

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
Arizona State Board of Education
1700 W. Washington St., Room 164, Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 364-3080 Fax (602) 364-3089
www.asbcs.az.gov



PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) Genesis Academy (CTDS) 078-708

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 525 E. McDowell Road

(City, State) Phoenix, Arizona (Zip) 85004

(Charter Representative's Name) Karen Callahan

(Phone Number) (602)254-8090 (Fax Number) (602) 224-8094

Failure to submit all required documentation will result in the Amendment Request being returned without being processed. Faxed copies will not be accepted. Please send originals.

- Changes in instructional methodology, and/or delivery that affects the emphasis, program of instruction or mission as described in the charter

Included are the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (minutes must comply with Open Meeting Law ARS §38-431.01)
- Narrative describing the change, the rationale for the change, and the expected impact of the change on student achievement

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and Genesis Academy (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

FROM: See attached

TO: See attached

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 14th day of October, 2008, and the State Board for Charter Schools has signed this contract amendment as of this ____ day of _____, 200__, to take effect at such time as it is signed by both parties.



Charter Representative Signature

Representative Signature for the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

CHANGES FROM:

Methodology. Genesis Academy will be organized as an ungraded, college preparatory 9-12 school and will admit all eligible pupils who are 16 to 21 years old, are above the eighth grade by credits, and have aspirations to attend college. The Academy will admit 130 students in FY 1997-98. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of slots available, pupils will be selected by an equitable system, such as a lottery. Genesis Academy will admit and serve pupils with disabilities. All students will have opportunities to remediate, fill gaps, or accelerate their programs of study. Classes will be 90 minutes in duration and will meet every day (Monday-Friday). A variety of learning methods will be used to accommodate individual learning styles; classes will combine a variety of instructional techniques to enhance student learning. Computer assisted instruction, portfolios, college courses and lectures will also be used. Classes will be dynamic and interactive. They will use small group study and peer tutoring and will integrate reading, writing and research. The academic calendar will be 180 days. The academic year will be organized into four 9-week terms during which pupils will enroll in and attend three 90-minute classes each school day. Tutoring by instructors will be available on a daily basis for one hour after classes end.

Curriculum. The curriculum will be rigorous and focused on preparing pupils for college and successful entry into the work force. The Academy will be non-sectarian in its program, materials, admission requirements, and activities. The curriculum will include a complete program of required and elective courses including language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, humanities, life skills, business, computer technology, and vocational courses including work internships. The curriculum, instruction, and assessment will relate to the State Board of Education's adopted 9-12 Essential Skills objectives, outcomes, and proficiency standards for language arts (reading and writing), and mathematics and the Board of Regents' adopted state university admission standards. The academic program will emphasize — across the curriculum — the development of higher order skills, critical and analytical thinking, and problem solving.

Assessment. The rubrics for assessing students' progress and mastery will be based on the Board of Education's adopted requirements and on the skill level required to succeed in a post secondary environment. By working with the State Department of Education and ASU's Office of Youth Preparation — Project PRIME, Genesis Academy will design a method to continually measure pupil progress toward desired outcomes adopted by the State Board of Education, which will include both the standards adopted by the Board as of August, 1996 and the Stanford Achievement Test. Pupils will also be required to take college placement and achievement tests (ASSET, ACT or SAT) to measure college readiness and admissibility. These latter tests will not be used to determine admissibility to Genesis, but rather the state of the student's college readiness and placement. Genesis Academy will issue an Annual Report Card. The graduation and mastery level requirements will be as follows:

Subject	Requirements	Mastery Level
English	4 credits	75%
Mathematics	2 credits	75%
Social Studies	3 credits	75%
Science	2 credits	75%
Arts & Humanities	2 credits	75%
Electives	5 credits	75%
Vocational	2 credits	75%
Total	20 credits	

CHANGES TO:

Methodology

Genesis Academy will be organized as a college preparatory 9-12 school and will admit students who are 14-21 years old, are above the 8th grade by credits, and have aspirations to attend college. The academy will cap at 210 students. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of slots available, pupils will be selected by an equitable system, such as a lottery. Genesis Academy will admit and serve pupils with disabilities. All students will have the chance to remediate, fill gaps, or accelerate their programs of study. Classes will be 90 minutes in duration and will meet every day (Monday – Friday). A variety of learning methods will be used to accommodate individual learning styles; classes will combine a variety of instructional techniques to enhance student learning. Computer assisted instruction, portfolios, college courses and lectures will also be used. Classes will be dynamic and interactive. They will use small group study, peer tutoring and will integrate reading, writing, and research. The academic calendar will be 180 days. The academic year will be organized into four 9-week terms during which pupils will enroll in and attend three 90 minutes classes each school day. This will be supplemented with additional skill building course work that will be offered weekly and will run under 90 minutes. Tutoring by instructors will be available at least twice weekly per instructor and other support staff for at least one hour per day.

Curriculum

The curriculum will be rigorous and focused on preparing pupils for college and successful entry into the work force. The Academy will be non-sectarian in its program, materials, admission requirements, and activities. The program will include a complete program of required and elective courses including language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, humanities, life skills, business, computer technology, and vocational courses including work internships. The curriculum, instruction, and assessment will relate to the State Board of Education's adopted 9-12 Arizona Academic Standards and the Board of Regents' adopted state university admission requirements. The academic program will emphasize – across the curriculum – the development of higher order skills, critical and analytical thinking, and problem solving..

