

# Adding Grade Levels to Charter Amendment Request

## Charterholder Info

### Charter Holder

**Name:**  
Bright Beginnings School, Inc.

**CTDS:**  
07-87-62-000

**Mailing Address:**  
400 North Andersen Boulevard  
Chandler, AZ 85224  
> [View detailed info](#)

### Representative

**Name:**  
Karen Edris

**Phone Number:**  
480-821-1404

## Downloads

 [Download all files](#)

## Current Grade Levels

### Current Grade Levels Served

- Kindergarten
- 1st Grade
- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade

## New Grade Levels

For each grade level being added, provide the following as a representation of a program of instruction aligned to the State's approved academic standards and to methods of instruction described in the charter. Please note that a separate upload must be prepared for each grade level and content area and be named as such. Additionally, applicants must restate the name of the file in the Brief Description box (e.g., First Grade Reading, HS Algebra II).

### For K-8

Language Arts & Math: A completed curriculum sample for reading, writing, and math for each grade level being added including all attachments as outlined on the [required template and instructions](#).

### For 9-12

Language Arts & Math: A completed curriculum sample for reading, writing, and math coursework for each grade level being added including all attachments as outlined on the [required template and instructions](#). Each course must align with the State's graduation requirements.

### Add Grade Levels

7th  
8th

### Curriculum Samples

-  [Download File](#) — 7th and 8th grade math assessments and rubrics
-  [Download File](#) — 7th grade reading assessment and rubric
-  [Download File](#) — 8th grade graphic organizer
-  [Download File](#) — 7th grade language arts (writing) rubric
-  [Download File](#) — 7th grade math curriculum
-  [Download File](#) — 7th grade language arts (writing) curriculum
-  [Download File](#) — 7th grade reading curriculum
-  [Download File](#) — 8th grade language arts curriculum
-  [Download File](#) — 8th grade language arts assessments and rubrics
-  [Download File](#) — 8th grade math curriculum
-  [Download File](#) — Newest edits; clarified peer editing (highlighted in yellow), final assessment amended to ensure complete independent work

Effective Date

07/01/2012

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## Attachments

Board Minutes –  [Download File](#)

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Narrative –  [Download File](#)

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Timeline for implementation –  [Download File](#)

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### Additional Information\*

No documents were uploaded.

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## Signature

Charter Representative Signature  
Karen Edris 04/30/2012

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Bright Beginnings School  
400 N. Andersen Blvd.  
Chandler, AZ 85224

Governing Board Meeting  
January 4, 2012 at 3:15pm in Conference Room

Members present: Karen Edris, Kathy Crowe, Carole Slaybaugh, Ken Loop, Caroline Reed  
Members absent: Terri Harris

- Per last month's board approval to expand, Karen explained the process of appealing to the charter board for consent to expand the charter to include 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Paperwork must be submitted by Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>. Likewise, what will need to be done to act the board's approval to increase class size to 24; paperwork will be submitted in February.
- Karen stated that she has a verbal agreement with the church regarding the lease of space for our future Middle School. They are willing to enter into a contract with BBS that will begin June 1<sup>st</sup> providing ample time to move in before July start of school. She stated that she has a meeting at the church on January 5<sup>th</sup> to finalize the lease details. Karen has asked for access to their multipurpose room to hold a parent meeting to present our vision for the school. This event will take place the beginning of February.
- Karen has met with the fifth and sixth grade teachers to discuss classes for next year. Blocking, specialist teachers, electives, core subjects, technology, and honors programs were discussed. Karen will have to hire at least one teacher with the necessary qualifications to teach honors math and science for seventh grade. The fifth and sixth grade teachers are creating seventh and eighth grade units in math and language to present to the charter board.
- Ken and Caroline will lead a focus group of parents to determine their thoughts/concerns/questions... regarding the opening of a Middle School. Parent input will be considered when developing the design and marketing of the new campus and consideration given to their requests as well as their concerns.
- Karen discussed the need to furnish the new school and is hoping to make a modest offer to secure all of the furniture and equipment of the vacating school. While much of the curriculum would be of no value to our school, Karen has seen and spoken with Creative Learning Systems and is hopeful to obtain the computer lab equipment. The hardware is outdated, but operable and will need to be replaced in time, but with training, she feels this could be a challenging and engaging source of learning for the students.
- The 2012-2013 calendar is in place. We will not have Good Friday, but take a day in May so the church may use the entire facility for a religious holiday for them.
- The new phone system is in place at a cost of roughly, \$13,300 and everyone has been trained in its use.
- The road repair has been finished at a cost of roughly \$13,600.
- The Holiday Festival raised about \$2000 for Spanish books. Kiri will decide how many she needs for this year and anticipate her needs for next yea.
- The meeting adjourned at 4:15.

## **Narrative**

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of Bright Beginnings School is to provide a challenging learning environment that will improve pupil achievement. We hope to create joy life-long learners and assist students in both experiencing academic success and physical well being. It is our intent to help students appreciate cultural differences and practice the principles of good citizenship. We hope to cultivate a positive self-concept in each student and encourage creative approaches to problem solving. We seek to involve parents in their child's education. By increasing our grades served to include 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be able to provide this learning opportunity for students for two additional years.

Bright Beginnings will offer students in grades K-8 a wide variety of educational experiences in the areas of literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, technology, Spanish, music, art, and physical education. We acknowledge that students learn by doing and instruction is provided in a hands-on, discovery manner by experienced teachers in small group settings.

### **Methods of Instruction and Assessment**

Bright Beginnings School would remain in a child-centered school where students learn through active participation with a variety of materials, teaching methods, and learning strategies. They are respected, guided and encouraged using an integrated curriculum. We incorporate art, music, Spanish, and technology into daily instruction. Use of instruments, artistic styles, and computer equipment enhance the opportunities for students to explore and are all incorporated into lessons. Fieldtrip opportunities are provided throughout the year for students to experience the curriculum outside of a school building.

Class sizes are small. Our teacher's meet the needs of each student by understanding each child and his/her needs. Small group and one on one instruction is provided within the classroom setting by the teacher or, if applicable, the assistant teacher or parent volunteer. Investigative opportunities are provided for students seeking enrichment and further challenge.

Parents are encouraged to participate at the school in a variety of ways; always setting a positive example and providing continued encouragement to students. They serve as another adult role model to the student as someone who will listen to and care about them. Parents are welcome into the building and the classroom at any time.

Bright Beginnings provides a challenging learning environment that will improve student achievement as measured by state testing, teacher observations, student interviews and portfolios, discipline logs and parent observations.

## School Goals

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Measurement Criteria</b>
Student will make at least one year academic growth	80% mastery of essential skills Criterion Referenced testing Terra Nova / AIMS
Student will develop a lifelong love of learning and a positive self-concept	Student's attitude Teacher observation Parent observations Student interviews
Student will appreciate cultural differences	Student observation Student interviews Teacher observation
Student will communicate effectively with classmates and instructors	Student oral and written reports Student-led discussions Cooperative learning group success Teacher observation
Students will exercise higher level thinking skills	Student will share their problem-solving strategies Student portfolio
Parents will be involved in their child's education	Parents volunteer at school, home, on fieldtrips, with the PTA, etc.
Students will develop physical strength and coordination	Student interviews Teacher observation Parent observation
Student will practice the principles of good citizenship	School discipline log will show less inappropriate behavior incidents over the course of the year

**Courses offered will include but not be limited to:**

Language Arts / Social Studies  
Honors Language Arts / Honors Social Studies  
Math / Science  
Honors Math / Science  
Spanish  
Art  
P.E.  
Drama / Theater / Speech and Debate  
Computer Lab