governing boards to come in as attendees, 11 because we don't want a meeting to last four hours 12 when there's too many people.</p> <p>13 But we limit the actual, you know, 14 participants to the Commission, and, you know, 15 obviously, if there's somebody that CSD feels it's 16 important to be part of the training as well.</p> <p>17 So that's -- that's the beginning of -- 18 that's the beginning of it, super-duper important, I 19 think.</p> <p>20 THE CHAIR: And I agree. And I don't 21 think any training we should ever say, "No, we 22 shouldn't be trained."</p> <p>23 I certainly think it would be more 24 appropriate for it to be in our rules; I agree with 25 that.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">105</p> <p>1 Commissioner Carrillo, that as a point of 2 clarification, the training that was given was a 3 training that was concern for the rolling quorum. 4 And that Commissioners are allowed to talk to each 5 other.</p> <p>6 But we also made the statement that we 7 don't want people texting during the meeting, 8 because that becomes a real point of concern with 9 regard to the Open Meetings Act.</p> <p>10 And I would fully support more training. 11 I think that's great. I think some people come to 12 the Commission with, you know, a pretty good 13 background in Open Meetings. But not everybody.</p> <p>14 And it's really a good thing to go over it 15 on a regular basis.</p> <p>16 So, yeah, I just wanted to make that 17 clarification. Thank you.</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Voigt? 19 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah. Thanks a lot. 20 So thanks for bringing that up, 21 Commissioner Carrillo. I think that -- I think that 22 we could do this free. And I think we could do it 23 free via online through the AG's Office. They do 24 have training already in the can that we could 25 access on our own time and then take care of it that</p>

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1 way. I think that would be the best and most
 2 streamlined, efficient way to get that through.
 3 I don't think we all need to sit on Zoom
 4 and listen to and take that time away from our work
 5 sessions. And I know April is packed, because we
 6 have all contract negotiations and then -- what? --
 7 we have a half-day for our regular PEC meeting?
 8 THE CHAIR: Yeah.
 9 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: So that month, like,
 10 already is jammed. But I understand the importance
 11 and writing this into our bylaws as a two-year
 12 training. But I think we can do it free and more
 13 efficiently if we do it online through the AG's
 14 Office. And that would be the best way I think to
 15 move forward with it.
 16 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Chair Gipson?
 17 THE CHAIR: Oh. Commissioner Carrillo?
 18 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I disagree. I
 19 think it's extremely important for us to be able to
 20 have the back-and-forth of discussion. I mean,
 21 that's -- that's why we want classroom study as
 22 opposed to kids only learning online. It's very
 23 important to have that give-and-take and to talk
 24 about the nuance of the Open Meetings Act.
 25 And that doesn't come online. You know,

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1 you just get situational things, and you check the
 2 multiple-choice answer, and then you call it a day.
 3 But that doesn't necessarily give you a full
 4 understanding of the nuances.
 5 I would disagree with Ms. Gipson on the
 6 litigation. As I understand it, the -- while it's
 7 been part of decisions, that particular item
 8 specific to licensing and how that applies, has not,
 9 in and of itself, been litigated, which is why I
 10 think it constantly comes up when people are trying
 11 to say that we didn't, you know, have enough in
 12 open -- in the open meeting.
 13 And the thing relative to that that I
 14 think is also really important is, don't we want to,
 15 as a body, always err on the side of more
 16 transparency for discussion and having people
 17 witness our discussion amongst ourselves?
 18 And when -- at least the meetings that
 19 I've witnessed, when we've gone into executive
 20 session with very little discussion whatsoever, we
 21 come out, and there's a ten-zero vote that leaves
 22 pretty much everybody who is watching or involved in
 23 that decision thinking, What on earth happened in
 24 that room? We don't know anything. And could they
 25 have -- should they have gone there in executive

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1 session to begin with?
 2 And it's really that question of what is a
 3 licensee.
 4 And my understanding is we're trying to
 5 use the provision -- we're trying to have it apply
 6 to our body when, in fact -- and this is why I think
 7 it really needs to be delved into and possibly even
 8 get a letter from the AG's Office -- is to how it
 9 relates -- how that was meant and what it relates to
 10 individuals and not to legislative bodies.
 11 Because when you think of a legislative
 12 body, somebody could, then, who's applying for a
 13 liquor license, say that they want to go into
 14 executive session on a liquor license for no other
 15 reason than it's a license.
 16 THE CHAIR: I'm a little uncomfortable
 17 with this broader discussion about this specific
 18 issue. The item that's on the agenda is a
 19 discussion of whether we should have Open Meetings
 20 Act training. So to get into a deeper discussion
 21 on --
 22 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: You're right.
 23 THE CHAIR: -- I'm sorry -- on that other
 24 issue, I think goes far beyond what's on the agenda.
 25 So...

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1 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I agree. You're
 2 right.
 3 THE CHAIR: So I think we have to focus
 4 just on the training.
 5 Commissioner Robbins, and then
 6 Commissioner Burt.
 7 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Thank you. I agree
 8 that I think a live training on this particular
 9 topic is better, because the nuances -- I've done
 10 lots of online training over the last 20 years. And
 11 a lot of it's very canned. If you have questions
 12 that aren't covered in the training, then you're
 13 just kind of left hanging. So I agree with
 14 Commissioner Carrillo about a live training.
 15 And I think we need to demonstrate that
 16 we're willing to take the time. I mean, if it's a
 17 90-minute training, you know, I don't think the
 18 speaker speaks for 90 minutes and there's no
 19 question-and-answer. That includes time for
 20 questions and answers.
 21 And I think that's very, very relevant,
 22 because, again, people can be misled that, "I can't
 23 call a single Commissioner or two Commissioners to
 24 talk about, Well, how do you feel about this?"
 25 Not talking about how you're going to vote

