
AGENDA ITEM: Replication Application – BASIS School, Inc.

**BASIS School, Inc.
BASIS Flagstaff
Replication Application Summary Report**

BASIS School, Inc. submitted a complete replication application for the 2011-2012 replication cycle. The corporate entity seeks a charter to replicate BASIS Scottsdale. The school will be named BASIS Flagstaff. BASIS School, Inc. is an Arizona non-profit corporation that was incorporated on March 25, 1998. BASIS School, Inc. currently holds three charters, each of which operates one school site: BASIS Tucson (5th-12th), BASIS Scottsdale (5th-12th), and BASIS Oro Valley (5th-10th).

School Mission Statement:

The mission of BASIS Flagstaff 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.

Program of Instruction:Methods of instruction

A new, higher quality version of curriculum is created each year through the process of collaboration between BASIS administrative staff and BASIS teachers. The teachers design their own subject syllabi based on their review of relevant subject syllabi from previous school year(s) and requirements defined by key subject exams (Pre-comprehensive, Comprehensive, Final, Alternative AP and AP exams).

Assessments

Key exams are high stake exams that are heavily weighted in determining the students' final grade. These exams are specific assessment tools used to ensure students' academic progress at BASIS.

Pre-comprehensive exams (used as comprehensive exam practice in middle school) and final exams (used for pre-advanced placement classes in high school) include a large percentage of teacher-written questions. On the contrary, comprehensive exams include more external questions with at least 75% coming from the BASIS question bank or external experts. The AP exams are external exams, created and evaluated by outside experts.

In the first year of its operation, BASIS Flagstaff will adopt syllabi and exams created by teachers and staff at BASIS Scottsdale for the 2010-11 school year.

Remediation

When a BASIS student is identified as an Atypical Learner (AL), BASIS staff, with the input of parents/guardians, design an Atypical Learner Assistance Plan (ALAP). The results and impact of the plan are monitored and its effectiveness is evaluated. A member of BASIS staff, the Atypical Learners' Coordinator, is responsible for documenting and monitoring the progress of all AL's in the school. All the steps for creating, implementing, and evaluating the ALAP are supervised by the school director, and most of the steps will be carried out by the teachers. The process of identifying an AL can be initiated either by parents/guardians or by BASIS staff.

Mastery Requirements: Promotion Requirements for Middle School students (Grades 5-7)

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.

