Adding Grade Levels to Charter Amendment Request

Charterholder Info

Charter Holder

Name:
George Gervin Youth Center, Inc.

CTDS:
07-85-85-000

Mailing Address:
40 West Baseline Road
Tempe, AZ 85283

› View detailed info

Representative

Name:
Barbara Hawkins

Phone Number:
(210) 414-0370

Downloads

Download all files

Current Grade Levels

Current Grade Levels Served

- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

New Grade Levels

For each grade level being added, provide the following as a representation of a program of instruction aligned to the State's approved academic standards and to methods of instruction described in the charter. Please note that a separate upload must be prepared for each grade level and content area and be named as such. Additionally, applicants must restate the name of the file in the Brief Description box (e.g., First Grade Reading, HS Alegebra II).

For K-8
Language Arts & Math: A completed curriculum sample for reading, writing, and math for each grade level being added including all attachments as outlined on the required template and instructions.

For 9-12
Language Arts & Math: A completed curriculum sample for reading, writing, and math coursework for each grade level being added including all attachments as outlined on the required template and instructions. Each course must align with the State's graduation requirements.

Add Grade Levels

K
1st
2nd
3rd
4th
5th

Curriculum Samples

Download File — Math Kinder
Download File — Math 1st
Download File — Math 2nd
Download File — Math 3rd
Download File — Math 4th
Download File — Math 5th
Download File — Readign 1st
Download File — Reading 2nd
Download File — Reading 3rd
Download File — Reading 4th
Download File — Reading 5th
Download File — Reading Kinder

Download File — Writing 1st
Download File — Writing 2nd
Download File — Writing 3rd
Download File — Writing 4th
Download File — Writing 5th
Download File — Writing Kinder

Effective Date
07/01/2015

Attachments

Board Minutes — Download File

Narrative — Download File

Timeline for implementation — Download File

Additional Information

Download File — Letter of Good Standing.
Download File — George Gervin Youth Center Demonstration of Sufficient Progress.

Signature

Charter Representative Signature
Barbara Hawkins 02/24/2015

GEORGE GERVIN PREP ACADEMY GOVERNING BOARD
2801 E. Southern Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85042

MISSION
The George Gervin Prep Academy Governing Board's mission is to provide resources which support student growth and development as well as preparation of the administrative staff and teachers that will allow them to successfully compete in the educational arena.

NOTICE (Revised)
REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
AND POSSIBLE
EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
GEORGE GERVIN PREPARATORY ACADEMY
ONE OR MORE GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS MAY ATTEND
TELEPHONICALLY

PURSUANT to ARS 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Governing Board of George Gervin Preparatory Academy and to the General Public that the Board will hold a meeting on **February 19, 2014 at 5:00 pm** at Classroom 217 at the Academy in Phoenix, Arizona. A copy of the agenda and background material provided to Board Members (with the exception of material relating to possible Executive Session) is available for public inspection at the Administrative Offices of the Academy in Phoenix, Arizona. The Governing Board may go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public pursuant to ARS 38-431.03, to discuss certain matters, which are marked by an asterisk(*).

Items on the Agenda may be considered out of order at the Chair's discretion.

If any disabled person needs any type of accommodations, please notify Ms. Dorrana Stewart, Office Manager, at (480) - 219-2121 at least seventy-two (71) hours prior to the time scheduled for the meeting.

Minutes

I. Call to Order - 5:11 pm.
Present:
- Mr. Davis
- Mr. Williams
- Ms. Crawford
- Mr. Walters
- Mr. Tiggs
- Dr. Mattox - Arrived at 5:50.
- Ms. Mendoza
- Ms. Calderon - Arrived at 5:28 pm.

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II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Adoption of Agenda -

Motion offered by Mr. Williams to approve the agenda. Second by: Mr. Tiggs. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion approved.