<p style="text-align: right;">110</p> <p>1 or anything. But we're allowed to do that. It's 2 just when you start going into saying, "Well, hey, 3 why don't you go talk to someone else?" 4 That's where I think live training is so 5 valuable. And we're seeing that with the education 6 of our students. So I think it's good -- maybe 7 every other year, you take a refresher online. But 8 I think that every two years with new Commissioners 9 and everything, that that should be live. 10 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Burt? 11 COMMISSIONER BURT: I actually probably 12 didn't need to raise my hand now, because 13 Commissioner Robbins said everything I would have 14 said. I agree. I actually think, like, especially 15 an hour or two hours devoted to this is actually a 16 really great way to show our governing boards, to 17 show our charter leaders that we care about this. 18 So I do think it's a really great example to lead 19 by. 20 And I do think, you know, if we can get it 21 done by the AG's Office -- and I know they do those 22 for free -- I mean, it just doesn't take resources 23 from our schools. It's not taking resources from 24 CSD. It just takes our time and our openness and 25 willingness to listen and really learn and be able</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">112</p> <p>1 MS. KAREN WOERNER: The schedule currently 2 has the schools -- Commissioner Burt -- the schools 3 scheduled for contract negotiations on the 7th and 4 8th, and then the 14th, which is the Wednesday. We 5 haven't had to use the 15th, which is the work 6 session day. And then the 16th is the meeting day. 7 So, currently, we did -- as Chairwoman 8 Gipson said, we did reserve potentially some time on 9 Thursday for negotiations. But as turns out, we 10 don't have any schools scheduled for that day for 11 contract negotiations. 12 THE CHAIR: I know Sally. I've had 13 conversations with Sally. I think Dylan Lange is 14 still there. He was head of the OMA. Dylan's not 15 there any longer? 16 MS. FRIEDMAN: He's at the Secretary of 17 State's Office now. 18 THE CHAIR: Oh, okay. All right. Thanks. 19 Oh. Commissioner Voigt? 20 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: So -- thanks. 21 So if the consensus is that we should do 22 this, then maybe, Madam Chair, you could schedule it 23 through the AG's Office for a two-hour or a 24 half-a-day, whatever is needed, for that Thursday? 25 THE CHAIR: Sure. So this is -- this is</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">111</p> <p>1 to learn together as a Commission. 2 So I really do support -- if we could get 3 someone in for the work session or -- and if that 4 extends our work session by an hour, 5 hour-and-a-half, two hours, I support that. 6 THE CHAIR: And I -- my concern with April 7 is we have contract negotiations scheduled for part 8 of that day. So that's -- that's where the work 9 session for April becomes a little problematic. 10 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: That's what I was 11 wondering. Do we have a work session scheduled for 12 April? 13 THE CHAIR: Well, we've got contract 14 negotiations. We said if we would have time, we 15 would -- you know. But we don't know what time 16 necessarily we will have. 17 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: I think April would 18 be -- it would be impossible to schedule for April. 19 I don't know about May. 20 THE CHAIR: Maybe we won't have anything 21 like contract negotiations -- 22 COMMISSIONER BURT: I thought Karen had 23 something in the Chat. Maybe we could have her 24 actually say it. If she could say what she put in 25 the Chat, that would be better.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">113</p> <p>1 what I'm going to propose, without making any 2 motions or anything like that. 3 I will -- I will see what I can do to 4 arrange a training for sometime on April 15th, to 5 reserve out an hour or two hours, whatever the AG's 6 Office uses. So I'll have a conversation with them 7 to see how possible it is to do that. 8 My preference would be not to make a 9 motion to say, "This is something that we want 10 done," to make it look like it's permanent. We had 11 the opportunity to change our rules in January and 12 June, so that we look at this in June and 13 incorporate it into our Rules of Procedure in June 14 as something more permanent. 15 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Right. 16 THE CHAIR: I think that makes it more 17 permanent than a motion at this point in time. 18 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: I agree. Also -- and 19 so we know that this will be "no charge"; correct? 20 THE CHAIR: From the AG's Office, yes. 21 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Okay. Super. 22 THE CHAIR: Yeah. Yeah. Director Chavez? 23 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: I -- Chair 24 Gipson, I just wanted to offer to help you in any 25 way. If we can use our Zoom channel for that, we</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">114</p> <p>1 are happy to make that arrangement. Let's keep in 2 close contact about this.</p> <p>3 If, in fact, you want to invite governing 4 board members, you know, we can also help you with 5 that. And, yeah.</p> <p>6 THE CHAIR: Okay. All right. Thanks. 7 And we can certainly -- once I contact the AG's 8 Office and get a little more information, then I'll 9 be in contact with you, and we can figure this out. 10 Because, like I said, I don't know if the AG's 11 Office wants to use a platform that we would have to 12 log into them, or whether they want to access 13 something that we would offer. We can figure that 14 out once I've got a little more information.</p> <p>15 Commissioner Carrillo? 16 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: So I would be 17 comfortable having you just take care of this the 18 way you're offering, knowing that our priority is to 19 do this. And it shouldn't take any more than two 20 hours, max.</p> <p>21 I mean, the ones I've taken have only been 22 an hour-and-a-half. It's never gone more than an 23 hour-and-a-half, because they've been part of a 24 lecture series, right, where they couldn't go over. 25 And the -- I would not -- I would only</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">116</p> <p>1 see your hand up, too, is would they be getting 2 governing board training hours?</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: If they were just attending, 4 if they were just listening in. I guess -- you know 5 what? I could ask the AG's Office that question. I 6 guess. Director?</p> <p>7 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Yes. What I was 8 going to say is two things: One, that I would ask 9 that -- that a couple of other staff members from 10 the Charter Schools Division be able to attend. 11 Missy Brown and Dylan Wilson, who provide the 12 governing council observations and training, I would 13 like for them to have an opportunity to participate 14 as part of the panelists in addition to folks that 15 are here.</p> <p>16 And then the other thing that I would 17 offer is that, you know, every Thursday, when we 18 have these questions-and-answer sessions with the 19 Secretary, the executive team at the PED, school 20 leaders, there is an opportunity for anybody who is 21 in the audience to ask questions via Chat, if the 22 platform is Zoom. And then that could be responded 23 to with the panelists.</p> <p>24 THE CHAIR: Live at that time, or -- 25 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Yes, yes, at that</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">115</p> <p>1 invite governing boards and members as attendees. 2 Because, otherwise, if we have -- what? -- 3 53 charter schools and all these boards, and all of 4 a sudden you have a meeting that's got 200 people in 5 it, no. Then you need to schedule the entire day.</p> <p>6 And so I would say the only panelists are 7 us, the people that are on the screen right now.</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: Right. 9 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: But I would be 10 willing not to make a motion if, Ms. Gipson, this 11 is -- you see this as the same priority and urgency 12 that I do.</p> <p>13 THE CHAIR: Yeah. I -- well, I said I 14 would --</p> <p>15 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Thank you. 16 THE CHAIR: -- do what I can to get it. 17 So that's the best I can do.</p> <p>18 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I know. 19 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Real quick. 20 So I think that's great for the 21 transparency for the governing boards to 22 participate. And I see your point, Commissioner 23 Carrillo, since they would have differing questions 24 that would be coming to our attention. 25 But my question, I guess, and, Corina, I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">117</p> <p>1 time.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: That's -- I think that speaks 3 toward what Commissioner Carrillo had a concern 4 about, was if there were 75 governing council 5 members, and they were all able to ask a question, 6 it could eat up a substantial amount of that time 7 specific to charter school governing councils, not 8 necessarily as much specific to PEC-type business.</p> <p>9 So that's -- you know, if there was an 10 opportunity for folks to submit questions that could 11 be answered offline, I think that would be great. 12 But I have a concern about opening it up to -- you 13 know, all of the questions that could be submitted 14 in a chat have to be addressed live during that 15 two-hour time slot.</p> <p>16 And these are things that we can kind of 17 flesh out, I think, as we get more information from 18 the AG's Office. I think. We can -- I think we can 19 work it out to see what they can and cannot 20 accommodate. But our -- we -- are we kind of in 21 sync with that idea about --</p> <p>22 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Commissioner Burt 23 has had her hand up. She's been waiting. 24 THE CHAIR: Sorry. 25 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: That's okay.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">118</p> <p>1 COMMISSIONER BURT: I'm thinking it's a 2 little bit too complicated to try -- I want to be a 3 little bit more selfish with the Commission and just 4 put it on our work session, put it our agenda. Put 5 it on as a work session item. 6 And if people want to come and watch they 7 can come and watch and not go that next step of -- 8 they can know we're doing it. If they feel like 9 they need a refresher and they want to see it, they 10 can know from the agenda. But not make it like an 11 item to send out to governing boards that, like, 12 there's, like, this thing for them. 13 Like, I think -- and that's why I say I 14 feel a little bit bad saying I think we need to be a 15 little bit more selfish. This is about the 16 Commission and keep it about the Commission, and, 17 like, what we're doing, so we can learn and focus on 18 ourselves and not worry about all the rest. 19 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: I agree. 20 THE CHAIR: Yeah. I mean, if they can 21 just attend and get credit by just being an 22 attendee, I've got no issue with that, because it 23 has no effect on the meeting. 24 Commissioner Carrillo? 25 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I agree with</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">120</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: Okay. All right. We are on 2 to Item No. 14, which is Update from the College and 3 Career Readiness Bureau. 4 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: And, 5 Commissioner -- Commissioners, Chairwoman Gipson, as 6 you know, the director of (indiscernible due to 7 audio distortion) Perea was unable to make it today. 8 So in her stead, Jackie Costales is prepared to come 9 speak with you all. 10 However, she had other things on her 11 schedule for today, so she's able to come at 1:00. 12 So I would ask that we maybe address some of the 13 other items. Or I don't know if you wanted to take 14 a lunch; but she'll be able to come at 1:00. 15 THE CHAIR: Okay. We're basically done. 16 The only other items we have is my Report from the 17 Chair, which is mostly the legislative and the PEC 18 Comments. 19 So I guess I'm going to ask the rest of 20 the Commission if -- you know, I didn't anticipate 21 taking a lunch break and having to come back, to be 22 honest. So I'm going to -- I think we're -- are we 23 good, Commissioner Voigt? 24 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thank you. I think, 25 you know, we received a written report --</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">119</p> <p>1 Secretary Burt. We have to notice the meeting 2 anyway. And so -- if it's our -- if it's an agenda 3 item, anyone that wants to learn about the OMAs can 4 tune on Zoom, just the way they do for a work 5 session anyway. 6 And so we can just basically notify -- I 7 mean, I notify all of my schools anyway about the 8 agendas and if there's anything they are concerned 9 about. But anyone can attend it if they want to 10 learn about the OMA. 11 But I agree. Let's -- just laser-focused 12 on the ten of us. And then those people that 13 Ms. Chavez feels, you know, absolutely, from PED, 14 should participate as well. It's a great idea, 15 because it shouldn't take more than 90 minutes, 16 seriously. 17 THE CHAIR: Yeah. It shouldn't. And, 18 like you said, anything that I've attended, it 19 hasn't taken any more than 90 minutes. Sometimes 20 they're a little less, just depending. 21 So I will be in touch with the AG's Office 22 and with the Director and we'll figure this all out 23 for, hopefully, the April meeting. 24 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Thank you very 25 much.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">121</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: Yeah. 2 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: -- from CCR. I don't 3 feel it's necessary for somebody to have to come 4 read it to us. I'm fine with that written report. 5 It was very comprehensive. And I'm -- if we can 6 finish without having to take a lunch, I'm good with 7 that. 8 THE CHAIR: Are we in concurrence with 9 that? 10 Okay. All right. 11 Please send our thanks and don't be 12 offended that we didn't want to come back. But I 13 think we're -- I think we're good with being done. 14 So thanks for that. 15 And thanks for the reminder that we do 16 have that report. So please take a look at it, 17 because it is very comprehensive. 18 So we are on to the Report from the Chair. 19 I've -- you know, I've spent a lot of time on 20 legislation, especially 401. 21 So I think I've given you -- I've heard 22 from a couple of schools that, you know, are 23 thinking about authorizing with us in -- for next 24 year, one school for sure. 25 You know, I always tell schools -- just as</p>

