

**In The Matter Of:**  
*Department of Education*  
*Charter School Office*

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*Public Hearing*  
*March 10, 2020*

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STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICE

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING  
MAJOR MODIFICATION APPLICATION  
SUSSEX ACADEMY

Georgetown Public Library  
Medium Room  
123 West Pine Street  
Georgetown, Delaware

Tuesday, March 10, 2020  
5:00 p.m.

BEFORE: LEROY TRAVERS,  
Lead Education Associate,  
Charter School Office

ALSO PRESENT: AUDREY NOBLE, PH. D.,  
Vice President,  
Delaware State  
Board of Education

DUNCAN SMITH,  
Sussex Academy

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1 MR. TRAVERS: Good evening.

2 I declare this public hearing  
3 to be open.

4 My name is Leroy Travers. I'm  
5 the lead education associate with the  
6 Charter School Office and I have been  
7 appointed by the Secretary to conduct this  
8 public hearing.

9 Sussex Academy Charter School  
10 has filed an application to modify its  
11 charter to increase its approved enrollment  
12 from 840 to 1,080 students, change its  
13 configuration from Grades 6 to 12 to  
14 include Grades K through 5, and establish a  
15 second campus at 22051 Wilson Road,  
16 Georgetown, Delaware, that would serve  
17 Grades K through 5.

18 As is required by law, the  
19 matter was referred to the Charter School  
20 Accountability Committee for investigation  
21 and report.

22 This joint public hearing is  
23 being held by the Department of Education  
24 and the State Board of Education.



1 I now ask the others at the  
2 table to introduce themselves.

3 DR. NOBLE: Hello.

4 I'm Audrey Noble. I'm the vice  
5 president of the Delaware State Board of  
6 Education.

7 MR. TRAVERS: I would like the  
8 record to reflect that the notice of the  
9 time, date and place of today's public  
10 hearing was published at the Charter School  
11 Accountability Committee's official place  
12 of business, on the Department of  
13 Education's official website, and on the  
14 State Public Meeting Calendar on the  
15 State's official website.

16 A court reporter is present so  
17 that a record of this hearing can be made.  
18 It will be necessary for each speaker to  
19 clearly identify his- or herself before  
20 beginning to speak so that the court  
21 reporter will be able to note who you are.

22 The record of this hearing will  
23 be provided to the Secretary of Education  
24 and the members of the State Board of



1 Education, together with any written or  
2 electronic comments received during the  
3 renewal decision process. To date,  
4 comments received on this renewal  
5 application are posted on the Charter  
6 School Office's website.

7 We will proceed in the  
8 following manner.

9 First we will hear from  
10 representatives of the charter school who  
11 wish to comment on the renewal application.  
12 Unless otherwise waived by the presiding  
13 officer, school representatives shall be  
14 limited to 15 minutes in total.

15 Next we will take comments from  
16 the public. If you desire to speak and  
17 have not signed up, please do so now.

18 We reserve the right to impose  
19 reasonable time, place and manner  
20 restrictions if the speakers prevent this  
21 hearing from accomplishing its goal in a  
22 reasonable manner.

23 The hearing's purpose is  
24 strictly to collect public comment.



1 Questions of the Department of Education,  
2 the State Board of Education or the school  
3 are not permitted and will not be  
4 acknowledged.

5 At this point the Committee  
6 will accept comments from any school  
7 representatives.

8 There are none.

9 Well, there is one. There are  
10 none that wish to speak. Sorry.

11 So the Committee will accept  
12 comments from anyone else who is signed up  
13 to speak.

14 No one.

15 We'll go off the record.

16 (The reporter went off the  
17 record.)

18 - - - - -

19 MR. TRAVERS: I want to thank  
20 everyone for participating today. The  
21 Secretary will consider your comments in  
22 deciding at the conclusion of the renewal  
23 process what decision to submit to the  
24 State Board for assent.



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This hearing is now closed.  
(The hearing adjourned at  
approximately 5:15 p.m. this same day.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF DELAWARE :  
:  
SUSSEX COUNTY :

I, Robert Wayne Wilcox, Jr.,  
Registered Professional Reporter and Notary  
Public, do hereby certify that the  
foregoing record, Pages 1 to 6 inclusive,  
is a true and accurate transcript of my  
stenographic notes taken on March 10, 2020,  
in the above-captioned matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
set my hand and seal this 10th day of  
March, 2020, at Wilmington, Delaware.



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Robert Wayne Wilcox, Jr., RPR



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