IV. Call to Public

This is an opportunity members of the public to address the Governing Board on any relevant issue for up to three (3) minutes. In compliance with the Open Meeting Law, the Governing Board will neither discuss nor take action on issues raised during this portion of the agenda but may respond to criticism, ask staff to review a matter or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda.

Mr. Davis opened call to the public. No response.

V. Administrators Of Academics and Operations Report - Ms. Harris (Attachment A)

A. Enrollment updates - 106 students
B. Student Discipline - numbers are down. RTP process is working.
C. School Condition - Ms. Peach assisting in Math. Substitute in ELA. Next meeting have itemized list of donations and tax credits.
D. Student Academics - Academic Excellence Plan - Galileo Benchmark report. Ms. Harris reported on the growth numbers as listed in Appendix A. The Board discussed the scores and implications of the scores. Ms. Hawkins provided insights into testing and local factors. Reading in 7th grade is kicking butt! Attribute this to "reading with a pencil" strategy. We are doing Cornell note taking as well. Ms. Harris had a "one on one" talk with students on AIMs performance. We are struggling with Math. We need to get deeper than "giving and telling." Ms. Harris is working with teachers on their prep periods to identify data and focus on using data to drive instruction. Math is going to be our focus. Full court press! Art teacher is going to assist in math by working on easy strategies like negative numbers, etc. Make groups smaller and bring in tutors to help with AIMS. 6th grade needs the most help. Pairing teachers to use effective strategies would be a good strategy. Learning can be fun.! Teachers are teaching students. This is like driving the plane and fixing it at the same time. Twenty-eight days to AIMS administration. Ms. Harris has pushed down the assignments for those students with greatest need to work on mastery of standards.
E. Arizona State Testing
F. Extra Curricular Activities

VI. Action Items - Presentation, Discussion and Possible Action

A. Approval of Minutes (Attachment B)

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1. Approval of Minutes of January 22, 1014 - tabled until our next meeting.

B. Title I, II LEA Continuous Improvement Plan - Mr. Wallen (Attachment C)

Board wants more time to study Continuous Improvement Plan.

C. Policy - Admission of Homeless Students (Attachment D)

1. Procedure for Identification of Homeless Children and Youth
2. Dispute Resolution Process

Motion offered to approve Homeless Procedures and dispute resolution process by Mr. Williams, second by Dr. Maddox 8 yeas, 0 nays. Motion approved.

D. School Governing Body Meetings - notice of posting, regular meetings

Notice of posting will be on the School Website and the office. Regular meetings are scheduled the 3rd Wednesday each month at 5:00pm.

Motion offered to approve by Mr. Tiggs, second by Mr. Williams. 8 yeas 0 nays. Motion approved.

E. Special Education Grant - Ms. Hawkins

Ms. Hawkins requested action to accept the SPED grant in the amount of $22,000. Entitlement grant that is available each year.

Motion offered authorizing Ms. Hawkins to accept the SPED grant in the amount of $22,000 by Eddie, second by Iris. 8 yeas 0 nays. Motion approved.

F. Expanding GGPA to the Elementary Grades- Ms. Hawkins

Ms. Hawkins explained that adding elementary grades will increase enrollment. We are confident we are going to meet accountability. Ms. Hawkins is requesting the Board to approve adding grades K through 5 and submit application for the expansion.

Motion offered to approve expansion to Elementary (K - 5) grades by Mr. Walters, second by Mr. Tiggs. yeas 8 nays 0. Motion approved.

F. Policies and Procedures Comments & Edits

Section A,B,C,D - Gary and Michael
Brief discussion by Board members.

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Motion offered to table the policies and procedures by Ms. Crawford second by Mr. Williams yeas 8 nays 0.

VII. Discussion Items

A. Next Board Meeting Date: Motion offered by Mr. Davis to change meeting to March 26, 2014 at 5:00 pm. Second by: Mr. Walters. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion approved.

Motion to adjourn the meeting offered by Mr. Williams, second by Ms. Calderon. 8 yeas, 0 nays. Motion approved.

