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APR 15 2010

ADDING GRADE LEVELS TO CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) **Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy-Ahwatukee** (CTDS) **078569001**

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) **14647 S 50th Street #175**

(City, State) Phoenix (Zip) **85044**

(Charter Representative's Name) **Ozkur Yildiz**

(Phone Number) **480-961-5370** (Fax Number) **480-961-5397**

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.

Adding grade levels served for charter

Included are the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (If the body is subject to Open Meeting Law, minutes must comply with ARS §38-431.01)
- Narrative that 1) provides background and support for expansion; 2) how the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter
- Timeline for implementation
- Proficiency level required for credit and/or promotion and credit transfer policies

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.

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and Daisy Education Corporation dba Sonoran Science Academy-Ahwatukee (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

FROM SERVING GRADES: Grades K-6

TO SERVING GRADES: Grades K-8

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 15th day of April, 2010, and the State Board for Charter Schools has signed this contract amendment as of this ____ day of ____, 20__, 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

DAISY EDUCATION CORPORATION BOARD MEETING

Place of Meeting: 2325 W Sunset Road

Date of Meeting: October 3, 2009

Time of Meeting: 3:00 PM

Abdullah Yilmaz is present in the meeting
Ismail Emre Araci is absent for the meeting
Akif Baysal is present for the meeting
Metin Yildirim is present for the meeting

Agenda:

- Roll Call
- Call to the public
- Approval of agenda
- School Operations Update
- Secretary's Report
- Financial Update / Approvals

New Business

- Contract Approvals
- Policies
 - Purchases
 - Confidentiality Statement for Volunteers
 - Special Education Policy and Procedure for Ahwatukee
- Ahwatukee Grade Level Extension
- Approval of Oro Valley replication
- Approval of Flagstaff replication
- SSA elem. Site improvement (adding the approved building and adding one more MPR)
- Sister School Agreement between SSA-Tucson and Colegio Americano de San Carlos.
- Outreach activities
- SSA Phoenix AC Maintenance and repair approval
- New Board Member Nominations
- Middle/High School Site warranty expiration

1- Abdullah Yilmaz called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm. Jessica Lindskog took roll. One member absent. A quorum is established. Abdullah Yilmaz asked for public comment. No comments made.

2- Abdullah Yilmaz moved to accept the agenda as presented. Dr. Baysal seconded the motion. All members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the agenda be accepted as presented.

- 3- Dr. Yildiz gave the school operations update. SSA Tucson Elementary 200 students on the waiting list a need for a 3rd bldg project is evident. K-12 is close to the enrollment goals of 840 students (40 less than target). Phoenix. The current school bldg at limit is 270 they are close to their goal. SSA Awatukee 90 students with a large KG population. Projected numbers are being revised. With Paragon affiliation have done research to make good faith negotiations between PEC and DEC. PEC has paid \$50,000 so far with \$25,000 to be paid for equipment training, employees and personnel.

Have conducted meetings for 1st year teachers for consistency. Visited all school sites. Reported improvement plans. Most schools responded with corrected plans. Finished Compliance Review for offices, enrollment and attendance and personnel. Will present at next Board Meeting.

- 4- Jessica Lindskog read the minutes from the last meeting. Abdullah Yilmaz moved to accept the minutes as read. Dr. Baysal seconded the motion and all members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as read.

- 5- Dr. Yildiz explained that Mr. Ates is the business manager assigned to the Sunset schools, Mr. Celik to the Phoenix school and Mr. Yildiz to the Ahwatukee school. Each business manager presented their schools profit/loss statements, balance sheets and actual vs estimated budgets

The board members requested that the format for the report be consistent and all with titles, dates of the reports and column headings. Also include a key to what each categories includes. Separate assets and liabilities. Perhaps Business Offices can email ahead of time for Board review. Dr. Baysal insists that they provide a summary to give information about financial health of schools. Dr. Yilmaz recommended quarterly reviews. Dr. Yildiz said that auditor said we had to have review of financials monthly so if we did that, there would be three at a time.

