



Dear OCS Review Board:

Legacy Classical Academy started with students in August of 2023. At that time, we had a contract with the Educational Management Company American Traditional Academies. While the Executive Director, Mary Catherine Sauer, was helpful in completing the initial charter application and preparing the leadership at the school for the questions they would receive from the State Board of Education, the board overwhelmingly agreed that the benefit of the Management Company was vanishing.

By February of 2024, the board was beginning to see that the 14% that the management company was taking was too high for services Legacy received from ATA. The board closely investigated the concerns raised by teachers, staff, parents, and the principal by digging into the parent and staff surveys.

By May of 2024, the board of Legacy was ready to part ways with ATA. The board strongly believed that it was not a good use of tax dollars to continue to be in business with ATA. ATA had failed to provide adequate professional development for teachers, did not provide daily oversight as contracted, and did a poor job with most of its promises.

At the May 29<sup>th</sup> board meeting, the board presented Mary Catherine Sauer, the Executive Director of ATA, with a document outlining the board's desire to drastically change the provisions of the contract with ATA including the restructuring of the management fee, taking over the employment of the principal and operations staff, and limiting decisions made without board approval. ATA was given a termination letter effective May 31<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Sauer explained that she would need time to discuss this with her ATA partner.

New contracts were drawn up and signed by all parties that moved ATA from an Education Management position to a Service Provider. This was a stipulation of the contract with American Charter Development, that Legacy MUST have an ongoing contract with ATA.

Legacy has sense retained legal counsel and is seeking to break all ties with ATA and ACD.

We are seeking approval from the OCS Review Board to terminate the contract with ATA, American Traditional Academies, the Education Management Company, we have listed in our original charter application.

Respectfully,  
The Board of Legacy

*Bernie Farrell*  
Board Chair

Dr. Renee Clifford, Principal  
*Dr. Renee Clifford*