

**Issue**

Educational Options Foundation, a non-profit entity, submitted a complete notification request to add a new school site. Notification requests are generally reviewed and, if complete, signed by the executive director without Board consideration. Because the school site to be opened was recently closed by the charter holder and academic performance from FY2011 does not meet or demonstrate sufficient progress toward the Board's level of adequate academic performance, the executive director has not signed the request.

**Background**

On January 12, 2009 Educational Options Foundation was granted a charter with a program of instruction that "integrated teacher instruction and student-paced, web-delivered content". EdOptions High School opened on August 10, 2009.

On October 12, 2010 Educational Options Foundation was approved for an Arizona Online Instruction (AOI) Program of Instruction Amendment. EdOptions AOI Program opened on November 15, 2010.

On June 10, 2011 Board staff received a School Closure Notification Request for EdOptions High School. The information provided by the charter holder indicated that 41 high school students enrolled at EdOptions High School would be displaced by the closure of the school. According to the charter holder, all EdOptions High School students were offered the opportunity to enroll in EdOptions AOI Program.

On August 19 Board staff received a request to re-open EdOptions High School. Information provided by the charter holder indicated that the closure was primarily due to site lease stability and financial support and that the issue is now stabilized. Budget information provided for EdOptions High School is based on an enrollment of 40 students. The charter holder also states that AOI students are currently educated in a hybrid lab environment.

FY2011 academic data for EdOptions High School has been reviewed. Math scores show a median student growth percentile of 3, with 14% of students passing. The state average passing is 45%. Reading scores show a median growth percentile of 42 and a percent passing of 72. The state average passing is 69%.

FY2012 budgets for both school sites demonstrate a sharing of resources including, facilities, administration, and office staff. Budgets are based on enrollment counts of 32 students at EdOptions AOI Program and 40 students at EdOptions High School.

**Board Options**

1. Approve the request for re-opening the EdOptions High School site.
2. Deny the request for re-opening the EdOptions High School site.

**Staff Recommendation**

Option 1. This is supported by the following:

1. The charter holder has demonstrated sufficient capacity within the budget provided for 40 students to operate EdOptions High School.
2. As the program of instruction is similar, students will receive comparable instruction and support at either school site.

**Arizona State Board for Charter Schools**

**Arizona State Board of Education**

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AUG 19 2011

**NEW SCHOOL SITE NOTIFICATION REQUEST**

(Charter Holder Name) The Educational Options Foundation (CTDS) 078558000

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 2150 E Southern Ave.

(City, State) Tempe (Zip) 85282

(Charter Representative's Name) William Jeffrey Sawner

(Phone Number) 480-258-6111 (Fax Number) 480-889-7037

**Failure to submit all required documentation will result in the Notification Request being returned without being processed. Faxed copies will not be accepted. Please send originals.**

✚ Adding a school site

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)
- Certificate of Occupancy approved for educational use
- Current Fire Marshal's Report approved for educational use
- Lease agreement or proof of purchase for facility
- Copy of Fingerprint Clearance Card for school site administrator
- Copy of liability insurance coverage
- Narrative that 1) provides background and support for expansion; 2) how the additional school site supports the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and The Educational Options Foundation (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

**Name of school:** EdOptions High School

**Grade levels to be served:** 7-12

**Physical address:** 2150 E Southern Ave., Tempe, AZ 85282

**Mailing address:** 2150 E Southern Ave., Tempe, AZ 85282

**Phone number:** 480-621-3365      **Fax number:** 480-621-3383

**First day of operation:** September 14, 2011

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 19 day of August, 2011, 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

**Educational Options Foundation  
Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting**

The Educational Options Foundation Governing Board convened a board meeting Wednesday, July 20, 2011, in the Educational Options Foundation Office at 2150 E Southern Avenue, Tempe, Arizona 85282.

**Item A.** Mr. Jeff Sawner called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

**Item B.** Welcome and Introductions.

Board Members

Present: Mr. Jeff Sawner, Board President William Nielsen  
Claudina Douglas

Attendees: Steven F. Durand, II Elizabeth Duncan, Secretary

Mr. Jeff Sawner welcomed the board members and guests.

**Item C.** Ms. Claudina Douglas motioned the Governing Board approve the July 20, 2011 agenda as presented. Second by Mr. William Nielsen. Motion passed.

**Item D.** Current Events Summary

1. Governing Board – J Sawner

Mr. Jeff Sawner advised the Governing Board of the following:

- EdOptions High School had a good year but we need additional help to move the school forward.
- We have gotten requests from our student and parents to reopen the school and see additional opportunities to recruit more students. I now believe we were too quick to close the brick and mortar school in June.
- The AOI and brick and mortar schools complemented each other very well.
- The Foundation lost a great deal of support upon the death of Dr Sawner. In order to bring in some new ideas and support Mr. Sawner recommends adding an additional board member immediately.
- Additional board members will be recruited and added at a later date to expand the knowledge and experience base in support of the Foundation and Schools.
- The current lease on the property at 2150 E Southern Avenue expires June 30, 2012.

**Item E.** Study and voting Session

1. Consider the addition of Mr. Steven F. Durand II to the Educational Options Foundation Board.

- Mr. Durand will bring many years of financial, technical, and school management experience to the board.
- Mr. Durand has worked with another charter school helping them to expand their enrollment and gaining approval for their AOI Program.
- Mr. Durand has contact with an individual to implement a student recruitment plan.

Ms. Claudina Douglas motioned the Governing Board approve the addition of Mr. Steven F. Durand II to the Educational Options Foundation Governing Board. Second by Mr. William Nielsen. Motion passed.

**Item F.**

Mr. William Nielsen motioned the Governing Board approve the following consent agenda items. Second by Ms. Claudina Douglas. Motion passed.

1. Consider approving the reopening of EdOptions High School (CTDS# 078558001), at 2150 E Southern Avenue, Tempe, Arizona, the same location that the school operated at last year. This action reverses the board action requesting closure of the EdOptions High School filed with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools on June 10, 2011.

**Item F.**

Call to public.

- Mr. Steven F Durand, II addressed the board expressing his enthusiasm at becoming part of the Education Options Foundation Governing Board.

**Item G.**

The next meeting date will be determined at a later date.

There being no further business to come before the Board, William Nielsen motioned the Board Meeting be adjourned at 6:20 p.m. Second by Ms. Claudina Douglas. Motion passed.

GOVERNING BOARD  
Educational Options Foundation  
By: Elizabeth Duncan, Assistant to the Governing Board