

AGENDA ITEM: Surrender Agreement

Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy - Ahwatukee, the charter holder, operates Sonoran Science Academy - Ahwatukee serving approximately 75 students in grades Kindergarten through eight.

On March 12, 2015, the Charter Operator notified the Board that the lease for the School building will expire at the end of fiscal year 2015, the Charter Operator was unable to find a good location and facility to relocate the school for next year, and the Charter Operator voted to close the School and surrender the Charter.

A copy of the proposed terms of the Agreement is included in Appendix A below.

The Charter Holder has made the following arrangements for families:

- SSA-Ahwatukee parents were notified about the closure of the school during the week of March 23rd via email and a letter home.
- An information session was held at the current location on Friday, March 27th, for parents to address their questions and concerns.
- Paragon Science Academy is an A-rated, K-12 sister school of SSA-Ahwatukee (and part of Sonoran Schools) and is located just six miles from the Ahwatukee campus.
- There is enough capacity at Paragon Science Academy to accommodate any and all students who would like to continue their education with Sonoran Schools.
- Paragon Science Academy will hold Open Houses, exclusively for current SSA-Ahwatukee parents and students, on Wednesday, April 1st, at 5:30PM and Saturday, April 4th, at 10AM. Enrollment applications for Paragon Science Academy will be shared with SSA-Ahwatukee families during the Open Houses and they will be processed within a week of receipt.
- Free transportation for students who would have difficulty getting to the Paragon Science Academy campus will be considered.
- The computer lab at the current location will be available on April 3rd for parents to locate and compare new schools for their students, through the AZ Charter School Association's Education Evaluator website.

Board Options

The Board may adopt the terms of the Surrender Agreement. Staff recommends the following language for consideration: I move that the Board adopt the Consent Agreement for the Voluntary Surrender and Termination of the Charter Contract for Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy - Ahwatukee.

Appendix A

**CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR THE VOLUNTARY SURRENDER AND
TERMINATION OF THE CHARTER CONTRACT**

This Consent Agreement for the Voluntary Surrender and Termination of the Charter Contract (“Agreement”) is made by and between Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy - Ahwatukee (“Charter Operator”), a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the state of Arizona and operating Sonoran Science Academy - Ahwatukee, a charter school, and the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools (“Board”) collectively referred to herein as the “Parties.”

JURISDICTION

The Board is charged by Arizona Revised Statutes (“A.R.S.”) §§ 15-182(E)(1) and (2) and 15-183(R) with granting charter status to qualifying applicants for charter schools and exercising general supervision over the charter schools it sponsors. An approved plan to establish a charter school is effective for fifteen years. A.R.S. § 15-183(I). The charter may be amended at the request of the governing body of the charter school and on approval of the Board. A.R.S. § 15-183(G). The Board may revoke a charter of a school it sponsors at any time if the charter school breaches one or more provisions of its charter. A.R.S. § 15-183(I)(3). The charter may be renewed for successive period of twenty years. A.R.S. § 15-183(I)(1).

RECITALS

1. The Charter Operator operates Sonoran Science Academy - Ahwatukee (“the School”), a charter school established pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-181 *et seq.*
2. The School operates pursuant to a charter contract (“Charter”) executed on August 30, 2001 one between the Charter Operator and the Board.
3. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-183 and the Charter, the Board sponsors the Charter

Operator to operate one school site to serve students in grades Kindergarten through eight.

4. Fatih Karatas, Tuncay Celik, Muhammet Tanyeri, and Ismail Ozis are the Charter Representatives and persons authorized to execute documents on behalf of the Charter Operator.

5. On March 12, 2015, the Charter Operator notified the Board that the lease for the School building will expire at the end of fiscal year 2015, the Charter Operator was unable to find a good location and facility to relocate the school for next year, and the Charter Operator voted to close the School and surrender the Charter.

AGREEMENT

The Parties agree as follows:

1. The Charter Operator voluntarily tenders and surrenders the Charter to its sponsor, the Board, with the intent to voluntarily terminate its Charter effective June 30, 2015 for the purpose of further performance.

2. The Board accepts the surrender of the Charter for the operation of the School.

3. The Charter between the Charter Operator and the Board for the operation of the School is terminated effective June 30, 2015 for the purpose of further performance.

4. This Agreement is not binding on the Parties until both the Board and the Charter Operator's governing board accept it by the number of votes necessary to pass a measure at a public meeting. This Agreement is effective immediately upon its approval and execution by the authorized representatives of the Charter Operator and the Board.