Phoenix Financials: Baysal asked about the difference between budgeted and income for uniforms. Will look at proposed budget and actual expenditures at the next Board Meeting. Mr. Tuncay explained how things are entered into Quickbooks; there was a question about the \$1000 estimate, and it is divided by 12 for the total year. Dr. Yildiz explained in a diagram regarding the budget and the actual expenditures and how it looks in QB. Dr. Yilmaz said that perhaps there should be another column where it shows the actual percentage. Dr. Yildiz explained that Wells Fargo does not give the amounts for each item until the end of the year. Dr. Yilmaz is asking for an explanation for the statement since if Tuncay or Dr. Yildiz leaves then the Board Members will not understand the data. Dr. Yildiz explained that this is common practice based on the abilities of QB. Jessica asked if there could be some general document that would help explain.

In the case of the mortgage interest, Dr. Yilmaz was asking for explanation. Mr. Denis explained that there is more than one person who is working on the budget. Dr. Yildiz explained that the budget was set from July where we didn't know the exact numbers of students as well as staffing, etc. Mr. Baysal pointed out that this is all estimated budget. Dr. Baysal recommended that for the estimated and divided numbers should perhaps be noted for the Board members to understand what they are seeing. Mr. Tuncay said that next time he will have more of a summarized version.

Ahwatukee: The board requested a title for the Financial Report next time. Ahwatukee was PSA last year, there was a transfer, therefore salaries and benefits paid by PSA. Sept/Oct gym construction and \$70,000 in improvements were completed.

SSA Tucson/DELA: Actual vs. budgeted number of students 800/850.

Dr. Yilmaz moved to approve the financial statements, Mr. Yildirim seconded the motion and all members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the financial statements be approved as presented.

- 6- Dr. Yildiz presented the draft audit reports. DEC had no repeat findings. The biggest problem was cash flow. \$210,000 profit last year with no educational cuts.
- 7- Mr. Ates explained that the current copier agreement has expired, ICON has a copier for \$1,000 a month leasing and \$314/\$120 monthly service charges with unlimited copies for the MS/HS. We can return the expired copier for \$800 each per copier; however the leasing company is offering for the school to purchase the copier for \$1,200. Ates recommending the ICON like at the MS/HS for the Elementary also, as their lease is expiring soon. Can purchase the machine and move it to DELA. Tuncay Celik also explained that the central office will lease a copier for \$234.00 a month. Dr. Yilmaz moved to lease the machine. Mr. Yildirim seconded the motion and all members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the copiers be leased as presented.

- 8- Jessica Lindskog presented the Confidentiality Statement for Volunteers. The schools are in need of volunteers and sometimes volunteers are coming into contact with confidentially information, by having them sign this statement we are covering our liability. The Purchases policy was presented that limited the amount of money a school can spend to \$1000 for a purchase or service without central office approval. In addition, Special Education Policies and Procedures for SSA-Ahwatukee were presented. Dr. Yilmaz moved to accept the policies as presented. Dr. Baysal seconded the motion and all members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the Confidentiality Statement for Volunteers, Purchases and Special Education Policies and Procedures for SSA-Ahwatukee be accepted as presented.

- 9- Dr. Yildiz explained that SSA-Ahwatukee wants to extend the grade levels they are offerings. Currently they are K-6 and want to expand it to K-8. They have the building space and want to open up the program to a larger number of students. Dr. Yilmaz moved to extend SSA-Ahwatukee's grade levels from K-6 to k-8. Mr. Yildirim seconded the motion and all members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the board approves expanding SSA-Ahwatukee's grade levels to K-8