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1 a reminder, when we get into renewal cycles, I often
 2 field phone calls about, "Would you talk to us about
 3 what the benefits are in authorizing with the
 4 State?"
 5 And my response, always, to schools are,
 6 "This isn't a -- you know, that's a decision that
 7 the governance council has to make."
 8 I don't do a sale on why you should be a
 9 Public Education Commission-authorized as opposed to
 10 a district-authorized school. It's completely up to
 11 the individual governing council to make that
 12 decision.
 13 I -- you know, it's not my job to sell the
 14 PEC, as opposed to a district, 'cause I try not to
 15 get into that little contest, either. So that I'll
 16 gladly answer questions about renewal; but I'm not
 17 going to a discussion about why we should go with
 18 you as opposed to someone else, because it's --
 19 it's -- that's not my place to fit into that
 20 discussion. It's up to the individual governance
 21 council.
 22 So we're in that process.
 23 You know, I forgot to ask. When -- did
 24 the report -- have the new applicant trainings
 25 started yet?

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1 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Yes.
 2 THE CHAIR: So do we know how many of the
 3 new applicants, just for curiosity, are attending?
 4 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Hold on. I'll
 5 get that information.
 6 MS. KAREN WOERNER: I think six to eight;
 7 but let's check.
 8 THE CHAIR: You know, just so
 9 Commissioners know, it's not a requirement that you
 10 attend. Personally, I think it's tough, if you
 11 don't attend those trainings, to really get that
 12 quality application in. But it's up to the
 13 individual applicants.
 14 But it does show some commitment to the
 15 process if schools are -- if applicants are
 16 attending.
 17 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: And, Chairwoman
 18 Gipson, I just wanted to remind everybody else that
 19 the Notices of Intent don't need to specify whether
 20 you're going to apply through the Public Education
 21 Commission or the local school district. And some
 22 schools -- some prospective applicants may not know
 23 at this point.
 24 So if we had eight attendees, it doesn't
 25 necessarily mean that we will have eight

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1 applications. We'll know on June 1 when the
 2 applications arrive.
 3 And then I also, just real quickly, wanted
 4 to mention that after the Chair gives her comments,
 5 that Rafe Martinez is here. He's the director at
 6 the Albuquerque Sign Language Academy, and he's also
 7 a member of the Charter Advisory. And he is
 8 prepared to say a few words.
 9 So I know that -- I believe that Deputy
 10 Director Warniment has the number of people that
 11 have been attending the new applicant training. But
 12 I just wanted to remind you of that.
 13 THE CHAIR: Right. Well, it is -- yeah,
 14 it's on the agenda. Yeah.
 15 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Yeah. We didn't get
 16 to that item yet.
 17 But Missy Brown just texted, let me know
 18 that there's four -- she thinks there's four
 19 founding teams that are attending the training, and
 20 maybe two other schools that we think are still
 21 going to apply.
 22 But, again, as Director Chavez said, we
 23 don't know whether they're all applying through the
 24 State or the local. So four to six. I was a little
 25 over in my estimate.

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1 THE CHAIR: Thanks. Yeah. There was only
 2 one NOI that specified that they were definitely
 3 going with the district. But that's -- and that can
 4 change. That's not a commitment in that NOI; they
 5 can still make that decision.
 6 Okay. So I want to remind folks we've got
 7 contract negotiations coming up, so that Beverly had
 8 sent out the ask to please let her know if you are
 9 going to be in attendance for any and all of those
 10 dates, what your availability is.
 11 Once again, it is something that we do
 12 notice in case there is going to be a quorum in
 13 attendance. But it is not a public meeting. So
 14 that the only ones that attend are the Commissioners
 15 and the representatives from the schools.
 16 Okay. So, Karen, if you want, if you want
 17 to bring Rafe in?
 18 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Chair Gipson?
 19 THE CHAIR: Yes.
 20 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Are we going to
 21 have a report from Matt Pahl today?
 22 THE CHAIR: He's the next one on the
 23 agenda after --
 24 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I didn't know if
 25 he's with the Legislature or not.

