
AGENDA ITEM: Compliance Matters – Principal Declaration of Curricular and Instructional Alignment

Issue

The following charter holders have failed to submit their Principal Declaration of Curricular and Instructional Alignment for fiscal year 2010, which were due to the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) on February 4, 2010:

- Cesar Chavez Learning Community, Inc.
- Kin Dah Lichii Olta

Background

The Principal Declaration requires that the Principal or school leader, in their official capacity, to affirm that for the current school year the teachers under their supervision:

1. were provided access to the Arizona Academic Standards (“Standards”) and the curriculum,
2. received instructional materials aligned to the Standards,
3. received training related to the Standards, unless those teachers were excused for appropriate reasons, and
4. were evaluated to assess whether they integrated the Standards into their instructional practices to the extent the Standards apply to their teaching area(s).

Communications with School

Per ADE, the principal declarations were mailed out on December 3, 2009. On or about December 30th, ADE sent out an email to the charter representatives reminding them that the principal declaration would be due on February 4, 2010, along with a copy of the principal declaration attached.

On March 5th, ADE sent an email to Judy Bisignano, charter representative for Cesar Chavez Learning Community, Inc., informing her that her schools, Cesar Chavez Middle School and Aztlan Academy were out of compliance. ADE has not received a response.

On March 9th, ADE sent Gordon Gorman, Business Manager for Kin Dah Lichii Olta, an email telling him to have the appropriate person sign the principal declaration and fax it to ADE. ADE has not received a response.

On March 18th, Board staff sent an email to the charter representatives reminding each that the Principal Declaration was overdue.

Board Options

1. The Board may direct staff to monitor each charter holder’s progress in submitting the fiscal year 2010 Principal Declaration of Curricular and Instructional Alignment and provide additional updates as they become available.
2. The Board may find the charter holders are in noncompliance with the requirement to timely submit the fiscal year 2010 Principal Declaration of Curricular and Instructional Alignment and approve withholding 10% of each charter holder’s monthly apportionment until the fiscal year 2010 Principal Declaration of Curricular and Instructional Alignment has been submitted.

Staff Recommendation

Staff’s recommendation is option 2 above.