- 10-Mr. Adak is asking for approval now for replications because there will be more time to work on the building. The facility is very important. Dr. Yilmaz would like to approve for replications, but want to make sure that we have flexibility due to financial concerns. Dr. Yildiz explained that time is necessary when charter applications are submitted. There is no time limit, but a time line once state approves. Mr. Adak gave a presentation for the proposed Oro Valley site: K-8, 450 students, 10-12 acres, 2 classes per grade. There are four options so far; Mr. Adak showed top four options. Dr. Yilmaz to go ahead and apply for replication for SSA-Oro Valley with Mr. Adak as the signer and SSA-Flagstaff with Dr. Yildiz as the signer. Dr. Baysal seconded the motion and all members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that applications for replication be submitted for SSA-Oro Valley with Mr. Adak as the signer and SSA-Flagstaff with Dr. Yildiz as the signer.

- 11-Mr. Adak presented the site improvement plan for SSA Elementary. The improvement plan includes 2 buildings: 6 classes, computer lab, resources room; 2nd bldg 12,000 square feet, stage, lunch, and MPR. Dr. Yilmaz asked about the sale of the property next door. If they sell, Mr. Adak recommends making it parking. Sidewalks are needed and with help from the PA the sidewalks will be completed this year. Also looking into speed bump and fire alarm system. Dr. Yilmaz moved to approve the SSA Elementary Site improvement plan. Dr. Baysal seconded the motion and all members present vote yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the SSA Elementary site improvement plan be accepted as presented.

- 12-Mr. Karatas presented the Sister School Agreement between SSA-Tucson and Colegio Americano de San Carlos. He asked that each member review the proposal and approve at the next meeting.

13-Mr. Karatas presented various Outreach Activities, including visited from senators and state representatives. (Mr. Adak showed photos in a Vic Williams, and Linda Lopez visit). There will be two more politicians coming next week.

14-Mr. Deniz explained that 3 AC's are broken. The first one, the cost to repair and replace are about the same price. The 2nd one compressor broken, 3rd one compressor issue too \$20K-25K to replace. There are 6 or 8 units in total. They are very large units managing 3-5 rooms. Dr. Yilmaz said that there could be some tax credit benefits to replace to more efficient units. Dr. Yilmaz moved to approve the replacing of the air conditioning units as long as multiple bids are secured and not to exceed \$30,000. Mr. Yildirim seconded the motion and all members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that the purchase of new air conditioning units is approved as long as multiple bids are secured and does not exceed \$30,000.

15-Dr. Yildiz nominated new board members: Hanifi Kaya (voting), Gokcen Hart (voting), and H. Fatih Adak (non-voting), explaining that additional members would further diversify the board. Dr. Yilmaz moved to approve Hanifi Kaya (voting), Gokcen Hart (voting), and H. Fatih Adak (non-voting). Dr. Baysal seconded the motion and all members present voted yes to the proposal.

RESOLVED that Hanifi Kaya (voting), Gokcen Hart (voting), and H. Fatih Adak (non-voting) be accepted as board members

16-Mr. Ates explained that MS/HS Site Warranty expires October 2nd, and the gym expires Oct. 26th. Mr. Karatas and Mr. Ates inspected building took notes of problems and faxed problems to Barker Morrissey. They will inspect the buildings together and review issues including AC, etc.

Meeting adjourned 5:15 pm

We, the board members, have read these minutes and do hereby approve and confirm all business transacted as reported here.

Abdullah Yilmaz

Ismail Emre Araci

Akif Baysal

Metin Yildirim

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JUN 21 2010

SONORAN SCIENCE ACADEMY-AHWATUKEE GRADE LEVEL AMENDMENT

Background and support for expansion

Sonoran Science Academy-Ahwatukee (SSA-Ahwatukee) is a non-profit corporation which operates serving K through 6th grades at Ahwatukee, Phoenix, Arizona. SSA-Ahwatukee has served elementary school grades with its exceptional focus on math, science, and computer technology oriented curriculum. SSA-Ahwatukee's School Governing Body would like to extend this program to middle school in order to have continuation of the existing program for its graduating elementary school students for 2010-2011 academic year.