<p style="text-align: right;">126</p> <p>1 MS. KAREN WOERNER: He's not in 2 attendance. I would anticipate, unless he joins 3 soon. 4 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: He may have 5 expected it to go to 4:00 or something. 6 THE CHAIR: I talk to Matt a lot. 7 Usually, he lets me know if he's going to be. And 8 we've kind of missed talking about the meeting when 9 we've been talking. So if he's listening in, he can 10 get in. 11 Okay. Oh. 12 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: I will text Mat 13 to see if he's able to jump on. 14 THE CHAIR: Good morning, Rafe. We're 15 buzzing through this meeting; so -- 16 MR. RAFA MARTINEZ: I note, Madam Chair. 17 Good to see everyone. 18 THE CHAIR: Good to see you. So, welcome, 19 and thanks for giving us this time for the update. 20 MR. RAFA MARTINEZ: Yeah. Thank you. 21 Madam Chair, members of the Commission, thanks for 22 having me. 23 I was -- usually, this is Mike Ogas who 24 takes this. And he's -- I think he's attending to 25 some things. So I was told to come here. So -- but</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">128</p> <p>1 the charter world. 2 And I think this State Advisory group, in 3 connection to Director Chavez and Deputy Director 4 Woerner, I think we're really bringing that idea of 5 how we can address charter-specific issues in a way 6 that promotes this idea of collaboration and working 7 together to -- to meet the needs of -- of the larger 8 New Mexico community. 9 So to that end I think the advisory is 10 moving in a good way. 11 I want to thank you all -- before going a 12 little further, more into more legislative work 13 updates, more legislative updates, I want to thank 14 you all for being willing, in yesterday's meeting, 15 to start the discussion, to be willing to have the 16 sophisticated discussion about what it means for 17 charter school accountability, knowing that there's 18 so many moving pieces to the issue, right, and 19 there's -- Commissioner Gipson, you and I have 20 talked at length about our school and our challenges 21 around being accountable for what we do. 22 And I just want to thank you all for being 23 willing to be sophisticated about addressing the 24 complex issue, okay? 25 And then, lastly, you know, prior -- up</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">127</p> <p>1 it's always great to see you all. 2 I just -- right now, the charter world as 3 all public ed now, is knee-deep in trying to figure 4 out how to get kids back all the way, right, and 5 we're no different. 6 And I think -- I just -- right now, I 7 think the discussion in the public ed realm is how 8 to do that in the safest way, knowing that we all 9 want to bring kids back, and we just miss seeing our 10 guys. 11 But to that end, as the State Advisory 12 group is working, I think there's a practical side 13 of the discussion around how to bring back kids 14 safely. But also I just want to remind the 15 Commission that the intent of the advisory group 16 which I think is playing out, is this union between 17 CSD connected to the PEC that involves charter 18 leaders who are actually in the trenches doing the 19 work, trying to figure out what it means to be a 20 New Mexico charter. 21 And I think that's really important to 22 emphasize that last statement, is that -- I was on a 23 call this morning with some people out of Boston. 24 And I was reminded that New Mexico is kind of this 25 last man standing when it comes to being unique in</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">129</p> <p>1 and to before the Legislative Session, I -- we did a 2 presentation around the Opportunity Equity Index. 3 And so just a quick update on how that rolled out. 4 So when the bill was proposed, it was 5 carried by Rebecca Dow. She -- Representative Dow. 6 So when they ran the FIR, the Fiscal Impact Report, 7 it was really hard to get the numbers that we 8 believed promoted the -- the usefulness of the 9 formula that we were -- you know, the idea, and 10 because there were so many gaps in data statewide. 11 So where we were able to run initial 12 models on what we've had access to, when it got into 13 a deeper -- into the deeper data around those -- 14 those -- those identified factors it didn't play 15 out. 16 And it wasn't because the formula or the 17 concept was flawed, we don't think. It's because 18 the data was a little bit skewed. 19 So it was recognized early. It switched 20 into a committee sub that basically created a bill 21 that would have -- that would have mandated a study. 22 And as that thing moved through committee -- through 23 committees -- it got changed into a memorial. 24 So right now, it's under House Memorial 25 24. And it didn't pass. So what we think, we're</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">130</p> <p>1 going to have a chance to do more research and 2 connect with maybe CEPRs throughout the country; UNM 3 CEPR. We're talking with folks out on East Coast, 4 UMass, folks like those, around connecting CEPR 5 resources, so we can present something a little more 6 research-tight when it comes to presenting to the 7 LESC and possibly the LFC. So there's that one. 8 The other significant charter bill we're 9 paying attention to, because it looks like it's not 10 going to go much further, is SB 318. That was the 11 charter school facility bill. 12 So it's stuck in Senate Finance right now. 13 And if that were to roll through -- but it looks 14 doubtful -- it would give us some -- some latitude 15 around working with districts around taking some, 16 you know, facilities that aren't being used or are 17 already being used to capacity and letting charters 18 figure out how maybe they can fill out those spaces. 19 The way it's playing out now, it doesn't 20 look like it's going to get out of that -- get out 21 of Senate Finance. 22 Of course, I'm just speaking for our own 23 legislative endeavors. 24 We proposed a bill through Representative 25 Dow. And Representative Maestas carried HB 237 for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">132</p> <p>1 how we can, you know, tie the concept to the -- to 2 the actual data and maybe both inform each other on 3 how to move forward and make the whole system 4 stronger. 5 That's the hope. You know, I hope for a 6 lot of stuff and -- 7 THE CHAIR: I know. Me, too. 8 And in regards to the initiative for the 9 deaf and hard-of-hearing, are you looking at that -- 10 trying to work through which interim committee to 11 try to get that legislation going for the next 12 30-day? I don't know whether it'll fit into the 13 scope of the 30-day. But where are you looking at 14 trying to get those efforts accomplished? 15 MR. RAFAEL MARTINEZ: Yeah. Madam Chair, 16 members of the Commission, really good question. 17 So -- and it's interesting. The bill 18 started out in Health and Human Services, I think 19 because of the disability component of deaf ed, 20 right? And that's where -- it stalled there. 21 I think it's going to be a kind of a dual 22 committee endeavor. It sounds like they want it to 23 go that way; so through either LESC and something in 24 Health and Human Services. 25 It's a complex issue; it really is. And</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">131</p> <p>1 us. And that was the deaf-ed-related bill that was 2 asking for the Public Education Department to create 3 this Office of Deaf Education to oversee all the 4 DHH, the deaf, hard-of-hearing students outside of 5 the School for the Deaf. 6 And that got tabled. But it looks like 7 we're going to have some opportunity during the 8 interim to -- to discuss that further and maybe lead 9 into a strengthened bill for next session. 10 So anyway, I stand for questions. 11 THE CHAIR: Okay. Great. I was going to 12 ask you about the -- that opportunity index. So -- 13 and I saw the memorial. So is it -- I guess it's 14 anticipated that this is going to be part of the 15 work of the LESC throughout the interim? Is that -- 16 is that how you see it playing out? 17 MR. RAFAEL MARTINEZ: We're hopeful this 18 plays out -- Madam Chair, members of the Commission, 19 we're hopeful this plays out that way. Memorials 20 aren't necessarily mandated to be heard. We're 21 hoping, if we can gather the number of experts that 22 we think are interested in this idea and promote it 23 the right way, we think we can start talking with 24 lawmakers, and, then, hopefully, we'd love to invite 25 the PED into -- as part of those discussions to see</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">133</p> <p>1 there's history tied to constitutional schools. 2 There's the reality of what's happening, what's not 3 happening. 4 So I think it's a -- it's going to be a -- 5 it's going to be a -- a lively discussion. I'll 6 just leave it at that. 7 And I think we're hopeful that we'll be 8 able to parse through all the -- because I think 9 there's emotional ties to the idea of -- of 10 constitutional schools, specifically the School for 11 the Deaf. 12 And we just want to make sure that we can 13 distill this down to what numbers say, where the 14 numbers of kids are, how they're being served and 15 things like that. 16 And New Mexico is such a rural state. It 17 really does break the -- some of the tenets of how 18 deaf ed is applied in other parts of the country. 19 So that's the discussion we hope to have. 20 But we think it's going to happen in those two 21 spaces, Health and Human Services and LESC. 22 THE CHAIR: Thanks. You know, I get 23 contacted periodically from a group down here in 24 Cruces that wants to start a charter. And I always 25 tell them that, first off, they need to contact you.</p>

