
AGENDA ITEM: Good Cause Extension Request – Presidio School Inc. (Artisan’s Presidio School)

Issue

Presidio School Inc. (Artisan’s Presidio School) was granted a charter on January 25, 2010 to serve grades K - 8 through the Replication Application process for the replication of Presidio School. The application included a start date of 2010-11 school year. As part of the replication application package, the approved applicant agrees and signs a statement acknowledging that they must execute the charter contract within twelve (12) months of the date of approval. As a condition to signing the charter contract, the approved applicant must provide proof of a secured facility. Due to difficulty finding an appropriate facility and to take full advantage of the Arizona Charter School Incentive Program Grant awarded in April of 2010, Presidio School Inc. is requesting a Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract to begin providing services for the 2011-12 school year.

If the Board approves the extension of the execution of the charter contract or an extension of the opening of the charter school, in accordance with the Board’s Policy Statement for a Good Cause Extension of a Charter Contract, Board staff shall review the approved replication application package and the current application administrative checklist to determine whether additions or substantive changes are necessary to bring the replication application package current with policy, rule, state or federal law. The approved applicant must submit the requested changes to the Board staff 90 days prior to the intended signing of the contract.

Board Options

1. Approve the Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract for Presidio School Inc. (Artisan’s Presidio School) such that the contract is executed in time for the 2011-12 school year. Further that, as a condition of signing, the approved applicant shall submit any documentation necessary to bring the replication application package current with policy, rule, state or federal law at least 90 days prior to the signing of the contract. Should the approved applicant not meet the replication application requirements at the time set for the signing of the contract, the matter must be brought back to the Board prior to the execution of a charter contract.
2. Deny the request for a Good Cause Extension. If the request is denied, the charter has the option to reapply for a charter through the replication application process.

Staff Recommendation

Staff’s recommendation is Option 1 above.



Presidio School Inc.
1695 E. Ft. Lowell Road
Tucson, AZ 85719
520-881-5222

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JAN 19 2011

January 17, 2011

Ms. DeAnna Rowe, Executive Director
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1700 West Washington Street, Room 164
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Ms. Rowe:

Presidio School Inc. would like to request a one time Good Cause Extension for the signing of the charter contract for **Artisan's Presidio School**. We are requesting the extension for the following reasons:

- Presidio School was fortunate to be awarded an Arizona Charter School Incentive Program Grant in April of 2010. The grant provided for up to 18 months of planning to ensure the successful operation of Artisan's Presidio School. In order to take full advantage of this grant, it was necessary to schedule the school to open in July or August of 2011 as opposed to August of 2010.
- The secondary reason for this request is that finding and acquiring an appropriate school facility in Bisbee, Arizona is a very challenging endeavor. Most of the buildings that are large enough are 100 or more years old and in need of significant upgrades to be able to serve as a school. We need the extension to secure an appropriate site, complete necessary improvements and obtain a Certificate of Occupancy.

Thank you for considering this extension. Should you need any further information or documentation, please don't hesitate to contact either of us.

Respectfully,

Tom Drexel
Director

Terry Garza
Director