Arizona State Board for Charter Schools Arizona State Board of Education 1700 W. Washington St., Room 164, Phoenix, AZ 85007 (602) 364-3080 Fax (602) 364-3089 www.asbcs.az.gov



ADDING GRADE LEVELS TO CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) BASIS School, Inc. (CTDS) 078588000

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 11485 North 136th Street, Suite 109

(City, State) Scottsdale, AZ (Zip) 85249

(Charter Representative's Name) Michael Block

(Phone Number) 480-289-2088 (Fax Number) 480-289-2089

Failure to submit all required documentation will result in the Amendment Request being returned without being processed. Faxed copies will not be accepted. Please send originals.

Adding grade levels served for charter

Included are the following:

- ▶ Board minutes approving the change (If the body is subject to Open Meeting Law, minutes must comply with ARS §38-431.01)
- Narrative that 1) provides background and support for expansion; 2) how the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter
- Timeline for implementation
- Proficiency level required for credit and/or promotion and credit transfer policies

For each grade level being added, provide the following as a representation of a program of instruction aligned to the State Academic Standards and to the methods of instruction described in the charter:

- Math A completed curriculum sample template including all required attachments as outlined on the template attached.
- Language Arts A completed curriculum sample template, for both reading and writing, including all required attachments as outlined on the template attached.

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and <u>BASIS School, Inc. (Peoria)</u> (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

FROM SERVING GRADES: 6-12

TO SERVING GRADES: 5-12

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 8th day of June, 2011, and the State Board for Charter Schools has signed this contract amendment as of this ______ day of ______, 20____, to take effect at such time as it is signed by both parties.

Charter Representative Signature

Representative Signature for the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

Charter Amendment Request to Add Fifth Grade to BASIS School, Inc. - Peoria

Narrative:

Background and support for expansion:

BASIS School, Inc. – Peoria respectfully submits this amendment request to add grade five (5) to the charter contract for school year 2011-2012, the school's first year of operation. BASIS-Peoria successfully submitted and received its charter through the Replication Application on September 13, 2010. At that time it was anticipated that the school would deviate from its typical school model of serving grades 5-12 and instead serve only grades 6-12 due to collaboration with another school. After further consideration, the BASIS School, Inc. Board of Directors made the decision to continue to replicate its typical model by serving grades 5-12 at the Peoria location as well. Thus, BASIS School is requesting that the fifth grade be added to the already approved charter.

<u>How the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special</u> emphasis, and mission of the charter.

The BASIS academic model has gained national recognition with BASIS School, Inc.'s flagship campus, BASIS Tucson, being named among the best public schools in America for a number of years running by both *Newsweek* and *U.S.News & World Report*. The BASIS model was successfully replicated once before when BASIS Schools opened its second charter school, BASIS Scottsdale. Just 5 years after opening its middle school, and one year after opening its upper school, BASIS Scottsdale was ranked the #1 High School in Arizona for Overall Academic Performance by *BusinessWeek*.

Due to the amazing results BASIS Scottsdale has achieved in such short time, BASIS School, Inc. decided to replicate the program once again and began operation of our third school, BASIS Oro Valley that just completed its first year of operation. Although AIMS results are still embargoed, the students at BASIS Oro Valley achieved similar accomplishments to their peers at BASIS Scottsdale and BASIS Tucson.

Like BASIS Oro Valley, BASIS Peoria will be a replication of the BASIS Scottsdale and Oro Valley models. The schools' mission is to provide a rigorous 21st Century liberal arts education to middle and high school students. Our goal is to provide an academic foundation for lifelong learning. On the whole, the quality of American education has declined in recent decades when compared to that in other industrialized nations. At BASIS, we strive to offer the type of education students receive in other industrialized countries and the type of education Americans will need to compete in the global economy. We operate on the principle that math and science are the languages of the 21st century—that math, science, and humanities are not separate but complementary ways of

communicating. Also at the core of our philosophy is the belief that advanced coursework is for all students, not just the gifted.

Timeline for Implementation:

Due to the replication of an existing successful model, the fifth grade will begin with the start of the 2011-2012 school year.

<u>Proficiency Level Requirements for Middle School Students to be Promoted to the</u> Next Grade Level (Grades 5-7)

In order to advance to the next grade level, students must fulfill grade advancement conditions:

- Pass all comprehensive examinations receive a grade of 60 percent or higher in all core subjects: English, mathematics, history, physics, biology, and chemistry. (Fifth grade is exempt).
- Pass all subjects:
- Final grade of 60 percent or higher in all nonexempt subjects (including core subjects);
- Final grade of Pass in all exempt subjects.

Students who fail any of the above conditions do not qualify for promotion status. To remedy their promotion status, these students' parents/guardians must request formally, in writing, permission to obtain conditional promotion status. To advance from conditional promotion status to promotion status, the student must:

- Deliver Special Summer Project assignments on or before the submission date;
- Satisfy all Special Summer Project assignment requirements;
- Retake all failed comprehensive exams on announced dates (parents/guardians can petition the school in the case of serious illness);
- Pass all retaken comprehensive exams.

Students who fail to earn promotion status, fail to obtain conditional promotion status, or fail to advance from conditional promotion status to promotion status, are held back. They are enrolled in the same grade again for the next school year.

June 7, 2011

RESOLUTION
11-R17

BASIS SCHOOL, INC.	
Craig Barrett, Chairman	Michael Block, Director
John Morton, Treasurer	Terry Sarvas, Director
Clint Bolick, Director	Steve Twist, Director

June 7, 2011

RESOLUTION

11-R17

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John Morton, Treasurer	Terry Sarvas, Director
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June 7	, 2011
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June 7, 2011	
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