5. If the Board rejects this Agreement or any part of it, then this Agreement is null and void, and not binding on the Charter Operator or the Board.

6. The Charter Operator shall mail a complete copy of each student's educational record to the student's parent or legal guardian for each student enrolled in the School in the 2014-2015

school year.

7. By May 1, 2015, the Charter Operator shall identify and notify the Board of the custodian of all student records of students who attended the School during its operation by the Charter Operator and provide a copy of the agreement between any parties, if an agreement is entered. The notification shall include the physical address of the location of the records and a statement of assurance that the records will be maintained in accordance with the Student Records Retention Schedule provided by the Arizona Library and Archives division of the Arizona Secretary of State's Office.

8. The Charter Operator has submitted all requisite student level data for its receipt of state equalization funding for the 2014-2015 school year to the Arizona Department of Education through the Student Accountability Information System ("SAIS").

9. The Charter Operator is entitled to receive state equalization assistance funds for the 2014-2015 school year to which it is entitled under the school funding formula provided in Arizona law, but no more.

10. The Charter Operator shall refund any overpayment of state equalization assistance funds in the amount determined by the Arizona Department of Education ("Department") in the manner directed by the Department.

11. The Charter Operator is entitled to receive Classroom Site Funds for the 2014-2015 school year to which it is entitled under the provisions of Arizona law, but no more. The Charter Operator shall expend the Classroom Site Funds in a manner consistent with its intent as specified in A.R.S. § 15-977.

12. The Charter Operator shall refund any overpayment of Classroom Site Funds in the amount determined by the Department in the manner directed by the Department.

13. The Charter Operator shall submit any outstanding grant reports and shall refund any outstanding grant monies or allocation of education funds in the amount determined by the Department in the manner directed by the Department.

14. The Charter Operator shall expend the Instructional Improvement Funds for the 2014-2015 school year to which it is entitled under the provisions of Arizona law, but no more. The Charter Operator shall expend the Instructional Improvement Funds in a manner consistent with its intent as specified in A.R.S. § 15-979.

15. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to prevent the Charter Operator from exercising its rights under statutes or regulations to contest amounts determined by the Department to be owed by the Charter Operator.

16. The Charter Operator understands that it has the legal right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Agreement.

17. The Parties shall be responsible for their own attorneys' fees and costs in this matter.

ARIZONA STATE BOARD FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS

By: Janna Day
President, Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
Date: _____

DAISY EDUCATION CORPORATION DBA SONORAN SCIENCE ACADEMY -
AHWATUKEE


By: Fatih Karatas, Tuncay Celik, Muhammet Tanyeri, or Ismail Ozis
Charter Representative, Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy -
Ahwatukee
Date: 3/20/2015

COPY mailed this
_____ day of _____, 2015 to:

Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy - Ahwatukee
Attention: Charter Representative
14647 S. 50th St. #175
Phoenix, AZ 85044

By _____



Daisy Education Corporation

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PSA (K-12): www.sonoranschools.org/paragon | SSA Peoria: www.sonoranschools.org/peoria

SSA Tucson (K-12): www.sonoranschools.org/tucson | SSA DM: www.sonoranschools.org/davis-monthan

SSA Phoenix: www.sonoranschools.org/phoenix | SSA Ahwatukee: www.sonoranschools.org/ahwatukee

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF DAISY EDUCATION CORPORATION

The meeting of the Corporate Board of Directors of Daisy Education Corporation ("Corporation"), an Arizona nonprofit Corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Arizona, was held at 2975 W. Linda Ln. Chandler Arizona, on the 28th day of February, 2015, at 12:04 p.m. The Corporation has properly noticed this Meeting pursuant to (A.R.S.) 10-3822 of Arizona Revised Statutes and its bylaws.

1. Attendance. The following members of the Corporate Board were present:

- Dr. Abdullah Yilmaz, Board Chair
- Bryan Durham
- Lesly Baca Ruiz
- *Dr. Ali Kemal Unver was absent (joined the meeting at 12:15pm)*
- *Adiba Jurayeva was absent (joined the meeting at 12:15pm)*

2. Presiding Officers and Quorum. *Dr. Yilmaz* called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and acted as Chair and *Fatih Karatas* acted as secretary until Adiba Jurayeva joined the meeting. The Chair announced that a quorum of the members was present, and that the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business.

3. Approval of Agenda: *Dr. Yilmaz* motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by *Mr. Durham*. Motion approved 3-0.