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1 And -- because you're the best resource for
 2 something like that.
 3 Because my understanding is one of the
 4 challenges for down here is actually finding
 5 instructors, because it's easier to get certified in
 6 Texas. So that the instructors, even though they
 7 may live here, are working in Texas because the
 8 certification is easier to -- to get.
 9 So it's -- it's a -- it's a challenge. So
 10 I think that's what always stops them when they
 11 start looking at can we actually get people who
 12 can -- are certified; they're challenged with that.
 13 And I don't think they've ever contacted
 14 you. But about every five, six months, they keep
 15 surfacing. And it's, like. Okay. Got to either
 16 work on this or not, you know.
 17 MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Well, Commissioner
 18 Gipson, it's funny you say that. So God bless Karen
 19 Trujillo. She was the expert witness with me on
 20 House Bill 237. Actually, I spoke with her the day
 21 of her accident. And our discussion was, "Let's
 22 start talking about bringing ASLA down to
 23 Las Cruces," right? That was her -- that was the
 24 last time I spoke with her.
 25 So, to your point, I think we have figured

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1 out ways to make sure that we can become the
 2 greatest at what we do, right? That's -- we say
 3 that. And I think we can take that mentality down
 4 to Las Cruces, or anywhere in the state, and help
 5 people, you know, kind of create what we've created
 6 in Albuquerque.
 7 THE CHAIR: Right. Because, certainly,
 8 folks down in our part of the state, or any other
 9 part of the state, have those challenges that you
 10 faced with your children, having to go and be gone
 11 for that -- but at least they -- at least you had
 12 the opportunity -- not that it was great -- for
 13 someone to come home for the weekend.
 14 But, as you move outside of that, it
 15 becomes even more challenging to even be able to
 16 bring the kids home for the weekend and things like
 17 that.
 18 So those are -- you know, those are
 19 devastating questions and decisions that families
 20 shouldn't have to make if they don't want their
 21 child separated all week from them.
 22 So -- and I know, just as an aside,
 23 locally, at least in El Paso, blind children have to
 24 go -- they get on a plane, and they go to -- I think
 25 it's San Antonio. And they're gone all week. And

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1 if they're old enough, they can fly back; but if
 2 they're not old enough to travel on their own,
 3 they're there through the semester, you know.
 4 And that's just -- you know, I can't
 5 imagine having to make that decision.
 6 So thanks for -- truly, thanks for all
 7 your efforts on that.
 8 Commissioners, any questions?
 9 MS. FRIEDMAN: Commissioner Voigt and
 10 Robbins have their hands up.
 11 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Voigt?
 12 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thanks. I'm just
 13 curious. Are you seeing the digital hand-raises?
 14 THE CHAIR: I'm challenged with seeing
 15 right now. My eyes are starting to swell shut. So
 16 I'm really challenged at this point in time. So I'm
 17 not really seeing a whole lot. I apologize.
 18 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: That's okay.
 19 THE CHAIR: I'm very grateful that this is
 20 going to be a short meeting.
 21 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Right. Right.
 22 Definitely.
 23 So, hi, Rafe.
 24 MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Commissioner, how are
 25 you?

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1 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: I'm good. Thanks.
 2 Good to see you. I was going to e-mail you, but now
 3 I get to tell you in person. Congratulations on the
 4 Outdoor Equity Fund grant. That's phenomenal, and
 5 it's great to see your kids outside at Shady Lakes
 6 or wherever. But that kind of outdoor ed is
 7 phenomenal. What a great opportunity for your kids
 8 and for you obtaining that, or whoever obtained that
 9 for your kiddos.
 10 MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Commissioner Voigt.
 11 Thank you. Members of the Commission, thank you.
 12 Yeah, we're really excited about it.
 13 We're looking to form a partnership with the people
 14 who bought Shady Lakes and to actually create a
 15 whole outdoor equity-driven space that's -- like, we
 16 want to just get kids out there, right? It's what
 17 New Mexico is about, right? So we're excited.
 18 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah, that's cool.
 19 Because I knew Shady Lakes had closed. But that's
 20 great if you can get into that partnership. I'm
 21 glad you mentioned that that's what New Mexico is
 22 about when you put New Mexico charter issues in with
 23 community issues, and that the -- you know,
 24 New Mexico is unique.
 25 And there's something that I always am

