Desert Springs Academy, Inc. - Entity ID 10969
School: Desert Springs Academy

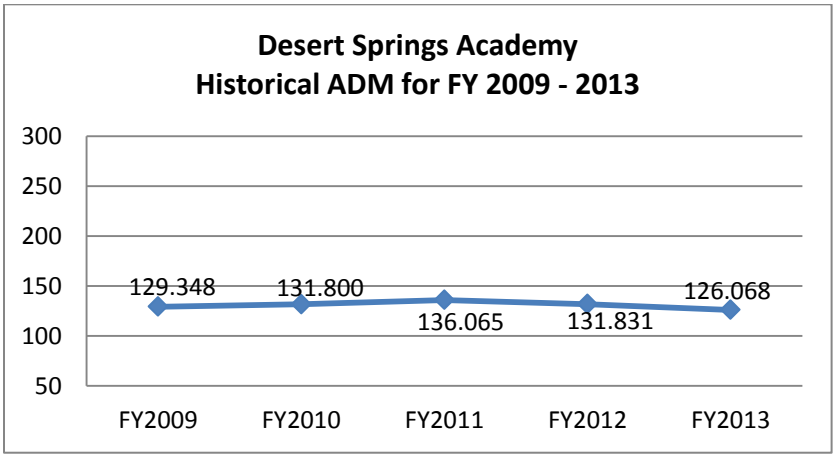
Renewal Executive Summary

Performance Summary

Desert Springs Academy, Inc. met both the Board's academic performance expectations and the financial performance expectations as set forth in the Performance Framework adopted by the Board. Therefore, the charter holder was waived from submitting the Academic Performance Section of the renewal application and the Financial Sustainability portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section of the renewal application. In the past five years, the charter holder did have compliance matters. The charter holder's organizational membership on file with the Board was not consistent with the information on file with the Arizona Corporation Commission and the charter holder was required to submit the Organizational Membership portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section of the renewal application. The renewal application package submitted by the charter holder provides evidence of organizational membership alignment as required in the application.

Profile

Desert Springs Academy, Inc. operates one school serving grades K-8. The graph below shows the charter holder's actual 100th day average daily membership (ADM) for fiscal years 2009-2013.



A dashboard representation of Desert Springs Academy's academic outcomes, based upon the indicators and measures adopted by the Board, is provided below.

Academic Performance Rating FY 2012

Charter Holder: Desert Springs Academy, Inc.
Entity ID 10969

Charter School: Desert Springs Academy
Entity ID 79259, Grades K-8

1. Growth

Traditional Elementary		1a. SGP		1b. SGP Bottom 25%	
School	**School Year**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**
Desert Springs Academy	2011-2012	61	66	58	65
Points Assigned		75	75	75	75
Weight		12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5

2. Proficiency

Traditional Elementary		2a. Percent Passing		2b. Composite School Comparison		2c. Subgroup ELL		2c. Subgroup FRL		2c. Subgroup SPED	
School	**School Year**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**
Desert Springs Academy	2011-2012	86/65	90/77	14.1	7.2	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Points Assigned		75	75	75	75	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weight		11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	0	0	0	0	0	0

3. State Accountability & Overall Rating

Traditional Elementary		3a. State Accountability	Overall Rating
School	**School Year**	**Grade**	
Desert Springs Academy	2011-2012	100	76.25
Points Assigned		100	
Weight		5	100

Overall Rating	Point Range
Exceeds Standard	> or = to 89
Meets Standard	< 89, but > or = to 63
Does Not Meet Standard	< 63, but > or = to 39
Falls Far Below Standard	< 39

For additional information, see *Academic Performance Framework and Guidance*, available on the ASBCS webpage http://asbcs.az.gov

3/21/2013

I. Success of the Academic Program

The academic performance of the school operated by the charter holder meets the Board's academic performance expectations set forth in the performance framework adopted by the Board. Therefore, the charter holder was not required to submit a Demonstration of Sufficient Progress.

The overall rating for the school on the Board's academic performance measures was 76.25 including points received for the FY 2012 letter grade of an A as reported by the Arizona Department of Education.

II. Viability of the Organization

The charter holder meets the Board's financial performance expectations. Therefore, the charter holder was not required to submit the Charter Holder's Financial Sustainability portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section.

III. Adherence to the Terms of the Charter

A. Compliance Matters Requiring Board or Other Agency Action

Over the past six years, there were no items to report.

B. Other Compliance Matters

The fiscal year 2012 audit stated that one substitute teacher did not have a fingerprint clearance card (FCC) on the file. The audit indicated the teacher's FCC had expired and the teacher had applied for a FCC as of the testing date, but had not received it due to administrative delays. According to the audit, a copy of the FCC was provided subsequent to the testing date. Since subsequent to the testing date and prior to the audit report's release, the charter holder demonstrated compliance with fingerprinting requirements, a corrective action plan (CAP) was not required.

The fiscal year 2008 audit indicated that of 15 employee files tested, four of the files did not contain the required documentation of identification required by the Form I-9, one contained an incomplete Form I-9 and one did not contain the required documentation of identification and contained an incomplete Form I-9. Following review of the fiscal year 2008 audit, a letter was sent to the charter holder reminding it of its obligations under federal law to complete and maintain I-9 forms. No written response was required at that time, but the letter stated that if the fiscal year 2009 audit indicates continued noncompliance, a CAP may be required.

The fiscal year 2008 audit identified a repeated audit issue involving multiple audit adjustments being required for financial statements to be materially correct at year-end. The fiscal year 2008 audit noted that although it appears to have been an improvement from the prior year audit, some year-end adjustments had not been posted or were posted incorrectly.

C. Charter Holder's Organizational Membership

Because the organizational membership on file with the Board was not consistent with the information on file with the Arizona Corporation Commission, the charter holder was required to submit the charter holder's Organizational Membership portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section. The charter holder provided evidence of the appropriate filing that aligns organizational membership on file with the Board and the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Staff Recommendation

Based upon the charter holder meeting the academic performance expectations set forth in the Board's performance framework, the charter holder timely attending to items needing correction to complete the obligations of the contract to comply with applicable statutory requirements, and the Board's consideration of the information in the renewal application package, I move to approve the request for charter renewal and grant a renewal contract to Desert Springs Academy, Inc.