

Charter Grade Level Amendment Request

Charterholder Info

Charter Holder

Name:

Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC

CTDS:

07-85-47-000

Mailing Address:

18052 N. Black Canyon Highway

Phoenix, AZ 85053

[View detailed info](#)

Representative

Name:

Nancy Hall

Phone Number:

602-547-7961

Fax Number:

602-547-7922

Downloads

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Current Grade Levels

Current grade levels supported by this charter

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

Board Minutes

[Board Minutes — Download File](#)

Remove Grade Levels

Select grade levels to remove

(No response)

Rationale**The Effective Date of Change**

07/01/2010

New Grade Levels**9th**

- Math Curriculum Sample: [Download File](#)
- Language Arts Curriculum Sample: [Download File](#)
- Graduation Requirements: [Download File](#)
- Transfer Credits: [Download File](#)

New Grade Levels Attachments

Additional Grades Narrative — [Download File](#)

Mastery of Coursework — [Download File](#)

Expected Student Performance — [Download File](#)

Timeline for Implementation — [Download File](#)

Signature**Charter Representative Signature**

Nancy Hall 5/20/2010

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**MINUTES OF THE MAY 10, 2010 SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
IMAGINE MIDDLE AT COOLIDGE, LLC**

Pursuant to notice of meeting, a special joint meeting of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC ("COMS" or the "School") was held at the Imagine Schools, Southwest Group Office, located at 18052 North Black Canyon Highway, Phoenix, Arizona 85053 at approximately 8:00 a.m., Phoenix time, on the 10th day of May, 2010.

The following directors of the School were present in person or by telephone:

Dr. Leonora Farrah (telephonically)
Kristen Garretson (telephonically)
Carrie Muehlhausen (telephonically)
Monte Lange (telephonically)

The following others were present in person or by telephone:

Darrin Anderson, Principal, Coolidge (telephonically)
Lynel Thomas, Business Administrator, Coolidge (telephonically)
Dr. Nancy Hall, Exec. Vice President, Imagine Schools (telephonically)
Veronica Cramer, Exec. Project Coordinator (in person)
Lindsay Jewell, Esq., Greenberg Traurig, LLP (telephonically)
Cheri Laudenslager, Paralegal, Greenberg Traurig, LLP (telephonically)

Dr. Leonora Farrah called the meeting to order and took roll of the governing Board members. Dr. Farrah served as Chairman of the meeting, Veronica Cramer tape recorded the meeting, and Cheri Laudenslager recorded the minutes.

The Chairman stated that the first item of business was the report, review and possible action regarding the addition of ninth grade to the Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC charter (COMS). Darrin Anderson reported that the School is growing rapidly and there is a need for ninth grade. Monte Lange explained that there is a separate Coolidge charter for 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. He stated the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools has requested that

additional grades be added to the existing Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC charter. There being no further discussion, upon motion of Kristen Garretson duly made and seconded by Carrie Muehlhausen, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the addition of the ninth grade to the COMS charter, be and hereby is, accepted and approved by the Board.

The Chairman then issued a call to the public for issues and there were none.

Dr. Farrah stated that the next meeting will be June 2, 2010.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion of Dr. Leonora Farrah, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:05 a.m.

APPROVED:

Secretary
Imagine Elementary at Coolidge, LLC

Amendment for Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC to Increase Grade Levels

Background and support for expansion

Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC would like to expand its current program by amending its ~~charter to include 9th grade. At the present time, Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC is serving~~ students in 6th – 8th grades. We have held numerous formal and informal parent meetings, and the families have consistently asked that we consider expanding to include high school grades. At the present time we have exceeded enrollment expectations in all grades, and a definite demand and desire for the additional grade exists in the community. Support for the expansion has come from several of the middle school families wanting to continue their educational experience with Imagine Schools. Currently, in Coolidge there are two high schools, CAVIT-Vocational High School and Coolidge High School. Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC would like to provide an additional academic choice to the families in Coolidge.

How the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter

Philosophy

Imagine Middle at Coolidge's philosophy is to provide a learning environment where students feel safe, supported, and respected as they actively learn and develop, both academically and morally. By engaging students in grade 6-9 in a rigorous standards-based curriculum, aligned to the Arizona State Standards, the school promotes learning for leadership, moral growth, academic growth, the ability to construct knowledge, and individual responsibility in a caring environment. Additionally, it is the school's responsibility to help parents and guardians fulfill their responsibility to educate their children. Many of the present parents who are stakeholders in the children's education have expressed a desire for the school to expand to offer a high school. By allowing Imagine Middle at Coolidge to expand its program to include ninth grade, this philosophy will be used to support more of the students in the Coolidge market. The principles of effective character education, as described by Dr. Thomas Lickona, are utilized as basic principles for its character education program.

