

AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Enrollment Cap Amendment Request

Request

Imagine Desert West Middle, Inc. (“Charter Holder”) submitted an expansion request to increase its enrollment cap from 375 to 510, beginning in FY 2018. This enrollment cap accounts for 3 years of projected student enrollment.

See Appendix A: Amendment Request Materials.

The rationale for the Charter Holder’s enrollment cap increase is to accommodate the increase in enrollment since the arrival of the current administration at Imagine Desert West Middle and the influx of residential and commercial growth in the West Valley over the last 5 years. A strong reputation within the local community and strong word of mouth from the school’s families to friends and relatives has also led to increased enrollment. The staffing plan approach includes “representation at local and national education recruiting fairs” and “cultivating a relationship with teacher training and learning programs in local colleges and universities (Rio Salado College, Grand Canyon University and ASU)”. Advertising also occurs through online recruiting sites like INDEED, the Arizona Department of Education (“ADE”), and Carney Sandoe. The Charter Holder anticipates hiring one additional content area and one reading interventionist for FY 2018. When full capacity is reached in FY 2020, approximately 4 more teachers and one vice principal will be needed to accommodate the school’s growth. At the time of submission of the amendment request, the Charter Holder indicated that for FY 2018 the school has 390 6-8th graders re-enrolled, 27 new student enrollments, and a waitlist of 19 students.

Staff Recommendation

The Charter Holder has met the criteria to receive a staff recommendation for expansion.

Staff Recommendation Criteria	Analysis
In operation for three years	The Charter Holder has been in operation for 9 years.
“Meets Operational Standard” in the most recent Fiscal Year	The Charter Holder received an Overall Rating of “Meets” on the Operational Performance Dashboard in FY 2017.
“Meets Financial Performance Standard” in the most recent Fiscal Year	The Charter Holder received an Overall Rating of “Meets” on the Financial Performance Dashboard in FY 2016.
Past enrollment trends indicate need for increase within three years	Enrollment in FY 2015 was 316.202, FY 2016 was 344.419 and FY2017 was 377.492.
ADM is within 85% of current enrollment cap	According to ADE School Finance, the Charter Holder currently serves 400 students. The current enrollment cap is 375, the Charter Holder is currently over its current enrollment cap.
Each school operated by the Charter Holder performs at or above the average performance of a majority of schools within a five-mile radius of the school’s location	The school operated by the Charter Holder performed at or above the average performance of the majority of schools within a five-mile radius in ELA and Math for FY 2017.

Additional Information

The Charter Holder was granted a new charter in 2007.

Governance

Corporate Board Members
Leonora Ketyer
Herman Orcutt
Megan Zimmermann



School Profile

School Name	Letter Grade		Month/ Year Open	Location	Grade Levels Served	AzMERIT Passing (State Average)			
	FY 14	FY 17				ELA		Math	
						FY 16 (35%)	FY 17 (39%)	FY 16 (35%)	FY 17 (40%)
Imagine Desert West Middle	B	X*	July/2007	Phoenix	6-8	29%	34%	33%	36%

* Please note, the FY 2017 letter grades are expected to be made public before the Charter Board's meeting on October 10th; therefore, the FY 2017 letter grades will be made available to the Charter Board for its consideration.

Additional School Choices Serving Grades 6-8 within 5 Miles of School

Total Schools	FY 2014** Letter Grade	Number of Charter Schools	FY 2017 AzMERIT Greater than (State Average)		Subgroups within (±5%) of Charter Holder's Subgroup Data		
			ELA (>39%)	Math (>40%)	FRL (±5%)	ELL (±5%)	SPED (±5%)
1	A	0	1	1	*	0	1
24	B	6	2	3	*	11	11
22	C	2	0	0	*	10	13
4	D	0	0	0	*	3	1
1	F	0	0	0	*	1	0

*If the percentage of students is 0% or 100% or the group includes less than 10 students, the percentage for that group is redacted.