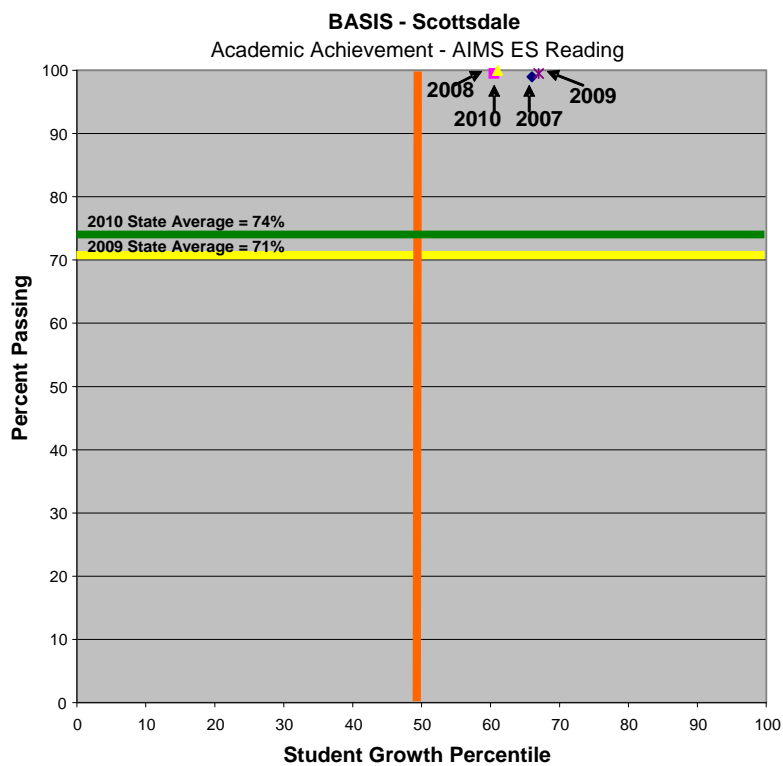
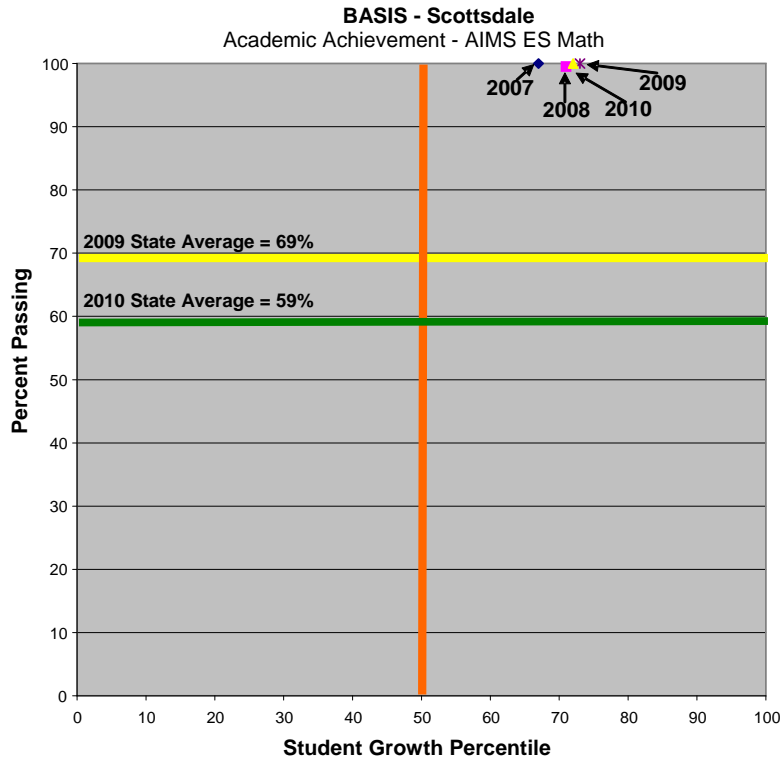
Mastery Requirements: Promotion Requirements for Upper School students (Grades 8-12)

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 re-enrolled in their current grade level for the next school year. Students who do not take the required number of AP exams are placed on Individual Academic Plan without a conditional promotion status option.

Graduation Requirements

There are four types of BASIS Upper School Graduation:

1. Early Graduation
2. Graduation
3. Graduation with Honors
4. Graduation with High Honors



BASIS Scottsdale and BASIS Tucson have experienced the following academic success as measured by AZ LEARNS and AYP:

Fiscal Year	AZ LEARNS	Adequate Yearly Progress
2010	Excelling	Yes
2009	Excelling	Yes
2008	Excelling	Yes
2007	Excelling	Yes

Academic Choice:

Since opening its doors in 2003, BASIS Scottsdale has expanded from serving fewer than 150 students in grades 5-8 to serving nearly 600 students in grades 5-12. The school has increased the enrollment cap to 650 for the 2010-11 school year.

Retention Rate of Students

BASIS Scottsdale Retention Rate			
Grade Level	2007	2008	2009
5-6	100.0%	100.0%	98.5%
6-7	98.8%	95.0%	83.1%
7-8	86.8%	90.7%	81.0%
8-9	32.1%	89.3%	77.8%
9-10	N/A	35.1%	45.0%
10-11	N/A	N/A	76.5%
11-12	N/A	N/A	75.0%
Average	79.43%	87.16%	77.09%

This table was generated by calculating the number of students who transferred out of BASIS Scottsdale over the summer and who attended at least one day of school, then calculating the retention rate of students from one year to the next using the BASIS Scottsdale Enrollment Table which represents 100th day ADM.

Enrollment Practices

There will be an open registration deadline for all students wishing to enroll at BASIS. The information about the deadline will be published in the local press. A lottery will be performed if the school receives more registration packets than there are spaces available.

Market Analysis:

A demographic analysis of 2010 data was used to determine how to sustain a sufficient student population. Within a twenty minute radius of the location of the school, there are approximately 7,277 students, ages 10 through 17, meaning BASIS would need to attract roughly 8.25% of the age-level population to sustain a school of 600 students.

