

Instructional Days Amendment Request

Charterholder Info

Charter Holder

Name:
Accelerated Elementary and
Secondary Schools

CTDS:
10-87-67-000

Mailing Address:
5245 N. Camino de Oeste
Tucson, AZ 85745
> [View detailed info](#)

Representative

Name:
David Jones

Phone Number:
520-743-2256

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Downloads

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Contractual Days

180

To
200

Fiscal Year Effective Date
07/01/2011

Type of Change
Permanent Change

Attachment

Board Minutes —  [Download File](#)

School Calendar —  [Download File](#)

Daily Instructional Schedule —  [Download File](#)

Narrative —  [Download File](#)

Additional Information*
No documents were uploaded.

Signature

Charter Representative Signature
David Jones 04/12/2012

Accelerated Elementary and Secondary Schools
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
November 21, 2011

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Accelerated Elementary and Secondary Schools, a nonprofit organization, incorporated in the State of Arizona, was held on December 7, 2011, in the Administration Building.

Directors Present: Suzette Holt, David Jones, Robert Haag, Mike Todnem

Directors Not Present: Suzann Lark

Others present: Serei Kay (Acting Recording Secretary)

Members of the Public present: None

Call to Order: David Jones (acting as Chair) called the meeting to order at 4:32pm and Serei Kay (Acting Recording Secretary), recorded the minutes.

A quorum of directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, proceeded with business.

CEO Report: David Jones reviewed the agenda and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Next, David Jones presented a brief report and a discussion ensued.

Financial Review: Annual Financial Audit provided a comprehensive update on the Company's financial plan and forecast. David Jones also reviewed the Company's principal financial operating metrics. Discussion ensued.

Financial Planning: The Board next discussed the timing and creation of the Operating Plan.

Approval of Minutes: David Jones presented to the Board the minutes of the July 20, 2011, meeting of the Board for approval, whereupon motion duly made by Mike Todnem and seconded by Robert Haag, and unanimously adopted, the minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda item 3: Change the number of Instructional Days from 180 days to 200 days was discussed. [Note: Several board members voiced concern that such an action had been taken and passed at least two times several years prior.] Whereupon the following motion was duly made by Robert Haag:

Instructional Days shall be increased from 180 days to no less than 200 days, with the Headmaster having discretion to increase such instructional days up to 209. All grades shall meet Monday – Friday. Grades K-5 shall meet daily 8:10am – 3:30pm and grades 6-12 shall meet daily 8:00am – 4:00pm. And, this resolution/motion shall be retroactive beginning with academic years 2009-10 forward.

Seconded by Mike Todnem, and unanimously approved as presented.

Agenda item 4: Renewal of the Lease Agreement between Accelerated Elementary and Secondary Schools and Accelerated Learning Laboratory was discussed. Whereupon the following motion was duly made by Suzette Holt:

Seconded by Robert Haag, and approved as presented, with David Jones abstaining.

The Board next discussed a number of topics including:

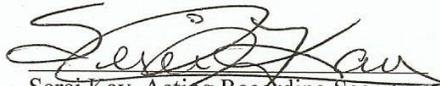
1. AZ Framework for Evaluations of Teachers and Principals
2. Students' Field Work/Field Study Options

Questions were asked and answered.

Adjournment: motion for adjournment made by Suzette Holt and seconded by Robert Haag and unanimously approved.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:39 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Serei Kay, Acting Recording Secretary

Agenda
Accelerated Elementary and Secondary Schools
Board Meeting

5245 N. Camino De Oeste
Tucson, AZ 85745

Tuesday, January 22, 2008
12:30P.M.

Board Members present: David Jones, Liza Crawford, and Suzette Holt

1. No public present
2. Motion: Liza moved that the By-Laws be amended to increase the number of Governing Board Members (Board of Directors) to 5.
3. David seconded the motion.
4. **Motion was passed unanimously.**
5. Motion: Motion was made by Liza that the majority of the Board of Directors shall be non-salaried and unrelated to salaried personnel and parties providing services.
6. Suzette seconded the motion.
7. **Motion was passed unanimously.**
8. Motion: Motion was made by Liza that salaried members shall abstain from voting on a ny motion in which they receive tangible or intangible benefit including but not limited to compensation and any motion in which there is a conflict of interest or there exists the reasonable appearance of conflict of interest.
9. Suzette seconded the motion.
10. **Motion was passed unanimously.**
11. Motion: Motion was made by Liza that all compensation decisions shall be made by the board.

12. David seconded the motion

13. **Motion was passed unanimously.**



14. Motion: Motion was made by Suzette to increase instructional days to 200.

15. David seconded the motion.

16. **Motion was passed unanimously.**

17. Motion: Suzette made the motion that we adjourn.

18. Liza seconded the motion.

19. Motion was passed unanimously.

20. The meeting adjourned at 2:00P.M.

Increase of Instructional Days to 200-209 Narrative Accelerated Elementary and Secondary Schools Academic Years 11-12 and On

Instructional Days shall be increased from 180 days to 200 days. All grades shall meet Monday – Friday. Grades K-5 shall meet daily 8:10am – 3:30pm and grades 6-12 shall meet daily 8:00am – 4:00pm, and shall begin with academic year 2011-12.

The following is a summation of board discussion regarding justification for increasing the length of the academic year to 200+.

The research is clear that the greater amount of effective time a student spends on-task, (i.e., that is engaged with the target content) the better the learning outcomes. The operative concepts here are, “effective” and “engaged.” It is obvious that if the quality of instruction is poor, adding more days is unlikely to improve outcome. Or, if the instruction is high and we use the extended days to actually teach we can expect that outcome would not change. However, if we continue high quality instruction during the extended number of day we would expect to see improved student performance.

Some opponents (in Arizona) to extending instructional days have suggested that it is not how many days a student is in school but it is the quality of the instruction that makes the difference. They argue that student performance does not improve when more days are added to the academic calendar. And, further argue that “quality” should be increased, not “quantity.”

It does not take much cognitive ability to reason that if the quality of instruction is poor then adding more days will have little effect. However, if the quality of instruction is already optimal then every day that is added will be of great value. Taking a lesson from Einstein we might reason through the following thought experiment. If we test the opponents’ premise buy adding “instructional quality” as a variable then the following not only seems likely but explains the opponents’ data.

number of days of instruction	High Quality Instruction	Low quality Instruction
1	substantial loss	little loss
160	significant loss	no change
180	baseline	baseline
200	significant gain	no change
365	substantial gain	little gain

The question we at AESS must ask is: do we deliver high quality instruction? There are several ways we might measure “quality” with outcomes. AESS has a Department of Education ranking of “A”; all of our graduates have been admitted to colleges like MIT, Columbia, Duke, Princeton, and Syracuse. Although AESS has an open door policy and does not select only high performing students (like some other schools) and as a consequence we have many students who are far below grade level when they enter, most students who have attended AESS for multiple years are well above grade level. Could AESS do better? Yes! That is our intention and it is reasoned that an increase of instructional days to 200 will help us achieve that goal.