RESOLVED, that the Agenda is approved as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes. *Dr. Yilmaz* motioned to approve the November 1st, 2014, meeting minutes. *Ms. Ruiz* seconded the motion. The motion to approve was unanimous.

RESOLVED, that the minutes are approved as presented.

5. Summary of Current Events. Mr. Fatih Karatas (Chief Executive Officer) and Mr. Robert Hobbins (Chief Academic Officer) presented a brief summary of current events at the Sonoran Science Academy ("SSA") Ahwatukee, SSA Broadway, SSA Davis- Monthan, SSA Peoria, SSA Phoenix, SSA Tucson, Daisy Early Learning, and Paragon Science Academy ("Schools"):

- Mr. Hobbins provided the Board with information on the following items:
 - SSA PHX Accreditation Renewal for 5 years.
 - Districtwide Accreditation will be in place soon.



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SSA Tucson (K-12): www.sonoranschools.org/tucson | SSA DM: www.sonoranschools.org/davis-monthan
SSA Phoenix: www.sonoranschools.org/phoenix | SSA Ahwatukee: www.sonoranschools.org/ahwatukee

- SSA Tucson will start Project Lead the Way engineering program next year.
- SSA Tucson El and PSA El will start STEM Focus Science Program next year.
- PBIS (Project based inquiry science) will be implemented at other DEC schools in addition to SSA DM.
- SSA PHX started the Engineering is Elementary program with the \$20K grant received from Verizon Wireless.
- 2015 STEM Demo Finals at Chandler Spectacular and AZ Children's Museum annual event.
- AIMS is no longer a graduation requirement for High school students
- AzMerit will be the new state standardized assessment. All DEC schools except SSA AHW will do the computer based assessment.
- Grand Canyon University dual enrollment program. Low income students can take dual enrollment classes free.

The Board had the opportunity to ask questions and thanked Mr. Karatas for the updates and information he provided.

At 12:15pm, Ms. Adiba and Dr. Unver joined the meeting.

- Mr. Karatas reported to the board the following school updates.

SSA Tucson Middle/High

- Scholastic Art Contest Winners (2 Gold Keys, 5 Silver Keys, 4 honorable Mentions)
- 1st Place at Freedom Art Contest in Cincinnati OH
- Casa Grande Science Olympiad Invitational Local 1st, 6th and 7th Place Awards
- Congressional Awards (Bronze Medal, Gold Certificate, 2 Silver Certificates)
- Math Counts Tucson regional 2nd place
- Science Bowl State 2nd and 3rd places overall

SSA Tucson Elementary

- 2nd place at Southern Arizona Mathematics Championship as a team.
- 1st place at FLL Robotics in Core values in Tucson Chapter.
- Team Achievement Award at Noetic Math
- New Basketball court worth of \$20K built with the partnership of Local Business and School PTO.
- Annual spring festival will be on April 18. All board members are invited.

SSA Davis Monthan

- Gymnasium project for 16-17 school year. Public bidding will start in the next a few months.
- Organized many outreach and community building events.



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SSA Tucson (K-12): www.sonoranschools.org/tucson | SSA DM: www.sonoranschools.org/davis-monthan

SSA Phoenix: www.sonoranschools.org/phoenix | SSA Ahwatukee: www.sonoranschools.org/ahwatukee

SSA Peoria

- West Phoenix "Project Award" at the FLL competition.
- Family Science Fair with 112 projects.

SSA Phoenix

- 10th year anniversary celebration in January
- Flood before the winter break and floor, wall, fire panel, and sprinkler system improvement

The Board had the opportunity to ask questions and thanked Mr. Karatas for the updates and information he provided.

6. The following items were presented to the Board for Discussion and Possible Action

A. Sonoran Science Academy Ahwatukee Charter Surrender

Mr. Karatas presented to the board the facility and financial problems SSA Ahwatukee has been experiencing in the last 5 years. The building lease will expire at the end of June, 2015. The students can be transferred to Paragon Science Academy which is 5 miles east to Ahwatukee. The Board had the opportunity to ask questions. Dr. Yilmaz motioned to approve SSA Ahwatukee's surrender. The motion was seconded by Mr. Unver. Motion was approved 5-0.

***RESOLVED,** that Sonoran Science Academy Ahwatukee will have a consent agreement with AZ State Board for Charter Schools for the voluntary surrender and termination of the Charter Contract.*

B. Paragon Science Academy (7-12) Campus Relocation

Mr. Karatas presented to the board the facility and financial problems Paragon Science Academy has been experiencing in the last 4 years. The building lease for the 7-12 campus will expire at the end of June, 2015. Mr. Karatas recommended middle/high school to move to the campus at Linda Ln. where elementary school is currently using. The Board had the opportunity to ask questions. Dr. Yilmaz motioned to approve relocation of PSA Middle/High school to Linda Ln. Ms. Adiba seconded. Motion was approved 5-0.

