Organization Description
B.2 Applicant Composition

Lawrence (Larry) Martinez, the authorized representative for this charter, will be the interim Director/Principal of Tucson AIM Middle School. He is also the Vice President of the Founding Committee described in B.1. Larry Martinez has nearly 30 years of experience working in education in Arizona. He possesses Arizona certifications for Superintendent and K-12 Administration, as well as teaching certifications for Physical Education (K-12), History Education (7-12), and Health Education (K-12).

Since the first submission of this charter in July of 2011, Mr. Martinez took a new position with WestEd as a program facilitator. As a program facilitator, he helps schools seeking to improve their academic performance by training teachers on effective instructional strategies in the classroom (i.e. instructional scaffolding, building key vocabulary for English Language Learners, using formative assessment to check for understanding) as well as incorporating structure throughout the school (i.e. school-wide discipline plans including expectations and consequences for behaviors). Prior to working for WestEd, Mr. Martinez served as a lead administrator at the middle school for Pima Partnership Academy. He was hired by the assistant superintendent of Pima Prevention to improve the academic performance of the school. During the time Martinez worked there, he achieved that mission as evidenced by the school improving two levels on AZ Learns, going from underperforming to performing plus.

Martinez has also worked as an Assistant Principal at Tucson schools such as Palo Verde High Magnet School, Rincon High School, and Utterback Middle School. Mr. Martinez has a firm understanding of the best practices needed for academic rigor and student behavior and a passion and dedication for student achievement.

Martinez's years of working with a minority, low-income student demographic uniquely positions him to work with the target population who Tucson AIM Middle School will strive to educate. In 2006, he was named a USDA Hispanic Serving Institution Fellowship Honoree, making him one of 20 Hispanic fellows from across the U.S., to study and train in the best ways to provide Hispanic students with access to higher education and government careers. Martinez's excellent background in improving low-income, minority students' academic performance and implementing effective structure in schools makes him a good fit for our organization because of its alignment with the American Indian Model. Martinez's stellar athletic background as a runner and coach (see below) also serves as an asset to Tucson AIM Middle School, which will strive to produce students who are academically *and* physically fit.

Mr. Martinez has experience handling school finance and business operations as well. For example, when he was the interim principal of Palo Verde High Magnet School, he was put in charge of handling the year-end budget and had to find ways to effectively and efficiently cut the budget by 10%, which he did. He also had to calculate FTE for the next year's budget. He was in charge of hiring staff to fill the master schedule.

At Palo Verde, Rincon High School, Utterback Middle School, and Apollo Middle School, Martinez was in charge of handling athletic/extracurricular budgets and approving expenditures. At Rincon, he also managed the maintenance and operations budget, facilitated and implemented the Small Learning Community grant and program, oversaw the athletics and activities department, the grounds and maintenance department, the facilities department, and security staff. As co-principal at Rincon, he also oversaw the construction of a thirteen-room building and installation of a track facility. These experiences put him in a position to work well with the to-be-hired Financial Manager to manage charter-school finance and business operations. The Financial Manager sought will need to have a solid understanding of and experience in charter-school finance and business operation.

In addition to Mr. Martinez's resume (attached), he has the following professional development, presentations, achievements/honors, and community involvement:

Professional Development & Presentations

- USDA **Consultant**-Developing strategies for Latino students to enter higher education and develop service learning projects with University of AZ.
- American Indian Public Charter School-**Consultant**- Develop and initiate strategies to found a charter school based on academic rigor and structure.
- AZ. High School Renewal & Improvement Initiative-**Co-Presenter** *Instructional Re-Engineering-High School Reform*, 2.07
- Sunnyside Unified School District Town Hall-**Presenter** *Community Involvement* 1.07
- Tucson Unified School District Registrar In-service- **Presenter** *High School Reform* 1.07
- AZ. High School Renewal & Improvement Initiative- **Co-Presenter** *Small Learning Communities* 9.05
- LifeBound Training and Certification- **Consultant** (Career Coaching) 2006- present
- Breaking Ranks II Trainer of Trainers Certification-6.05
- Hispanic Studies Teacher Training Institute 5.00, 5.01, 5.02, 6.04
- Applied Writing in the Curriculum 11.00
- Integrating Reading across the Curriculum Symposium 5.99

Achievements/Honors

- USDA Hispanic Serving Institution Fellowship Honoree-***2006 Chosen by US government as one of 20 Hispanic Fellows from across the United States. Worked in Washington DC to learn and provide avenues for Hispanic students who want to continue higher education and pursue jobs in the government sector.***
- A+ School Award-***2008 Member of the school leadership committee that wrote and assisted in the application for Rincon HS. Rincon HS was awarded an A+***

based on improving test scores, decrease in discipline, student ownership and development of Small Learning communities.

- Pima County Hall of Fame-***2011 Chosen because of contributions to student-athletes as Coach/School Administrator and performances as an athlete.***
- Glendale Invitational Hall of Fame Member-1999
- Los Mezquites Hall of Fame Member-1998
- Coached Scholar-Athlete of the Year for Tucson-1995
- Southern Region Cross Country Coach of the Year-1991
- Coached 11 top 20 Arizona State Ranked Teams
- Coached 7 high school All-Americans & 10 state champions in Track
- 80% rate of graduating senior athletes continuing to college

Community Involvement

- Sunnyside District Foundation Board Member-2009-present ***The goal of the foundation is to raise funds and support students of a predominantly minority school district. $500,000 has been raised.***
- Adelante Leadership Conference, (Co-Founder), 2004-2009 ***Designed conference that targets Tucson Unified School District Latino students with Higher Ed. aspirations. Over 400 students have been given assistance and preparations by admission directors/community members to attend college/university.***
- Los Mezquites Board Member, (Co-Founder) 1993-present ***Over 10,000 students have participated in the Los Mezquites Cross-Country Invitational since its inception.***
- Tucson Unified School District Suspension/Consequences Committee Member-Present
- Tucson Unified School District Facilities Committee Member-Present
- Development Coordinator for Sunnyside M.S. Basketball Championship 1998 & 1999
- Southern Arizona Region Track Championships (Coordinator) 1990
- City of Tucson M.S. Academic Pentathlon (Coordinator) 1988-90
- Sunnyside District Physical Education Curriculum Committee (Elementary Chairperson), 1985

Mr. Albert Sye is also a member of the Founding Committee, as described in B.1. Mr. Sye has extensive experience in secondary education serving as a principal, associate principal, and assistant superintendent in states as varied as Arizona, California, Illinois, Indiana, Georgia, and Delaware. He contributes to the organization proven experience in managing school budgets, hiring and supervising teaching staff, facilitating professional development, and improving the academic performance of all students. Since Mr. Sye is also the President of the Tucson AIM Governing Board and in an effort not to be redundant, more details about his background are found in B.3 and in his resume.

Dr. Barbara Camacho Benton is another member of the Founding Committee, who serves the committee's role of liaison, as described in B.1. Dr. Benton has been an Arizona educator since the 1960's. She holds an Ed.D., with Distinction in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University. She is currently an Associate Professor with Northern Arizona University, a Solutions Team Member of the Arizona Department of Education, and a Mentor at Prescott College. She contributes to the organization her understanding of curriculum, instruction, parent involvement, state and federal programs and grants, and managing budgets. Since Dr. Benton is also the Secretary of the Tucson AIM Governing Board and in an effort not to be redundant, more details about her background are found in B.3 and in her resume.

Upon charter approval, two additional Founding Committee members will be chosen, as discussed in B.1. They are the Financial Manager and a representative from American Indian Model Schools. Their roles are described in B.1.