<p style="text-align: right;">138</p> <p>1 proud to say is that we can build the strengths and 2 the assets within our communities to rise up without 3 having to look at deficit-based thinking and data. 4 Because New Mexico has a lot to offer. And we're 5 special in that regard, that we have all of those 6 attributes to bring forward. 7 And it's great to see people like you and 8 other charter leaders focusing on that assets-based 9 resiliency and strength-raising. And so I just want 10 to applaud you. And it's always great to see you, 11 and good work. 12 MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Thank you. 13 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins? 14 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes. You know, 15 I'll ditto what Commissioner Voigt had to say about 16 the -- the equity fund and the work you're doing 17 there and everything, the outdoor work. It's great. 18 And I do want to kind of tie in to what you had said 19 about Former Superintendent/Formal Secretary 20 Trujillo in trying to do something there in 21 Las Cruces. This is an issue -- and I think it does 22 go to the aspect where you have a local school that 23 realizes perhaps a specialized school that is open, 24 as Albuquerque Sign Language Academy is, to not just 25 one type of student; but they have about</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">140</p> <p>1 And so having that deaf ed 2 certification -- and I think, you know, getting it 3 to where New Mexico would recognize reciprocity with 4 other states -- you know, we had a deaf ed teacher 5 at Del Norte years ago. She came in for one year 6 and then went to a elementary school, I believe. 7 She was deaf-ed-certified out of Kentucky. 8 I know there were students -- I was 9 godparents to a young lady who taught at the School 10 for the Deaf in Santa Fe. And she -- I think her 11 schooling was in Iowa. 12 So this is an area of need in New Mexico. 13 We do have a large population of hearing impaired 14 individuals in this state. And, you know, we -- the 15 State recognizes it, but they don't recognize it 16 from the standpoint of serving these communities 17 locally. 18 You know, School for the Deaf in Santa Fe. 19 We have School for the Blind in Alamogordo. The 20 thing is it does take and tear families apart if you 21 try to take those students away from their homes and 22 their families for extended periods of time. 23 I really -- and I'd be willing to work 24 with you on HB 237 if it doesn't get through, but 25 also on other improvements that we can have for this</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">139</p> <p>1 30 percent -- 30 to 40 percent of their students 2 actually do hear. 3 But it's siblings, and it's other people 4 who want to learn sign language. I think that is 5 very valuable. So you're not necessarily isolating 6 these students. You're not putting them and 7 segregating them. 8 Because I've mentioned this before. My 9 son was basically segregated in APS. Even though he 10 was at a side-by-side school, they basically -- the 11 deaf ed teachers wanted to segregate him, because 12 they said, "If they're deaf, we'll teach them. But 13 if they have physical handicaps, we don't want to 14 have to deal with that." 15 And so he was pretty much segregated. And 16 in the classes he was at, he was usually the only 17 deaf student. 18 Fortunately, we were able to work, and we 19 were able to find -- we had to find them 20 ourselves -- find teachers who could sign fluently 21 to him. Because many of his teachers and many of 22 the people who worked with him, they weren't fluent 23 in signing. 24 And one of the things I told them, I said, 25 you know, "I do not sign well enough to teach him."</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">141</p> <p>1 community. Because, again, you know, a lot of 2 people don't realize the contributions that the 3 community, the deaf ed community has, and, those who 4 have hearing losses, what they've contributed to. 5 I mean, it's a simple thing. But you know 6 why we have huddles in football? Gallaudet 7 University. They used it. And so -- and you sit 8 there and say, "Wait." 9 I mean, that's -- but the thing is these 10 individuals are not intellectually impaired. They 11 have a hearing loss. They have great contributions 12 they can give to us. 13 So thank you, Rafe. Appreciate it. 14 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins, thank 15 you. If I could say something real quick around 16 that, fast. Members of the Commission, Madam Chair, 17 recognize -- what you just described, Commissioner 18 Robbins, is the reality of New Mexico is that 19 deaf-ed programming, deaf education degrees don't 20 exist. 21 And we are working right now with 22 New Mexico Highlands University, with their -- they 23 have a new Dean of Students -- a new Dean of 24 Education -- sorry. Her name is Dr. Mary Earick. 25 We are working with her to start a new Bachelor's of</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">142</p> <p>1 Deaf Education at Highlands. 2 We've already contacted our partners at 3 University of Minnesota and University of Arizona to 4 send their curriculums down to Highlands. So that's 5 happening. 6 So we're hopeful that in the next year or 7 so, we will actually have a codified deaf-ed program 8 coming out of New Mexico Highlands, that we can 9 again start doing our work with -- we're already 10 doing things with UNM around dual license. But if 11 we can incorporate that deaf ed and dual license, 12 even better, right? And so that's what we're doing. 13 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: That would be 14 wonderful. I know Highlands has a branch in, I 15 think, Rio Rancho. So it accesses a large 16 population area to be able to do that, too. So 17 thank you. 18 THE CHAIR: And Commissioner Voigt? 19 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thanks. So just one 20 other thing. I wanted to go back to your other hat 21 now, as the Charter Advisory person. So this 22 opportunity index. Is this the Opportunity Equity 23 Index? Or is it more -- okay, super. Because this 24 is about making sure, right, that the -- some of 25 these funds that are coming through are equally</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">144</p> <p>1 not a charter-school-specific issue, right? It is a 2 public school issue. 3 But, again -- I said this earlier -- 4 what's coming out of the charters is how it should 5 be, right? If we're the engines of innovation that 6 we want to be, that's where -- the ideas spawn from 7 us, or should, anyway. 8 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: That's great. Thanks 9 a lot. 10 THE CHAIR: Commissioners, any other 11 questions? Concerns? 12 (No response.) 13 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thanks, Rafe. Thanks 14 so much for the time. Really appreciate it. Thanks 15 for everything that you do. Thank you. And love 16 that commercial they did. 17 MR. RAFA MARTINEZ: Thank you. Bye-bye. 18 Stay safe. 19 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Chair Gipson? 20 THE CHAIR: Uh-huh. 21 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: I just wanted to 22 report out to you all that I heard from Matt Pahl. 23 He says, "Wow, you guys are, like, efficient today. 24 Kudos on that." 25 And also he is caught up at the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">143</p> <p>1 distributed in the pockets of the state where 2 they're most needed in the oversight of that 3 distribution. 4 MR. RAFA MARTINEZ: Commissioner Voigt, 5 yes. And, members of the Commission, yes, in the 6 pockets of the schools where those kids are 7 situated. So the idea is that, through an 8 agreed-upon mathematical kind of routine called 9 "canonical correlation," we're able to take all the 10 elements that depict the at-risk -- an at-risk 11 child, based on the Martinez-Yazzie lawsuit, and 12 actually funnel those resources to the school, not 13 the district; I mean, probably flow through the 14 district. But the school will have an idea of what 15 they generate based on the population. That's the 16 idea. 17 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah. And I meant 18 district by regions of state. So that's -- 19 MR. RAFA MARTINEZ: Oh, yeah. Sorry. 20 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: That's fine. That's 21 okay. That's good. That would really reach out to 22 some of these more remote and rural charter schools 23 Great. 24 MR. RAFA MARTINEZ: Commissioner Voigt, 25 yes, absolutely. The thing is this is -- this is</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">145</p> <p>1 legislature session. 2 THE CHAIR: Yeah, I figured. And, 3 usually, if he has something high-ticket, he'll send 4 it to me and let me just, you know, let the 5 Commission know. 6 So it's been a real busy time. So I'm 7 sure he'll have a little bit of downtime and be able 8 to rejoin us in April. 9 So thanks for that. 10 Okay. So we are now on to Item No. 16, 11 which are "PEC Comments." 12 So, Commissioner Voigt? 13 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: So very expedient 14 meeting today. That's awesome. I think it's a 15 record. 16 You know, I just want to say thanks to 17 everyone on the Commission for everyone's input and 18 comments. I think it's -- it really helps us grow 19 individually and as a Commission to be really 20 thoughtful about our actions. 21 And I want to say thanks to Chair Gipson 22 for her work on SB 401 and that time-consuming 23 go-between that she had to bridge between Senator 24 Padilla and Secretary Stewart. And that tireless 25 work is one of the reasons why she's our Chair.</p>

