

AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Grade Level Change to Charter Amendment Request

Request

Happy Valley School, Inc. (“Charter Holder”) submitted an expansion request to increase the grade levels the Charter Holder is approved to serve, from grades K-6 to grades K-8, beginning in FY 2019.

See Appendix A: Amendment Request and Support Materials.

The Charter Holder’s rationale states that they want to provide 7th and 8th grade to their students because the students are forced to leave the Happy Valley School (“Happy Valley”) early to guarantee placement in a district school. Parents currently attending Happy Valley have told the Charter Holder that they would prefer continuity in their student’s education by keeping their students at Happy Valley through middle school. Due to kindergarten attrition, the first grade will reduce by one teacher in the first year. The staffing plan further indicates that two instructional staff will be added each year as each grade level is added. Enrollment targets will be met through the retention of 5th and 6th grade students; in addition, marketing will include using home mailers, the LED sign on site, social media and the school website blog. Promotion criteria provided indicates that in core content classes, students must perform at 80% or higher to move from 7th to 8th grade and 73% or higher to be promoted from 8th grade.

Three Year Plan

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Grade Levels	K - 6	K - 7	K - 8	K - 8
Enrollment	547	655	735	735

Staff Recommendation

The Charter Holder has not met the criteria to receive a staff recommendation for expansion.

Staff Recommendation Criteria	Analysis
In operation for three years.	The Charter Holder has been in operation for 18 years.
“Meets Operational Performance Expectations” based on the dashboards for the most recent two prior years and the current year.	The Charter Holder “Meets” the Board’s Operational Performance Expectations.
“Meets the Board’s Financial Performance Expectations” based on the most recent dashboard.	The Charter Holder “Meets” the Board’s Financial Performance Expectations.
Grade level cohorts are at capacity and/ or could fill enrollment for new grades requested.	Grade level cohorts are at capacity. Enrollment can be filled for the new grades requested.
ADM is within 85% of current enrollment cap.	According to ADE School Finance, the Charter Holder currently has an ADM of 498.032. The current enrollment cap is 900 and is within 55% of its current enrollment cap.
Each school operated by the Charter Holder: Performs at or above the average performance of a majority of schools within a five-mile radius of the school’s location.	Happy Valley performs at or above the average performance in ELA and Math. Information regarding nearby schools is found on page 2.

Profile

The Charter Holder was granted a renewal charter in 2013.

Governance

Corporate Board Members
Ernest Gaddie
Glen Gaddie

School Governing Body Members	Type
Glen Gaddie	Charter Organization
Marrienne Geisdorf	Community Member
Tauni Orton	Community Member

School Profile

School Name	Happy Valley School		
Date Open	July 2000		
Location	Peoria		
Grades Served	K - 6		
FY 14 Letter Grade	A		
	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
ELA AzMERIT (39%+)	75%	78%	74%
Math AzMERIT (40%+)	64%	71%	74%
Science AIMS (53%+)	88%	90%	92%

*FY 17 State Average Passing

Additional School Choices Serving Grades K - 8 within 5 Miles of Happy Valley School

Total Schools	FY 14 Letter Grade	Total Charter Schools	FY 17 State Assessment Data Greater than State Average			Subgroups within (±5%) of Charter Holder's Subgroup Data		
			ELA (>39%)	Math (>40%)	Science (>53%)	FRL (±5%)	ELL (±5%)	SPED (±5%)
19	A	5	17	17	18	8	18	9
7	B	1	7	6	2	0	2	0

