SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP
A Limited Liability Partnership
Including Professional Corporations
ORI KATZ, State Bar No. 209561
KIRK RIDER, State Bar. No. 364539
Four Embarcadero Center, 17th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-4109
Telephone: (415) 434-9100
Facsimile: (415) 434-3947
Email: okatz@sheppard.com
krider@sheppard.com

Counsel for Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, SACRAMENTO DIVISION

In re Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools, Debtor and Debtor in Possession.	Case No. 26-25868 Chapter 11 DCN: SMR-14 Judge: Hon. Christopher D. Jaime Date: November 10, 2026 Time: 11:00am Place: Courtroom 32 501 I Street Sacramento, California 95814

ORDER AUTHORIZING EMPLOYMENT OF KURTZMAN CARSON CONSULTANTS, LLC DBA VERITA GLOBAL, AS ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISOR

The Court, having considered the application (the "Application") of Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools (the "Debtor") a California Non-Profit Corporation, and the debtor and debtor in possession in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "Bankruptcy Case"), for an order authorizing the employment of Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC dba Verita Global ("Verita") as administrative advisor (the "Administrative Advisor") to the Debtor (the "Application"), and the *Declaration of Evan Gershbein* and in support thereof, no objection being filed, and good cause appearing therefor,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The Application is approved.

2. The Debtor is authorized to employ Verita upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Application, Bankruptcy Code section 327 and Rule 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Order, the Application, or Verita's service agreement, the Court is not approving Verita's terms and conditions of employment under 11 U.S.C. § 328(a). Verita shall file with this Court applications for the payment of fees in accordance with the procedures set forth in sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, any order of this Court or any applicable guidelines regarding submission and approval of fee applications, except for the fees and costs incurred pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 156 which shall be governed by this Court's order at Docket No. 76. No funds from any retainer shall be disbursed until fees and expenses are awarded by the Court.

4. Professionals retained by the Debtor in this Chapter 11 Case have performed a significant amount of work after the Petition Date and before entry of this Order, and satisfy the exceptional circumstances exception for the compensation for pre-employment services. Any application or motion for compensation must distinguish between any services provided before the effective date of employment and services provided after the effective date of employment. The effective date of employment is the date of this Order.

5. In connection with any increases in Verita's rates, Verita shall provide reasonable notice (i.e. at least ten days) by filing notice of such increase at least ten (10) days prior to the effective date of such increase.

6. Notwithstanding any provision in Verita's services agreement to the contrary, approval of the Application shall not alter the result dictated by the holding in *Baker Botts L.L.P. v. ASARCO LLC*, 135 S. Ct. 2158, 2169 (2015) and its construction of 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1).

DATED:

Dated: November 17, 2026

Christopher D. Jaime, Chief Judge
United States Bankruptcy Court