VIII. Adjournment - 7:05 pm.

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February 24, 2015

Hugh Thompson, Education Program Specialist
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1616 West Adams Street, Ste. 170
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Mr. Thompson:

The Board of Directors of the George Gervin Prep Academy (GGPA) voted to support an application to the Arizona Board of Charter Schools to add elementary grades kinder thru 5th. In January 2015 the Charter Board deemed GGPA eligible to apply. Attached is the George Gervin Prep Academy required documents for an expansion amendment. The hope is to begin services starting the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year.

The George Gervin Prep Academy is making academic progress and received a C-Letter Grade for the 2014 school year. GGPA has systems in place to continue to make improvements and this amendment will assist in making this occur. The information contained in the DSP document shows we have systems in place to ensue student success for all students. Adding elementary grades will enhance steady growth as it gives the Academy an opportunity to build stronger long-term relationships with our students and their families.

We have the space and resources to support this request.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hawkins

Barbara Hawkins, Superintendent of Schools
ATTACHMENT(s)

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George Gervin Prep Academy

Charter Amendment Request – February 24, 2015

CTD #07-85-85-000

Narrative

1) **Describe the rationale for the increase in grade levels served.**

Response: The George Gervin Prep Academy currently serves 6th, 7th and 8th graders. During the second year of operation the District acknowledges it is essential to add K to 5th grades. Parents are making the request feeling they will be better served. Parental consensus in keeping siblings together is important and starting their child at the Academy as early as possible is essential. It is also imperative to stabilize the school both academically and operationally. Currently the school is 98% Title I with 99% minority students. (46% African-American; 53% Hispanic and 1% Anglo) After performing a longitudinal study on the student body it is overwhelming clear that early preparation will be the key to success for GGPA students. This grade expansion will drastically reduce challenges and barriers related to students' lack of foundational skills, low confidence, and mobility.

2) **How do the additional grades support the mission, educational philosophy, and methods of instruction? How does the implementation of the existing program of instruction meet the needs of students at the grade levels being added?**

Response: GGPA's mission is to create an elite learning community that eliminates academic barriers while enveloping the students, parents, and faculty in an atmosphere of academic creativity and motivation that prepares students' for success today and into the future. The additional grades will support GGPA's mission by providing a stronger bond with parents/guardians, establishing a relational framework that is vital to "at-risk" families and students resulting in increased student achievement. Research shows that the earlier a student is exposed to rigor in their academic programming the more success they will experience.

This grade level expansion will enable GGPA to continue to provide the elite learning community it has established during the first and second year of operations through focusing on serving families in a comprehensive manner, maintaining consistency with students and eliminating academic barriers. Support of the educational philosophy and methods of instruction is met by meeting the needs of all stakeholders, growing each learner, and providing a horizontal and vertical path to academic success. Secondly, we believe all learners possess an innate and unique creativity that can be developed given the appropriate learning environment. Finally, we believe that all learners need a stimulating learning environment that facilitate the process of learning to continue evolving as the learners' academic abilities grow which is accomplished through continuing these relationships through each grade.

The George Gervin Prep Academy's educational philosophy is based on continuous student progress through vertically and horizontally aligned curriculum. A curriculum and instructional model with performance based measures for learning has been designed and implemented in order to sustain on-going progress therefore supporting the following guiding principals: ***#1)*** All George Gervin Prep Academy's students can learn ***#2)*** All students enrolled into George Gervin

Prep Academy will learn ***#3)*** All George Gervin Prep Academy instructional staff will receive high quality on-going professional development to establish and grow the learning process and, ***#4)*** George Gervin Prep Academy exists to involve all stakeholders in meaningful ways throughout the learning processes based upon the highest of expectations for all students.

