Kelly Gleischman

From:	Katie Poulos
Sent:	Wednesday, October 15, 2014 12:50 PM
To:	doug.pike@edkey.org
Subject:	F School Notification- Action Required
Attachments:	Failing Schools Notification - Edkey, Inc. dba Sequoia Ranch School.pdf
Importance:	High

Tracking:

Recipient	Delivery
doug.pike@edkey.org	
Katie Poulos	Delivered: 10/15/2014 12:50 PM

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

Physical Address:
1616 West Adams Street, Ste. 170
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 364-3080

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 18328
Phoenix, AZ 85009

October 15, 2014

Edkey, Inc. dba Sequoia Ranch School
Mr. Douglas Pike, Charter Representative
1460 South Horne
Mesa, AZ 85204

Sent via email: doug.pike@edkey.org

Dear Mr. Douglas Pike,

On October 2, 2014, the Board was notified by the Arizona Department of Education that Children First Academy - Phoenix earned an F letter grade for the Arizona Department of Education's A-F Letter Grade State Accountability System. In accordance with A.R.S. § 15-241(U), if a charter school is assigned a letter grade of F, the Board may take action to restore the charter school to acceptable performance or revoke the charter school's charter.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-183(R), in implementing its oversight and administrative responsibilities for the charter schools it sponsors, the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools (Board) has adopted a performance framework that includes the academic performance expectations of charters schools. The Board's performance framework identifies measures as a basis for analysis to be used by the Board in making high-stakes decisions.

A determination by the Board of whether to restore or to revoke the charter for Edkey, Inc. dba Sequoia Ranch School will be based on the evidence of the Charter Holder's performance in accordance with the performance framework adopted by the Board, including the Charter Holder's submission of a demonstration of sufficient progress toward the academic performance expectations.

A dashboard representation of Children First Academy - Phoenix's and Children First Academy - Tempe's academic outcomes, based upon the indicators and measures adopted by the Board, is located at ASBCS Online. Directions for accessing dashboards are as follows:

- Log onto ASBCS Online
- Select "School(s)" link under the Charter Holder heading
- Choose a school name if your charter has more than one school site
- Select the "Academic Performance" tab

The overall rating for Children First Academy - Phoenix is 36.03 out of a possible 100 and *Falls Far Below Standard* as set by the Board. The overall rating for Children First Academy - Tempe is 50.62 out of a possible 100 and *Does Not Meet Standard* as set by the Board. A Charter Holder that operates a school with an overall rating that does not meet or falls far below the Board's academic performance expectations may demonstrate sufficient progress toward the academic performance expectations set forth in the academic framework by documenting the success and implementation of an improvement plan aligned with the academic framework.

Accordingly, Edkey, Inc. dba Sequoia Ranch School **must submit a Demonstration of Sufficient Progress** for Children First Academy - Phoenix and Children First Academy - Tempe. The Academic Performance Framework and Guidance document, specifically Appendix D, details the criteria that will be used to evaluate the submitted Demonstration of Sufficient Progress. Additional instructions and required documents, including guidelines for preparing the Demonstration of Sufficient Progress, can be found under the Academic Interventions tab on the Board's website.

A Charter Holder that operates a school that receives a failing school designation will also have its financial performance reviewed when the Board determines whether to restore the charter school to acceptable performance or revoke the charter school's charter. A Charter Holder that does not meet the Board's financial performance expectations will be required to submit a financial performance response as part of the Board's review. Based on the current financial performance of the Charter Holder, the Charter Holder is **required to submit a financial performance response**. Additional instructions and required documents can be found under the Financial Performance tab on the Board's website.

A dashboard representation of the Charter Holder's financial performance, based upon the indicators and measures adopted by the Board, is available through ASBCS Online. Instructions for accessing the charter holder's financial dashboards for the two most recent audited fiscal years are as follows:

- Go to http://online.asbcs.az.gov
- Under the "Search" option, select "Charter Holders"
- Enter part or all of the charter holder name and click "Search"
- Select the applicable charter holder from the search results
- Select the "Documentation" tab
- Select "Document Management System"
- Click on the "Charter Holder" folder on the left side of the page
- Select "Compliance Documents" from the "Topics" section
- Open the file named "Financial Dashboards – Two Years"

For more information on preparing a financial performance response and the criteria Board staff will use to evaluate the response, see Appendix C of the Board's *Financial Performance Framework and Guidance*. **NOTE:** *All responses will be available for public review. If references will be made to or include any sensitive information (e.g., bank account numbers), redact that information prior to submitting the response to the Board.*

Please prepare and submit the required information to me by email no later than **November 14, 2014**. I may be contacted at (602) 364-3085 or by email if you have questions regarding these requirements.

Sincerely,

Katie Poulos
Director of Academic Affairs for Charter Accountability
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1616 W. Adams St., Ste. 170
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602.364.3085
http://asbcs.az.gov

Kelly Gleischman

From:	Katie Poulos
Sent:	Wednesday, October 15, 2014 12:53 PM
To:	'ccardine@edkey.org'
Subject:	F School Notification- Action Required
Attachments:	Failing Schools Notification - Edkey, Inc. dba Sequoia Ranch School 2.pdf
Importance:	High

Tracking:	**Recipient**	**Delivery**
	'ccardine@edkey.org'	
	Katie Poulos	Delivered: 10/15/2014 12:53 PM

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

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1616 West Adams Street, Ste. 170
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 364-3080

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 18328
Phoenix, AZ 85009

October 15, 2014

Edkey, Inc. dba Sequoia Ranch School
Curtis Cardine, Charter Representative
1460 South Horne
Mesa, AZ 85204

Sent via email: ccardine@edkey.org

Dear Curtis Cardine,

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A determination by the Board of whether to restore or to revoke the charter for Edkey, Inc. dba Sequoia Ranch School will be based on the evidence of the Charter Holder's performance in accordance with the performance framework adopted by the Board, including the Charter Holder's submission of a demonstration of sufficient progress toward the academic performance expectations.

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Sincerely,

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