We are requesting to add 7th and 8th grade to our existing K through 6th grade charter. The addition of these new MS grades will enable SSA-Ahwatukee to implement its educational mission and instructional philosophy.

Mission and Philosophy

The mission of SSA-Ahwatukee is college preparation for students to achieve success in the high-tech community of the new millennium through a science and mathematics instructional program that includes high educational standards, a liberal arts foundation and well-rounded academic curriculum. It is the ultimate goal of SSA-Ahwatukee to ensure that every child is ready to carry the torch of knowledge, freedom, and prosperity that has been passed from one generation to another in this great country.

The rationale of SSA-Ahwatukee focus stems from the need for science and engineering graduates who is expected to grow 26%, or 1.25 million, between now and 2012. Moreover, the number of jobs requiring science and high tech training is growing at 5 times the rate of other occupations. According to National Science Foundation (2006), U.S. schools are nowhere near meeting the demand. SSA-Ahwatukee is predicated on our understanding that the need for highly-trained individuals in science, math, and technology is rising exponentially.

The philosophy of SSA-Ahwatukee, aligned with its mission, is that educated citizens of the 21st century must have a solid ground in science, math, history, and literature. With such knowledge, they will not only be able to keep up with the rapid growth of science and technology, but also be able to contextually comprehend its essence. Educated citizens of the 21st century must have a love of learning that will enable them to be lifetime learners so that

they can adapt easily and quickly to changes in our core knowledge. They must be able to work productively and cooperatively in a multicultural environment. In addition, they must be effective language users, adept at writing and speaking, and they must be committed to the intellectual virtues of objectivity, respect for the truth, critical thinking, and social and moral awareness.

How does this expansion support our philosophy, instruction and our mission?

SSA-Ahwatukee's mission and educational philosophy rest on four pillars: 1) college-prep rigorous education, 2) focus on math, science and technology, 3) foundation on liberal arts, 4) competitiveness at a global technological society. This current proposal to extend SSA-Ahwatukee's elementary grades to middle school levels directly and substantively supports these four pillars in the following way, but not limited to:

College-prep rigorous education:

The addition of 7th and 8th grade will allow students to carry their knowledge to middle school; this will promote a college prep foundation in school since college prep requires continuation of skill building in critical thinking and problem solving. Our elementary school curriculum focuses on challenging math, science, and liberal arts programs; these programs require a higher level of critical thinking, problem solving, and reading/writing skills. With the addition of middle school grades, students will be able to grow with a strong math, science and liberal arts foundation that will make them ready for college.

Focus on math, science and technology:

SSA-Ahwatukee is based on a comprehensive K-12 model of Daisy Education Corporation. The HS model requires students to finish 12th grade with at least Pre-Calculus or AP Calculus AB level of mathematics. In terms of science and technology, high school curriculum will implement proven science-project-based educational programs. Adding 7th and 8th grade will be a perfect foundation for the college prep high school model.

The main motivation for our focus comes from the U.S. Commission on National Security for the 21st Century. This entity suggested that the country is at the verge of a downward spiral due to a current scarcity in high-quality professionals and competent teachers in

science, mathematics, and technology. Coming from this venue, SSA-Ahwatukee is devoted to serve the society that will make sure the nation remains scientifically and technologically competitive. Also, we are confident that a science-literate society will provide necessary support, funding, and promotion to ensure future generations continue to improve upon modern advances that benefit everyone.

Foundation on liberal arts:

Even the focus on mathematics, science and technology, SSA-Ahwatukee clearly identifies liberal arts learning objectives as foundational. Rigorous social sciences, language arts programs, fine and performing arts and athletics programs will start at middle school level and continue at high school level.