Comparison of Nearby Schools to Happy Valley School

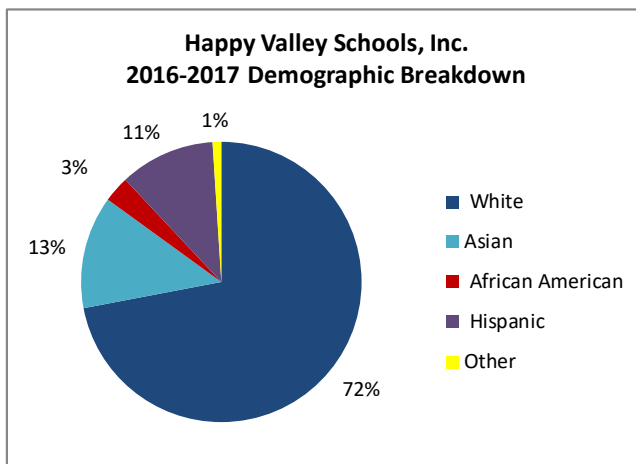
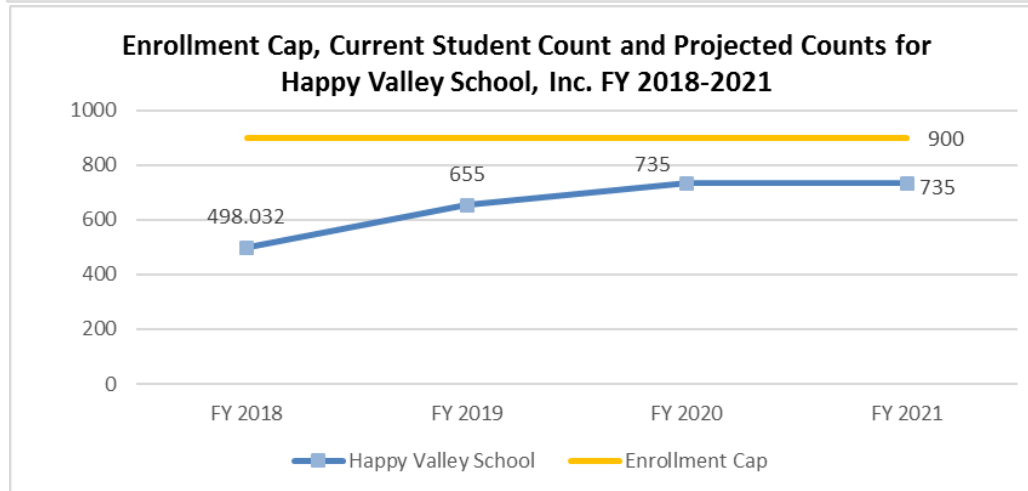
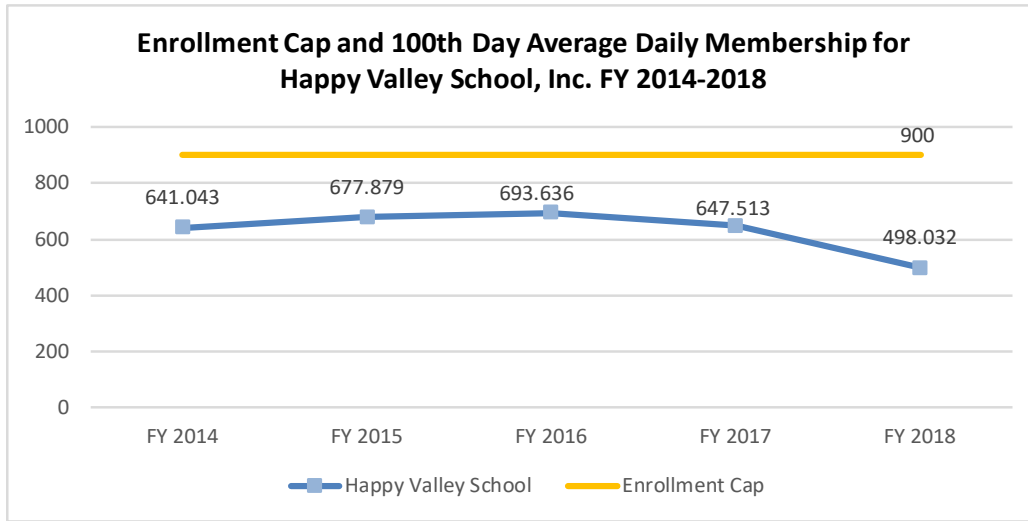
Total Schools	FY 14 Letter Grade	Total Charter Schools	FY 17 State Assessment Data Greater than Happy Valley School		
			AzMERIT ELA (>74%)	AzMERIT Math (>74%)	AIMS Science (>92%)
19	A	5	3	3	2
7	B	1	0	0	0
Total Number of Schools Performing Better than Happy Valley (Percentage of Total)					
26		6(23%)	3 (12%)	3 (12%)	2 (8%)

Schools Associated with Happy Valley School

School operated by the same charter holder but under different charter contract; School operated by a charter holder with at least fifty (50) percent of corporate board officers, directors, members, or partners in common.			
Charter Holder Name	Happy Valley East		
School Name	Happy Valley School East		
FY 2014 Letter Grade	A		
Overall Rating	74.06		
	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
ELA AzMERIT (39%+)	35%	40%	42%
Math AzMERIT (40%+)	24%	36%	29%
Science AIMS (53%+)	69%	73%	75%

*FY 17 State Average Passing

Enrollment and Demographic Data
 100th Day Average Daily Membership for FY 2014–FY 2018.



2016-2017 Subgroup Data	
Free and Reduced Lunch	16%
English Language Learners	*
Special Education	6%

**If the percentage of students is 0% or 100%, or the group includes less than 10 students, the percentage for that group is redacted.*