3) **Describe the level of proficiency that students must obtain to demonstrate mastery of academic core content and clear criteria for promotion from one level to the next.**

Response: George Gervin Prep Academy is dedicated to continuous development of each student. Promotion from one level to the next will be based upon proficiency in the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Mastery of a content area is defined as a student who performs at 80% or above in their core and elective subject areas. Each year students are expected to show academic and grade level progress.

If parents/guardians object to retention, they must complete a written waiver stating reasons why they do not want their child retained. The classroom teacher will outline a recommended summer tutoring program. The waiver and a documented summer improvement plan must be sent to the principal by July 15th. A final recommendation will be compiled by the principal and placed with the student's records. If parents do not comply with the requests/guidelines designated by the school by July 15th, the student will repeat the grade.

Promotion from one grade level to the next:

Teachers on the basis of curriculum performance based assessments will make recommendations for promoting students' and where applicable use of the states standardized testing results (compliance with state laws will be strictly adhered to). A team consisting of the teacher, an administrator, parent/guardian, and/or Student Study Team shall determine retention of a student. The following criteria are required for teacher recommendation for promotion: A minimum of Progressing Scores in the areas of Reading, Math & Language Development/English for the 3rd & 4th quarters of school or an overall average of 70% in all Reading and Math curriculum performance based measures.

- K - 70% proficiency in all academic areas
- 1st - 70% proficiency in all academic areas
- 2nd - 70% proficiency in all academic areas
- 3rd - 70% proficiency in all academic areas and Meet on state standardized test
  Must meet on AZ Merit or A Successor Test based on the Arizona 3rd Grade Retention Law HB 2732 "A pupil who obtains a score on the reading portion of the Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards test or a Successor Test, that demonstrates the pupil is reading far below the third grade level will not be promoted from the third grade". Exemptions include special education students with severe disabilities.
- 4th - 70% proficiency in all academic areas
- 5th - 70% proficiency in all academic areas

Early identification of students in academic distress is referred to the Student Study Team. Next the Student Study Team will evaluate standards mastered, test scores, grades, teacher-administrator recommendations and other pertinent data to determine the next course of action. Conditions are established to ensure academic success and determine the student's academic barriers. An action plan is created for each individual student to meet mastery. The Action Plan involves frequent progress monitoring during a three-week period completed by the Student Study Team. Following the three-week period, an Academic Review of the Action Plan is done to assess the next course of action. This Academic Review allows the student to return to acceptable academic progress or the strategies will be revised (not limited to summer school, after school tutoring, one-on-one tutoring, etc.).

4) **(Adding 9-12th grade only)**

Response: Non-applicable

5) **What changes in staffing will be needed to implement the new grades, and how will they comply with the Highly Qualified federal guidelines?**

Response: Staffing changes will be reflective of the grade levels served. Staff ratios will be maintained at 1 teacher to every 18 students. Additional staff will be phased in as enrollment increases. Additional staff brought on to handle grade level content will be certified and/or highly qualified. All applicants will be screened against the Arizona Department of Education Elementary Attestation Forms to ensure that all applicants' are Highly Qualified.

See attached timeline

George Gervin Prep Academy Timeline for Implementation of adding grades Kinder to 5th

- January 2015: ABSCS deems GGPA eligible to apply
- February 24, 2015: Submit Application and support documents
- May 18, 2015: ASBCS Board consideration and approval of Grade Expansion
- May – June 2015: Identify age-appropriate furniture and other supplies and materials
- March – June 2015: Continue curriculum review and supported materials
- May 19, 2015: Advertise to the community and notify current parents and open enrollment K-5
- May - June, 2015: K-5 curriculum alignment and development review
- March – June, 2015 - ongoing - Recruit Teachers
- May – July, 2015; Teacher Training
- July 29, 2015: First day of school
    - School Year 2015-2016: 150 Kinder, First and Second grade students
    - School Year 2016-2017: 150 Third to Fifth grade students
    - School Year 2017-2018: Total of 500 Kinder to Eight grade students

No other amendments will be submitted with this request.