Competitiveness in a global technological society:

The vision of SSA-Ahwatukee is to ensure that every graduate will successfully compete in an increasingly global high-technological digital society upon graduation. Via strategic planning, SSA-Ahwatukee aims to have a leading, academically challenging, learner-centered curriculum with college preparation in mind. College-readiness is the fundamental goal of SSA-Ahwatukee. To this end, the school is vested in continuously improving its curriculum and instructional strategies (programs and techniques) via data-oriented decision making. SSA-Ahwatukee middle school students will be encouraged to participate in statewide as well as national academic Olympiads and competitions.

Methods of Instruction

One of the main goals of SSA-Ahwatukee is to prepare students for academic success in their secondary and post-secondary education by providing high quality education, and providing students with integrated curriculum with up-to-date technology and science. Students will be able to receive the same quality education in middle and high school grades since they will be academically placed based on their skills which will allow for the student placement in advanced level classes as necessary. All classrooms at the current site are equipped with overhead projectors and LCD projectors. It creates an opportunity for teachers to integrate technology into their curriculum.

Today's successful college education requires not only subject matter knowledge, but also a well-rounded curriculum, including the relationships between subjects learned. The continuation in methods of instruction will enable students to keep open a broad spectrum of options for their future and prepare them as responsible, creative, and productive citizens.

EXPECTED STUDENT PERFORMANCE ON STATE-MANDATED TESTS AT ALL GRADE LEVELS IMPACTED BY THE ADDITION

Reading and Math portions of the AIMS testing are required for 7th grade students. SSA-Ahwatukee currently has eight students in 6th grade. The projected number is 15 students for 7th grade. SSA-Ahwatukee expects 13 of the students (86% of 7th grade population) to meet or exceed AIMS Reading test and 13 (86% of 7th grade population) of the students to meet or exceed AIMS Math test. Currently SSA-Ahwatukee has no enrolled 7th grade students. However the projected enrollment number for 8th grade for 2010-2011 school year is 20. SSA-Ahwatukee expects 16 of these students (80% of 8th grade population) to meet or exceed on their AIMS Reading and Writing tests and 18 of these student (90% of 8th grade population) to meet or exceed on AIMS Math test. SSA-Ahwatukee expects 18 of 8th grade students (90% of 8th grade population) to meet or exceed AIMS Science test based on the score tables @

<http://www.ade.state.az.us/researchpolicy/AIMSResults/Spring2009ScaleScoreTable.pdf>

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION POLICY

7th and 8th grade promotion at SSA-Ahwatukee is based on the following criteria: Students must have passing grades in all courses: Passing grade is D (65%) or higher. Students with a failing grade in any course will not be promoted to the next grade level.

A student with no more than one failing grade in his/her courses will be allowed to take a proficiency exam for that class. If he/she earns a passing grade in the proficiency exam (70% or

higher), he/she will pass the class with a letter grade “D”. Dates for the proficiency exams will be announced before summer break begins.

TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

SSA-Ahwatukee has already classrooms designated for 7th and 8th grade for 2010-2011 school year. For the student recruitment we scheduled more than five Open Houses to be held in April, May, June, and July. We conditionally accept applications for 7th and 8th grade for 2010-2011 school year with the understanding that admission is subject to Charter Board approval of our grade extension application for these grade levels. We will hire two teachers for Language Arts-Social Studies and Math-Science education. The classroom supplies for 7th and 8th grade (desks, books, tables etc.) will be purchased in June and July. The classrooms will be ready for 2010-2011 School year before the first day of the school.

CHANGES IN STAFFING TO SUPPORT THE REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

For 2010-2011 school year, the expansion will require us to hire one more Language Arts-Social Studies and one more Science-Mathematics teachers.

SSA-Ahwatukee has already started attending job fairs in the first quarter of 2010 and will begin to recruit highly qualified teachers as soon as the grade-level amendment is approved. We highly expect to hire all the required teachers, since the quality of our program attracts most teachers to our current school.