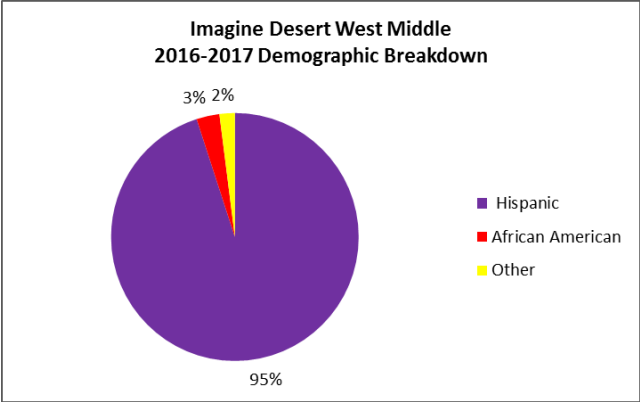
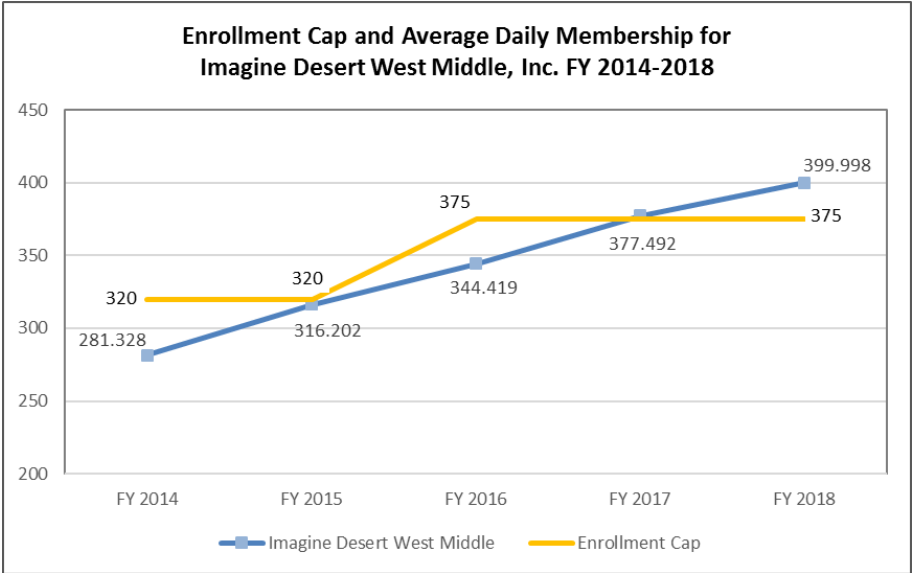
** Please note, the FY 2017 letter grades are expected to be made public before the Charter Board's meeting on October 10th; therefore, the FY 2017 letter grades will be made available to the Charter Board for its consideration.

Associated Schools

20 Schools Associated with Imagine Desert West Middle					
Schools operated by the charter holder with at least fifty (50) percent of corporate board officers, directors, members, or partners in common.					
School	Charter Holder	AzMERIT Passing			
		ELA		Math	
		FY 16 (35%)	FY 17 (39%)	FY 16 (35%)	FY 17 (40%)
Imagine Avondale Elementary	Imagine Avondale Elementary, Inc.	42%	39%	39%	44%
Imagine Avondale Middle	Imagine Avondale Middle, Inc.	31%	34%	30%	36%
Imagine Bell Canyon	Bell Canyon Charter School, Inc.	43%	43%	37%	41%
Imagine Camelback Elementary	Imagine Charter Elementary at Camelback, Inc.	21%	21%	37%	21%
Imagine Camelback Middle	Imagine Camelback Middle, Inc.	17%	27%	28%	26%
Imagine Coolidge Elementary	Imagine Coolidge Elementary, Inc.	33%	34%	41%	40%
Imagine Cortez Park Elementary	Pathfinder Charter School Foundation	26%	32%	33%	37%
Imagine Cortez Park Middle	Cortez Park Charter Middle School, Inc.	21%	26%	34%	34%
Imagine Desert West Elementary	Imagine Charter Elementary at Desert West, Inc.	30%	25%	28%	29%
Imagine East Mesa Elementary	East Mesa Charter Elementary School, Inc.	46%	47%	60%	59%
Imagine East Mesa Middle	Imagine Middle at East Mesa, Inc.	29%	51%	44%	49%
Imagine Prep Coolidge	Imagine Prep Coolidge, Inc.	22%	22%	13%	14%
Imagine Prep Superstition	Imagine Prep Superstition, Inc.	31%	25%	40%	37%
Imagine Rosefield	Rosefield Charter Elementary School, Inc.	62%	63%	65%	68%
Imagine Superstition Middle	Imagine Superstition Middle, Inc.	37%	33%	36%	30%
Imagine Surprise Middle	Imagine Middle at Surprise, Inc.	39%	39%	38%	38%
Imagine Prep Surprise	Imagine Prep Surprise, Inc.	34%	34%	29%	35%
Imagine Tempe	Imagine Elementary at Tempe, Inc.	42%	36%	38%	35%

20 Schools Associated with Imagine Desert West Middle					
Schools operated by the charter holder with at least fifty (50) percent of corporate board officers, directors, members, or partners in common.					
School	Charter Holder	AzMERIT Passing			
		ELA		Math	
		FY 16 (35%)	FY 17 (39%)	FY 16 (35%)	FY 17 (40%)
Imagine West Gilbert Elementary	West Gilbert Charter Elementary School, Inc.	45%	39%	52%	45%
Imagine West Gilbert Middle	West Gilbert Charter Middle School, Inc.	33%	33%	30%	27%

Enrollment and Demographic Data



2016-2017 Subgroup Data	
Free and Reduced Lunch	*
English Language Learners	11%
Special Education	6%

**If the percentage of students is 0% or 100% or the group includes less than 10 students, the percentage for that group is redacted.*