***RESOLVED,** that Paragon Science Academy middle/high school will move to 2975 W. Linda Ln. Chandler at the end of June, 2015.*

C. Sonoran Science Academy Peoria Lease Extension

Mr. Karatas informed the board that the current lease for SSA Peoria campus will expire at the end of June, 2015; and explained the details of the negotiations that were done with the landlord for the lease extension. The Board had the opportunity to ask questions and



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SSA Phoenix: www.sonoranschools.org/phoenix | SSA Ahwatukee: www.sonoranschools.org/ahwatukee

thanked Mr. Karatas. Dr. Yilmaz motioned to approve the lease extension agreement for an additional year. Ms. Lesly seconded it. Motion was approved 5-0.

***RESOLVED**, that the lease extension agreement for Sonoran Science Academy Peoria is approved as presented.*

7. Future Meeting Date. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled to be on Saturday, May 9, 2015.
8. Future Agenda Topics.
9. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Jurayeva", written over a horizontal line.

Adiba Jurayeva, Secretary



Sonoran Science Academy Ahwatukee

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www.sonoranschools.org/ahwatukee

14647 S. 50th St. #125 | Phoenix, AZ 85044 | T: (480) 961-5370 | F: (480) 961-5397 | ahwatukee@sonoranacademy.org

March 20, 2015

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1616 West Adams Street, Suite 170
Phoenix AZ, 85007

Re: Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy Ahwatukee
Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender of Charter Contract

This letter serves as an official notification that Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy - Ahwatukee is submitting a signed consent agreement for voluntary surrender of its charter contract.

SSA-Ahwatukee opened its door in August 2009 and has been located at 14647 S. 50th St., Phoenix, since August, 2010. The lease for the current location will expire at the end of June, 2015, and the landlord has notified us of its intent to sell the building to another party when our lease expires.

Although we have been disappointed with the ability of this current facility to meet our students' needs, we have been unable to locate a more suitable facility for the school for the 15-16 school year in the area; therefore, with no option to remain at the present location beyond the present lease, voluntary surrender of our charter is our only viable option at this time.

Arrangements for Families

- SSA-Ahwatukee parents will be notified about the closure of the school during the week of March 23rd via email and a letter home.
- An information session will be held at the current location on Friday, March 27th, for parents to address their questions and concerns.
- Paragon Science Academy is an A-rated, K-12 sister school of SSA-Ahwatukee (and part of Sonoran Schools) and is located just six miles from the Ahwatukee campus.

Public charter schools, currently serving students in Ahwatukee, Chandler, Peoria, Phoenix, and Tucson.



Sonoran Science Academy Ahwatukee

STEM EDUCATION, COLLEGE PREPARATION

www.sonoranschools.org/ahwatukee

14647 S. 50th St. #125 | Phoenix, AZ 85044 | T: (480) 961-5370 | F: (480) 961-5397 | ahwatukee@sonoranacademy.org

There is enough capacity at Paragon Science Academy to accommodate any and all students who would like to continue their education with Sonoran Schools.

- Paragon Science Academy will hold Open Houses, exclusively for current SSA-Ahwatukee parents and students, on Wednesday, April 1st, at 5:30PM and Saturday, April 4th, at 10AM. Enrollment applications for Paragon Science Academy will be shared with SSA-Ahwatukee families during the Open Houses and they will be processed within a week of receipt.
- Free transportation for students who would have difficulty getting to the Paragon Science Academy campus will be considered.
- The computer lab at the current location will be available on April 3rd for parents to locate and compare new schools for their students, through the AZ Charter School Association's Education Evaluator website.

Student Records

- The school will mail a complete copy of each student's school records, transcripts, withdrawal notice, etc. to the parents/guardians the week of May 25th.
- The student records for both recent and past students will be maintained at Sonoran Schools central office at:

Sonoran Schools
2975 W. Linda Ln.
Chandler, AZ 85224
Phone: 480-940-5440
Fax: 480-940-5458

Respectfully Submitted,

Fatih Karatas
Charter Representative
Daisy Education Corporation dba
Sonoran Science Academy Ahwatukee

Public charter schools, currently serving students in Ahwatukee, Chandler, Peoria, Phoenix, and Tucson.