
AGENDA ITEM: Good Cause Extension Request – Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita, LLC

Issue

Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita, LLC was granted a charter on January 16, 2007 to serve grades K-5. As part of the application, the applicant agrees and signs a statement acknowledging the requirement to execute the charter contract within twelve months of the date of approval. On January 14, 2008, the Board granted Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita, LLC a Good Cause Extension until August 31, 2009. On November 21, 2008, the Board granted Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita, LLC another Good Cause Extension until August 31, 2010.

As a condition to signing the charter contract, the charter must provide proof of a secured facility. Due to the market conditions and difficulty finding an appropriate facility, Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita, LLC is requesting another Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract to begin providing services for the 2011-2012 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, Board staff shall review the approved application and the current application administrative checklist to determine whether additions or substantive changes are necessary to bring the application current with policy, rule, state or federal law. The applicant must submit the requested changes to the Board staff 90 days prior to the opening of the school. State aid funding will not initiate until the Board staff have determined that the requested submission is complete and sufficient and all other requirements of the Board have been fulfilled.

[Policy Statement for a Good Cause Extension to the Charter Contract](#)

Communications with School

On April 21, 2010, the Board received a request for a Good Cause Extension for Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita, LLC.

Board Options

If the Board determines that the extension should be granted, the motion should include the length of time for the extension to sign the charter and a requirement that the approved applicant submit any documentation necessary to bring the application current with policy, rule, state or federal law at least 90 days prior to the signing of the contract.

1. Approve the Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract for Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita, LLC until July 1, 2011 with a planned opening date of Fall 2011-2012 and that the applicant submit any documentation necessary to bring the application current with policy, rule, state or federal law at least 90 days prior to the signing of the contract.
2. Deny the request for a Good Cause Extension. If the request is denied, the applicant has the option to reapply for a charter through the application process.

Staff Recommendation

Staff's recommendation is option 1 above.



RECEIVED APR 21 2010

April 20, 2010

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

Dear Ms. Rowe:

Presently, five Imagine charters are under the umbrella of "good cause extensions." These charters are:

Imagine Elementary at Apache Junction
Imagine Elementary at Golden Valley
Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita
Imagine Middle at Sahuarita
Imagine High School at Sierra Vista

As charter representative, I would like to request additional extensions to enable the following schools to open August, 2011:

Imagine Elementary at Apache Junction
Imagine Elementary at Golden Valley
Imagine Elementary at Sahuarita

While the target areas for the above mentioned schools were initially identified, the downturn in the economy and the shift in the Arizona housing market have required us to seek alternative properties for these schools. A full explanation with updated demographic studies of the new target areas will be included with the amended application at the time of contract signing. Additionally, we will process a name change for each campus at the appropriate time.

Properties for these schools are being secured by developers who are in the process of finance arrangements and permitting. Each developer intends to purchase the property, build the facility, and lease back to School House Finance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Imagine Schools. (Please see attached letters of intent.)

REGIONAL OFFICE

A Member of the Imagine Schools Family
18052 N. Black Canyon Hwy. Phoenix, AZ 85053
602•547•7960 Fax 602•547•7922 www.imagineschools.com



As we are unable to secure appropriate property in a timely manner, we regretfully request that the following two charters are terminated:

Imagine Middle at Sahuarita
Imagine High School at Sierra Vista

Please allow these requests for action to be included on the agenda for consideration and approval by members of the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools. Thank you for your assistance.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy G. Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Nancy G. Hall
Charter Representative

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Quality Has A Name.™

April 20, 2010

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1700 West Washington Street, Room 164
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Members of the Board:

This letter confirms that it is the intent of COBE Development to build a school facility in the San Tan Valley area for Imagine Schools. The school facility is based on a prototype model that Imagine Schools is currently operating on other Arizona campuses.

We have begun the process of entitlement and city approval on a 6+AC site we own located on the southeast corner of Hunt Highway and Thompson Road in San Tan Valley, AZ. It is our intension to have the school building completed by June 2011 for a school opening in August of 2011. After construction is complete we will lease the building to Schoolhouse Finance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Imagine Schools, Inc.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Steven Beck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

J. Steven Beck
COBE Development



Quality Has A Name.™

April 20, 2010

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1700 West Washington Street, Room 164
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Members of the Board:

This letter confirms that it is the intent of COBE Development to build a school facility in the Queen Creek area for Imagine Schools. The school facility is based on a prototype model that Imagine Schools is currently operating on other Arizona campuses.

We have begun the process of entitlement and city approval on a 6+AC site we own located on the southwest corner of Rittenhouse and Germann Roads in Queen Creek, AZ. It is our intention to have the school building completed by June 2011 for a school opening in August of 2011. After construction is complete we will lease the building to Schoolhouse Finance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Imagine Schools, Inc.

Sincerely,

J. Steven Beck
COBE Development



April 20, 2010

Via E-mail

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1700 West Washington Street, Room 164
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Members of the Board:

This letter confirms that it is the intent of BPS Development Group to build a school facility in the Casa Grande area for Imagine Schools. The school facility is based on a prototype model that Imagine Schools is currently operating on other Arizona campuses.

We have begun the process of entitlement and city approval on two properties. The first property is located at the northeast corner of Rodeo Road & Peart Road. The second property is located at the southwest corner of McCartney Road and Pinal Avenue. It is our intension to have the school building completed by June 2011 for a school opening in August of 2011. After construction is complete we will lease the building to Schoolhouse Finance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Imagine Schools, Inc.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BPS", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Benson P. Sainsbury
President, BPS Development Group, Inc.