While the percentage of area students the school would need to attract in Flagstaff is higher than that at existing campuses, there is a high demand for high quality academics. Local interest in BASIS Flagstaff provides another indicator of the potential for success in the new location. BASIS School, Inc. was contacted by a group of parents who live in Flagstaff and who are interested in bringing a BASIS School to their area.

BASIS School Inc. is in the process of pursuing facilities options, but the most likely scenario would entail purchasing land and constructing a new facility that would accommodate at least 700 students.

Student ethnicity:	Flagstaff
Caucasian	65%
Hispanic	16%
Native American	15%
African American	2%
Asian	2%

Governance Structure:

Corporate Board: Key Roles

The Board of Directors of BASIS School, Inc. is the Corporate Board responsible for corporate policy and ultimately responsible for operations of the corporation, including the charter schools. Examples of the Corporate Board of Directors responsibilities include:

- Appointing, reappointing, and establishing terms for school board members
- Authorizing the expansion of operations and the purchase of property
- Adopting Benefit Programs for BASIS employees
- Approving reimbursement rules for BASIS employees
- Authorizing executive compensation levels
- Authorizing school officials to pursue financing through bonds or grants
- Granting of investment authority
- Reviewing Annual Financial and Compliance Audits
- Contracting with an Educational Management Organization

Governing Body: Key Roles

Examples of the School Board’s responsibilities include:

- Approval of proposed, amended, and revised school budgets
- Approval of the BASIS Parent Student Handbook which outlines the school’s policies
 - Attendance policies
 - Grading policies
 - Homework and testing policies
 - Policies related to student debt and obligations
 - Donations and gift policies
 - Disciplinary policies
- Approval of policies related to financial assistance
- Adoption of policies related to students with disabilities
- Approval of enrollment cap increases
- Approval of location change for existing campuses
- Approval of other school policy issues
- Approval of school budgets

Consistent with the operations of BASIS Scottsdale, BASIS Tucson, and BASIS Oro Valley, BASIS School, Inc. would be the charter holder for BASIS Flagstaff. Presently BASIS School, Inc. contracts with BASIS Educational Group (BEG), an Arizona corporation whose major shareholders are Michael and Olga Block, to manage BASIS Scottsdale, BASIS Tucson, and BASIS Oro Valley.

	BASIS Scottsdale	BASIS Flagstaff
Instructional Program		
Grade Levels	5-12	5-12
Special Emphasis	Mathematics and Science with a focus at the Upper School on the College Board’s Advanced Placement program in core subjects.	Mathematics and Science with a focus at the Upper School on the College Board’s Advanced Placement program in core subjects.

Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sciences are separate subjects beginning in sixth grade • Topics taught early and often to prepare for advanced coursework in the upper school • Middle school students required to pass end-of-year comprehensive exams in core subjects • Focus on organizational and study skills in early grades • High school students required to take at least six AP exams paid for by the school • Use of internal and external exams to measure academic progress and strength of curriculum • Remediation efforts to support learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sciences are separate subjects beginning in sixth grade • Topics taught early and often to prepare for advanced coursework in the upper school • Middle school students required to pass end-of-year comprehensive exams in core subjects • Focus on organizational and study skills in early grades • High school students required to take at least six AP exams paid for by the school • Use of internal and external exams to measure academic progress and strength of curriculum • Remediation efforts to support learning
Demographics		
Location	11440 N. 136th Street Scottsdale, AZ 85259	Flagstaff, AZ
Enrollment	650	500
Organizational Structure		
Authorized Representative(s)	Olga Block Michael Block Carolyn McGarvey	Olga Block Michael Block
Corporate Principals	Michael Block Kristen Jordison Clint Bolick John Morton Craig Barrett Terry Sarvas	Michael Block Kristen Jordison Clint Bolick John Morton Craig Barrett Terry Sarvas
Governing Board	Michael Block Olga V. Block Sheri Pierce Diane Moser Matthew Ladner Glenn Hamer Jamie Capdores Vicki Murray	Michael K. Block Olga V. Block School Staff: 1 - 2 Community: 1 - 2 Unknown: 1 - 2