146	<p>1 And just thanks again for everybody's time 2 and for sharing your pets on Zoom. 3 THE CHAIR: Thanks. 4 Commissioner Davis? 5 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I want to second the 6 comments by Vice Chair Voigt. I agree with her, and 7 I think you're doing an excellent job. 8 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 9 Commissioner Taylor? 10 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah. Still really 11 appreciate the -- the demeanor of the Commission and 12 how we can interact and deal with issues. 13 I really enjoyed listening to Mr. Martinez 14 about their school and the innovations that they're 15 doing. Those kind of things are so exciting to me, 16 to see that people think outside the box and make 17 things available for kids that may not have that 18 available in other situations. 19 So I loved it. So thanks for that. 20 Everybody have a great weekend. Watch a 21 lot of basketball. 22 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Chavez? 23 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: I had to find my 24 unmute button. Just want to echo what everybody 25 else has said.</p>	148	<p>1 And that's really where the work gets started, and 2 that's where you run into challenges. 3 And so I just -- I just want to thank them 4 for their efforts and everything they're doing to 5 get kids back into school. 6 Thank you. 7 THE CHAIR: Thanks. 8 Commissioner Carrillo? 9 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: So I'll echo what 10 everybody has said. This is a -- it's funny, 11 because I'm going to volleyball tonight, and I'm so 12 glad there are spectators. It's my third game. I'm 13 so happy for athletics, I can't even tell you. The 14 kids and parents, it just brings the community 15 together. 16 That having been said, so, first, SB 401. 17 Let's not lose sight of why this legislation came up 18 to begin with. And I do believe it was a shot 19 across the bow, and I think it's really important 20 that we get with Senator Padilla and others with PED 21 in the future to examine and mend the parts of our 22 relationship that may or may not be working, because 23 something like SB 401 is going to happen again, 24 possibly in the next legislature or the following. 25 And so let's just -- you know, let's take</p>
147	<p>1 Thank you to everyone and all the work 2 that's being done. 3 I just want to also just say that I'm 4 really excited about kids coming back into school by 5 April -- what? -- April 5th. 6 And I'm also -- it's been very exciting to 7 see our kids back on the field with athletics. 8 And, you know, we always talk about the 9 social and emotional piece of kids, and, you know, 10 getting back them back out on the field. While it's 11 not all kids, it's a big part of -- it's a big 12 population of kids. 13 And so every little bit that we can do to 14 get kids back to some type of normalcy is -- it's 15 always encouraging and exciting to see. 16 I just want to recognize that all of our 17 schools in the state of New Mexico and all the work 18 that they are doing to make that happen, it's not 19 easy. And there's a lot to consider, as -- as was 20 mentioned earlier today by Director Chavez. 21 And -- and so we just -- I just tip my hat 22 off to them, because I know that it's a lot of work. 23 It's not easy, everything from developing the 24 plan -- but then, you know, it's one thing to 25 develop the plan; it's another to deploy the plan.</p>	149	<p>1 fuel out of the fire there. Because when I talked 2 with Senator Padilla, I mean, there were definite 3 issues as to why he was convinced to put that on. 4 So I'm really glad that it was tabled when it was. 5 Then I have a question -- and I guess this 6 is for anyone on the executive team -- is what stage 7 are we at with the RFP for our counsel? Because 8 that contract is up at the end of June. So I'm 9 curious as to where we are with that. 10 THE CHAIR: I think Commissioner -- I 11 think the Director can -- the RFP is being worked 12 on. I don't know if there is an exact time set for 13 it to be published. But I know we've talked about 14 sooner rather than later, because we certainly 15 understand the time sensitivity of this. 16 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: Thank you. 17 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I'm sorry. 18 Director Chavez? 19 DIRECTOR CORINA CHAVEZ: I would just like 20 to say yes, we are working on it. And I think that 21 at the next executive team meeting of the PEC, we 22 will be able to provide a more detailed timeline. 23 It all hinges on a finalized scope of work, which is 24 in progress. 25 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Okay. And I</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">150</p> <p>1 imagine there's going to be some sort of committee 2 that's formed --</p> <p>3 THE CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>4 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: -- Chair Gipson, 5 when it comes time to interview, or even approve the 6 RFP. Or is the RFP just going to be approved by 7 the -- obviously, by Ms. Chavez and also the 8 executive committee?</p> <p>9 THE CHAIR: Right. The executive 10 committee and the -- we'll approve the RFP so we 11 don't have to wait all the way till April.</p> <p>12 But, yes, there will be a subcommittee 13 that will be created to go through the interview 14 process. And we'll completely lay out how that will 15 work, once we -- once we know that it's -- that it's 16 been advertised.</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Great. Thank you.</p> <p>18 THE CHAIR: Of course, later down the 19 road, the full Commission votes on the contract.</p> <p>20 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Great. So two 21 things next.</p> <p>22 One is could you -- whether it's through 23 Beverly or just -- actually, this probably would 24 have to be through Beverly or through Ms. Chavez -- 25 can you send all of us the copy of the current</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">152</p> <p>1 And I think it would be great if all of us had a 2 really sound understanding.</p> <p>3 And it's not complicated legalese at all. 4 Believe me. I got through it quickly. And I just 5 think it would be really helpful for all of us.</p> <p>6 Is that something that you'd be able to 7 facilitate, Chair Gipson?</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: It's all public record. And I 9 apologize. I thought that was also in that Dropbox 10 that Ami had set up for us. I will double-check on 11 that. If it's not, I'll ask her to put it in. So 12 that's --</p> <p>13 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: I know it's public 14 record. But it's also so much easier if we get an 15 e-mail -- if we just -- it's a one point-and-click 16 instead of a trail of having to research.</p> <p>17 THE CHAIR: That's what Ami sets up the 18 Dropbox for. All you have to do is access the 19 Dropbox, and it's there. It's a one-click.</p> <p>20 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Great. There 21 should be no reason why anyone shouldn't have 22 complete knowledge of the result. Okay.</p> <p>23 And then I have this idea. It might seem 24 farfetched. But this relates to -- because I know 25 part of the issue that PED has with us is just,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">151</p> <p>1 contract that we have with BioLaw?</p> <p>2 THE CHAIR: Sure.</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: So that we have it 4 as a point of reference. That would be, I think, 5 really helpful. Unless there's nine other people 6 that don't want it. I certainly do. And, yeah, I 7 think that would be very helpful.</p> <p>8 THE CHAIR: Sure.</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: Great. Thank you.</p> <p>10 THE CHAIR: I can do that. That's no 11 problem.</p> <p>12 COMMISSIONER CARRILLO: The next thing is 13 the writ. Same thing. I think that because there 14 are five of us that are new, I think it would be 15 very beneficial if a copy of not only the writ, but 16 the PED response to the writ, and then our response 17 to their response, if we could all get copies of 18 that.</p> <p>19 I know that I currently have it. But I 20 think that it would behoove the rest of the 21 Commission to just know what all of that is about, 22 because we reference it so much.</p> <p>23 And in talking with Senator Padilla and on 24 401 and on different things about our relationship, 25 it seems like the writ is this big white elephant.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">153</p> <p>1 frankly, the amount we spend on counsel.</p> <p>2 And so, I mean, there are meetings where 3 we have two people present for an entire meeting. I 4 know Ms. Jeffreys has been present for about two 5 hours of this meeting, when, in fact, there was 6 nothing on the meeting that required counsel.</p> <p>7 So I know these are issues for PED. So I 8 had this idea of -- and I don't know if you've ever 9 floated it before I got here. What if we had our 10 own staff counsel?</p> <p>11 Because the amount that we would have to 12 pay them -- I mean, when you look at cabinet-level 13 counsel in the state, they're making -- they're 14 making a nice salary, but it's significantly higher 15 than we're putting out. And we think if there's 16 maybe not enough work for somebody to do full-time, 17 they could be kind of an executive director or a 18 manager, performing a lot of those roles for the 19 Commission.</p> <p>20 It's just an idea. I don't expect 21 anyone -- just run it up the flagpole and see what's 22 what.</p> <p>23 But I just had that thought. It would 24 save a considerable amount of money. And so there 25 you have it.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">154</p> <p>1 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thanks. 2 Commissioner Armijo? 3 COMMISSIONER ARMIJO: Hi. Thank you. I 4 really don't have much to say. Thanks so much, 5 everybody, for being on this call. I think it was a 6 great meeting. 7 And I actually have to go. I'm getting my 8 second shot at 12:30. So I thought I was going to 9 have to be on the phone getting my shot. So I was 10 going to say thank you and have a great weekend. 11 THE CHAIR: Thanks, and congratulations. 12 Commissioner Burt? 13 COMMISSIONER BURT: Thanks. Yeah. I 14 definitely want to say, as a parent to kiddos -- I 15 mean I have a fifth-grader who literally, like, 16 threw her hands up in the air and almost started 17 crying to get back to school. 18 So, I mean, that's just not the kind of 19 thing that parents are used to seeing, you know. 20 So just to have, like -- I have a little 21 bit older kid, my eighth-grader. You know, they're 22 just -- they're thrilled at the opportunity to go 23 back to school. 24 So, you know, I can't even fathom -- this 25 is not like a normal first day of school. And the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">156</p> <p>1 appointed to be on the regents -- Board of Regents 2 for ENMU. 3 So congratulations to her. I know it's a 4 really cool opportunity for her; so just wanted to 5 say a quick congratulations. 6 THE CHAIR: Thanks. 7 Commissioner Manis? 8 COMMISSIONER MANIS: I just wanted to say 9 great meeting today. I think all the other 10 Commissioners that have spoken have given a pretty 11 good summary of a lot of the thoughts and feelings 12 that we all have. 13 And I think Commissioner Carrillo brings 14 up some good points. 15 And the only other addition that I would 16 add is that from my liaison role, we are talking 17 about -- I was assigned the -- to the benefits side 18 of the committee. And so one of the things that 19 they've been working on is a rollout of a new mobile 20 application for the -- for the benefits. 21 And so they're going to be sending me a 22 mobile phone to evaluate the app and see maybe some 23 changes that could benefit, because they -- I don't 24 think that they've gotten a whole lot of feedback on 25 the app yet.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">155</p> <p>1 amount of work that all these schools are doing to 2 welcome our students back for their first day of 3 school is a lot. 4 So thank you, Commissioner Chavez, for 5 bringing that up. Because I can't -- you know, 6 thank you for all of our schools who are doing the 7 work and our charter schools who have some really 8 unique buildings that they have put themselves in. 9 And so I can't even imagine the kind of 10 stuff they're going through to get ready. 11 But, man, it is such a sigh of relief, I 12 know, for families all over to have their kids going 13 back to school, back in the athletics, back in 14 music, back in all their programs, I mean. And for 15 kids to be able to see each other, even it's six 16 feet, three feet, whatever feet it is apart, I mean, 17 it is a huge deal. 18 So I'm super, super -- I mean, as a mom, 19 it's just -- it really is -- we're all so thrilled. 20 And not because we -- we don't love our kids. But 21 well all know -- like, we -- they need to be back in 22 school. So, yeah I did want to say that. 23 I also wanted to say a quick 24 congratulations to our former Vice Chair, Trish 25 Ruiz, who I saw was appointed -- or she was just</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">157</p> <p>1 So it'll be interesting to get to work 2 with that, because some of my expertise is in the 3 technology acceptance and whatnot. So it'll be 4 interesting to see how -- how I can help with 5 that -- that aspect. 6 So that's -- that's all the -- the info 7 that I have at the moment. But thank you guys for a 8 good meeting. 9 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thanks. And thanks for 10 that update. 11 Commissioner Robbins? 12 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Thank you. I just 13 wanted to give you an update. I visited the 14 Albuquerque School of Excellence last week. They 15 have a brand new building that they've built 16 adjacent to their existing facility. 17 I think it was a couple of years ago, they 18 had actually proposed locating some of their 19 students to a site about a mile away. But after 20 discussions and everything, they actually were able, 21 through their foundation, to come up with funding 22 and things like that. 23 They built this beautiful new building. 24 Took a tour of it last week. Was interviewed by two 25 of their students. One of their students was a high</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">158</p> <p>1 school student who that was their first day at the 2 school, because they were starting for the high 3 school back in-person this week. So she was kind of 4 privileged that she was invited to come back. 5 I felt privileged to be the first person, 6 I guess, from the outside that, you know, allowed 7 her to come back in. 8 Beautiful school. They have not only 9 their filtration system and their Hi-Vac system, but 10 also they have separate filters in every room for 11 circulation. 12 And, again, filtration is not 13 purification. And that's why I kind of press the -- 14 the UV solutions that are available. They even have 15 UV systems that you can put into Hi-Vac systems; so 16 not only are you filtering out the large particles, 17 but you're purifying the air, because UV light -- 18 30 seconds of UV light kills any bacteria or virus, 19 including COVID. 20 But that was beautiful. 21 Commissioner Voigt and I were also invited 22 to observe dismissal on Wednesday at MAS Charter, 23 which, if you remember a year ago, they applied for 24 an expansion that was denied for a few reasons. But 25 one of the concerns that I had raised was complaints</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">160</p> <p>1 willingness to work with us, and actually showing 2 concrete movement in that step. 3 You know, I -- I'm not opposed to 4 withdrawing the writ if PED will talk with us and 5 work with those things. But if that -- if that's a 6 hindrance, we need to have the conversation so we 7 can move forward. 8 But I think clarifying our role, 9 understanding that we are all elected individuals 10 that care about education, not just charter schools, 11 but education of the students in our state, I think 12 is very, very important. 13 And also with regard possibly a 14 subcommittee dealing with our budget, budget and 15 reconciling differences in terms of not only budget, 16 but on streamlining the approval process for getting 17 our per diem approved, I don't know about the rest 18 of you. But it was a week ago that I just got per 19 diem payments for January. And we're in March. 20 And I think we're all fairly diligent -- I 21 am very diligent about going in right after meetings 22 and filling out the work on DocuSign. But it's 23 frustrating when it takes up to 45 or 60 days for 24 that to go through the entire process. 25 And I understand it could get delayed in a</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">159</p> <p>1 coming from the community. 2 We drove around for, oh, about a 3 half-an-hour with JoAnn Mitchell and kept going 4 around and going around, showing us how smoothly it 5 was actually working. 6 And I was very impressed. We didn't make 7 any commitments or anything like that. It was just 8 an observation. It did work smoothly, and it looked 9 like there was very little or no traffic going 10 through the community. 11 They've been working very closely with the 12 City trying to resolve and come up with better 13 access and dismissal routes. And they're still 14 pursuing some of those things. So that's moving 15 forward. 16 The -- I -- I think last meeting, 17 Commissioner Gipson, you had asked for people to 18 serve on perhaps a strategic committee, 19 subcommittee, to work with not only formulating a 20 strategic plan for PEC, but working and reaching out 21 to PED. 22 And I would, you know, just ask that maybe 23 we get an update next month on where we're at with 24 that. But I think that would also go to the writ, 25 our willingness to work with them and PED's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">161</p> <p>1 lot of steps. But I know sometimes, just looking at 2 dates when things are getting signed and when you 3 have four individuals at PED that have to sign off 4 for it, that seems also to be a lot of bureaucracy 5 that could be streamlined. 6 So that's all I really have. I want to 7 thank all of you for your participation today. I 8 think we had very good conversation, and yesterday 9 in the work session, too. Thank you. 10 THE CHAIR: Thanks. 11 And before we leave, I don't want to leave 12 without saying another thank you for Karen for all 13 the work on the PowerPoint that you did for 14 yesterday. It was very informative. And all the 15 work that you've done with the tier levels, with 16 the -- with our performance framework, it really, 17 really helped to inform the conversation yesterday. 18 So I don't want to leave without another 19 thank you for that, and all other staff that helped 20 work on it, because it really was helpful. 21 And you know we always love colors, too, 22 so that that's always helpful. 23 So thanks, everyone. Once again, really 24 appreciated yesterday and all the time and effort 25 that was put in yesterday and everything today.</p>