Methods of Instruction

Imagine Charter at Coolidge uses a central set of research-based methods of instruction. Instruction is defined as "the purposeful direction of the learning process." In order to guide the additional 9th graders, teachers will use a variety of instructional methods including: Interdisciplinary Thematic Units, Teacher Directed Instruction, Interdisciplinary Project-based Learning, Integrated Technology, Cooperative Learning, and Differentiated Instruction.

The methods of instruction, offered to students at Imagine Middle at Coolidge, have demonstrated success as a rigorous, high quality educational opportunity for students as demonstrated by the AZ LEARNS "Performing" label earned for 2008-2009. The school utilizes the *Imagine Standards-based Curriculum* which is characterized by challenging academic standards that are clearly articulated at each grade level. The *Imagine Standards-based Curriculum* is proprietary and is aligned with the Arizona Academic K-12 Standards. ~~Imagine Middle at Coolidge offers an educational program that provides balance among language arts,~~ math, critical thinking, science, technology, social studies, music, art and athletics. Imagine Middle School utilizes the *Galileo* school wide benchmark assessments that are aligned to the Arizona Academic Standards to monitor student level growth and to modify instructional practice to ensure students are meeting or exceeding the Arizona Academic Standards.

Emphasis

All schools in the Imagine School's family emphasize positive moral development. Extending this culture to ninth graders is expected to help graduation rates stay well above the state average. To achieve this, Imagine Middle at Coolidge already utilizes a character development program that is integrated into the daily life of students. More students will also allow for greater participation in our community-oriented projects that are part of the curriculum.

Mission

The mission of Imagine Middle at Coolidge is to provide students a challenging, effective program of study with a strong moral emphasis in a safe, nurturing environment. Allowing our school to expand our grade levels will allow us to seamlessly continue this mission to our current students. By choosing to expand the grade levels offered at this site through an amendment, we will not have to go through a new enrollment period for all of our current 8th graders.

Timeline for implementation

- Imagine Middle at Coolidge intends to offer 9th grade starting in August of 2010.
- During the 2011 School Year, Imagine Middle at Coolidge intends on requesting another amendment to increase the grade levels served to include grades 10-12.
- Imagine Middle at Coolidge intends on serving grades 6-12 starting in August of 2011.

Proficiency level required for credit and/or promotion and credit transfer policies

Imagine Middle at Coolidge, LLC will follow the state of Arizona Graduation Requirements for determining course completion. Students must earn the requisite number of credits for each discipline as outlined in the Arizona Graduation Requirements. Students will master the performance objectives from the Arizona 9-12 Academic Standards as outlined in the school's

curriculum maps to receive credit in a given course. Students will receive letter grades for completing courses with a 70% or better.

Imagine Middle at Coolidge will accept all transfer credits as follows (according to A.R.S. 15-189.03):

- ~~If a pupil who was previously enrolled in a charter school or school district enrolls, we shall accept credits earned by the pupil in courses or instructional programs.~~
- The administration will review the transfer credits for the purpose of determining whether a credit earned by a pupil who was previously enrolled in another school district or charter school will be assigned as an elective or core credit. Imagine Middle at Coolidge will accept credits that directly meet the Arizona Graduation Requirements in the required areas. Coursework that does not match the Arizona Graduation Requirements in the required areas will be accepted as elective credit. If the type of transfer credit cannot be determined, the registrar will contact the transferring school and request a course description where transfer credit will be based on whether the course met the required Arizona 9-12 Academic or Functional Standards in the discipline, i.e., Freshman English or Algebra.
- The pupil shall be provided with a list that indicates which credits have been accepted as an elective credit and which credits have been accepted as a core credit.
- Within 10 school days after receiving the list, the pupil may submit a request to take an examination in each particular course in which core credit has been denied.
- Imagine Middle at Coolidge shall accept the credit as a core credit for each particular course in which the pupil takes an examination and receives a passing score on a test designed and evaluated by a teacher, who teaches the subject matter on which the examination is based.