

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

CHARTER GRADE LEVEL AMENDMENT REQUEST

RECEIVED AUG 17 2009

(Charter Holder Name) Challenge School, Inc. (CTDS) 078772

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 5801 West Greenbriar Dr.

(City, State) Glendale, AZ (Zip) 85308

(Charter Representative's Name) Gregory A. Miller

(Phone Number) 602.938.5411 (Fax Number) 602.938.5393

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.

Check appropriate box

Adding grade levels served for charter

Included are the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (minutes must comply with Open Meeting Law ARS §38-431.01)
- Narrative describing how the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter
- Mastery of coursework for additional grades
- Expected student performance on state mandated tests at all grade levels impacted by the addition
- Timeline for implementation
- Changes in staffing to support the requirements for Highly Qualified.

to remain K-6 & not change to K-5 as approved 6/08.

For K-8

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.

For 9-12

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 math course description and a completed curriculum sample template including all required attachments as outlined on the template (template is available on the ASBCS website).
- Language Arts - A language arts course description and a completed curriculum sample template, for both reading and writing, including all required attachments as outlined on the template (template is available on the ASBCS website).
- Graduation requirements (number of credits in each content area and electives)
- Course level proficiency required for credit and acceptance of transfer credit

Decreasing grade levels served for charter

Included is the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (minutes must comply with Open Meeting Law ARS §38-431.01)
- Rationale for decrease in grade levels served and effective date of change

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and Challenge School, Inc. (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

FROM: Section 2.0 Organization, paragraph 2.2 Number and Grade Levels to be served.:

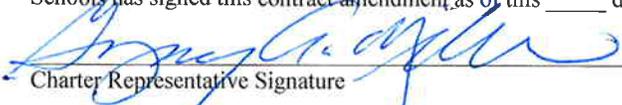
We have grown since our first year (1996-1997) where we had a 100-day ADM of 107, and an enrollment of approximately 170 students to our enrollment maximum of an ADM of 650 or less. We current service Kindergarten thru 6th grade. Effective with the 2010 – 2011 school year we will serve only K – 5th grade students due to facility limitations and growth demand.

TO: Section 2.0 Organization, paragraph 2.2 Number and Grade Levels to be served.:

We have grown since our first year (1996-1997) where we had a 100-day ADM of 107, and an enrollment of approximately 170 students to our enrollment maximum of an ADM of 650 or less. We currently service Kindergarten thru 6th grade.

Curriculum Sample Template

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 13th day of August, 2009, and the State Board for Charter Schools has signed this contract amendment as of this ____ day of ____, 200__, 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



8.14.09

RECEIVED AUG 17 2009

Ms. DeAnna Rowe
Ex. Director
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1700 West Washington St. Room 164
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Maintaining our current K-6 Core Knowledge Program


Dear Ms. Rowe:

When we looked into our crystal ball in June of 2008, we didn't really do a very good job of determining what Challenge Charter School needed to do with its 6th grade program. Since we submitted, and the Board approved, our request to serve K-5 starting in July of 2010, we have had two enrollment periods. During both of them, our returning percentage of 5th graders to become 6th grade students has been nearly 97%. Not the slippage that we anticipated with the newer 6-12 school models that were opening up around us. We may still have a small facilities issue, but as I mention on the 11th, we are confident that we will be able to solve that issue by the time we really need the additional classroom space.

Therefore, we would like to maintain our existing K-6 Core Knowledge program for the foreseeable future and not change to K-5 in July of 2010 as currently structured. I have include: Charter Grade Level Amendment Request, The Site Specific Change in Grades Served Notification Request, our Board minutes of our meeting yesterday, and a copy of the June 2008 approved Requests.

Sometimes the future is not what you plan for, but rather the result of doing a great job! Thank-you for your time and consideration on this issue. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me anytime. Please let me know when we are on the Boards Agenda.

Thanks again,
Sincerely


Gregory A. Miller
CEO & Board President
Challenge School, Inc.



**Challenge School Inc.
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER: 4:05 pm

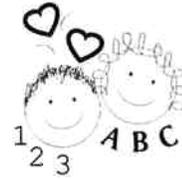
ROLL CALL: Scot Schlund; Wendy Miller; Pam Miller; & Greg Miller were all in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON: July 9, 2009:
Approved without changes 4-0**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved as submitted 4-0

PRINCIPAL COMMENTS By Ms. Wendy Miller

- 1. First Day Enrollment Status (DMR) Everything went very smoothly we only had 5 students not show up and all were called in and excused. We did have an approximate 20 ADM loss between those that left late in the summer and those we were able to replace off the waiting list due to their decisions prior to our calling. Last year 1st day was 570 ADM & our 1st day this year is 550 ADM. See attached DMR report for 8.12.09.**
- 2. In-Service Report: The reaction by staff was it was a great In-Service; with lots of very useful information; solutions; and workshop time. See attached Agenda.**
- 3. SAC Meetings & Activities: We talked about the schedule & agendas for this years' SAC meeting. (See attached) and especially about the Parent Volunteer program; it's subject matter and how to maximizes the uses of the time parents were willing to donate.**
- 4. New school-wide CK programs: The three new programs have been developed over the summer by what I (Ms. Miller) have come to call the power of 3! What an injection of enthusiasm and creativity. Please see the attached overview of each of them.**
- 5. Dates to Remember Aug. & Sept. See attached**
- 6. ARRA Assurances: This is all tied to the Federal stimulus money and requires additional assurances. This is administrative but I wanted the Board to be informed. See attached signed copy for your information.**



CEO COMMENTS By Mr. Greg Miller

- 1. Audit Timeline:** The auditors will be on campus the week of the 24th, and I have outlined the expected schedule for this year's report and last year's submittals. See Attached Memo.
- 2. Unaudited Financial Report:** This has the July actual, but due to both the federal monies and the lack of a final state budget there will be changes in both the budget and the estimated revenues and costs in the future reports. See attached.
- 3. Insurance Package from Willis:** Attached is the bid sheet showing only a \$200 increase for our Property & Liability Insurance. If anyone wanted to review the entire proposal package it was here for inspection.

AGENDA ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR ACTION AT THIS MEETING

- 1. Approve all Vouchers to date: Approved 4-0**
- 2. CEO 2009 Bonus Consideration: Approved 3-0-1**
- 3. CEO Transportation Request: Approved 3-0-1**
- 4. Grade Level Amendment Request: As we have discussed several times since we submitted the request to go to K-5 in July 2010; our families have made it clear that they want the CCS 6th grade option during the last 2 re-enrollment periods (2009 & 2010). I have spoken to Ms. DeAnna Rowe, the Ex. Director of the Charter Board and explained that we just want to continue our existing K-6th grade program. To do that we have to submit the attached documents to eliminate the approved change to K-5 as scheduled for July of 2010. Approved 4-0**
- 5. Declaration of Curricular & Instructional Alignment – Governing Board Certification: The CEO, Board President is to sign on behalf of the Board and return the documents to ADE. Approved 4-0**
- 6. Disposal of Equipment: Approved 4-0**

ADJOURNMENT: 5:15 pm