1 Glad that everyone made their
2 appointments -- will make their appointments. So
3 thanks for that.

4 And we'll see some of you sooner at
5 contract negotiations before our next meeting.

6 So take care, stay healthy, and I'll
7 entertain a motion to adjourn.

8 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: I move we adjourn.

9 THE CHAIR: A motion to adjourn by
10 Commissioner Robbins.

11 All in favor.

12 (Commissioners so indicate.)

13 THE CHAIR: Opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 THE CHAIR: Hearing no opposition, the
16 motion passes. We are adjourned.

17 Thank you so much. Stay safe.

18 (Proceedings adjourned at 12:32 p.m.)
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1 RECEIPT

2 JOB NUMBER: 4894N CC Date: 3/19/21

3 PROCEEDINGS: OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

4 CASE CAPTION: In re: Public Meeting of the Public
5 Education Commission

6 *****

7 ATTORNEY: MS. BEVERLY FRIEDMAN - PED

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7 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

8 I, Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR, CCR #219, Certified
9 Court Reporter in the State of New Mexico, do hereby
10 certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true
11 transcript of proceedings had before the said
12 NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION, held in the
13 State of New Mexico, in the matter therein stated.

14 In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my
15 hand on March 29, 2021.
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1 BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

2 STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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18 *Cynthia Chapman*

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