Assessment

The rubrics for assessing student's progress and mastery will be based on the Board of Education's adopted requirements and on the skill level required to succeed in a post secondary environment. Genesis Academy will utilize a method to continually measure pupil progress toward desired outcomes adopted by the State Board Of Education. Pupils will be required to take placement tests to determine skills and abilities for course placement. The minimum graduation and mastery level requirements will be as follows:

Narrative explaining changes

Methodology:

Narrative changes reflect an augmentation to the original schedule of three courses per day to four. The rationale is to help students build skills needed to show mastery of the state board of education standards. It is expected that the addition of the additional course will help bring up student state testing scores. The tutoring schedule has been modified to allow for more time available to pupils.

Curriculum:

Narrative changes clarify the changes to the name the Arizona Department of Education gives to their standards. No change in impact is expected as this change is to clarify information which was outdated.

Assessment:

Narrative changes to this section reflect the following:

Testing – ASSET, ACT and SAT testing has become increasingly difficult (in terms of time and financial considerations) for our students to accomplish. This is noted in that the usage of the data was to place students into our course offerings. The Academy will utilize in-house testing that can be used to monitor student progress, on a regular basis, to monitor student progress on an individual level. Data can then be used to help students be placed in courses based on skill level rather than only based on previous credits. College placement readiness will be measure through practice exams offered in house.

Course/subject credits:

The proposed changes to the graduation requirements are to meet legislative changes in graduation and mastery requirements. This will maintain the requirements for graduation across the state for students that enroll and do not begin their course of study with their cohort (by graduation year). Impact on students will mean increased math and science exposure which should be reflected in placement testing and state examinations.

Subject	Requirements	Mastery Level
English	4 credits	75%
Mathematics	4 credits	75%
Social Studies	3 credits	75%
Science	3 credits	75%
Arts & Humanities	1 credits	75%
Foreign Language	2 credits	75%
Health	0.5 credits	75%
Electives	4.5 credits	75%
TOTAL	22 Credits	

**GENESIS ACADEMY
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

Board of Education	October 14, 2008
Regular Meeting	11:40 A.M.
Executive Session	11:50 A.M.
Snell & Wilmer	One Arizona Center
Conference Room	Phoenix, AZ 85003

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Diana Schmidt at 11:40 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

3. MOTION TO APPROVE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

ACTION

In accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes 38-431.02 G & H

Motion made by Andrew Halaby ; seconded by Frank Milstead .

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

RESULT OF ROLL CALL VOTE: (4-0)

Members of the public wishing to comment on an agenda item may do so at the time the item appears on the agenda. Items not on the agenda may be addressed at the "Community Response" but the Governing Board cannot respond to the item.

GENERAL

4. MOTION TO APPROVE EACH OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS LISTED BELOW:

ACTION

A. *Approval of Minutes:

September 12 , 2008 Regular Meeting

B. *FINANCE

Approval of Expense/Payroll Vouchers:

Voucher Nos.: 86 and Payroll Voucher No: 1086

RECOMMENDATION: That the Governing Board approve each of the above *Consent Agenda items as presented/requested.

Motion made by Frank Milstead ; seconded by Andy Halaby .

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

RESULT OF ROLL CALL VOTE: (4-0)

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION/ACTION

5. 2007/2008 AFR

RECOMMENDATION: That the Governing Board approve the Genesis Academy 2007-2008 Annual Financial Report as presented.

Motion made by Andy Halaby ; seconded by Frank Milstead .

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

RESULT OF ROLL CALL VOTE: (4-0)

6. TECHNOLOGY PLAN

RECOMMENDATION: That the Governing Board approve the Technology Plan for Genesis Academy.

Motion made by Frank Milstead ; seconded by Andy Halaby .

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

RESULT OF ROLL CALL VOTE: (4-0)

7. AMENDMENT TO ASBCS CONTRACT REGARDING PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION

RECOMMENDATION: That the board approve the Program of Instruction Amendment Request as presented.

Motion made by Diana Schmidt ; seconded by Jeff Scudder.

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

RESULT OF ROLL CALL VOTE: (4-0)

8. DECLARATION OF CURRICULAR & INSTRUCTIONAL ALIGNMENT TO THE ARIZONA ACADEMIC STANDARDS.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Genesis Academy Governing Board approve the Declaration of Curricular & Instructional alignment to the Arizona Academic Standards for the 2008-2009 Academic Year.

Motion made by Andy Halaby ; seconded by Frank Milstead.

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

RESULT OF ROLL CALL VOTE: (4-0)

9. REVISED SPECIAL EDUCATION POLICIES & PROCEDURES

RECOMMENDATION: That the Governing Board approve the Revised Special Education policies and procedures which align to the re-authorization of IDEA.

Motion made by Andy Halaby ; seconded by Jeff Scudder.

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

RESULT OF ROLL CALL VOTE: (4-0)

10. STUDENT ENROLLMENT REPORT – Luz Nelson reported that we e currently have 179 students registered and anticipate being back up to over 200 students for Block 2 which begins on October 22, 2008.

Luz Nelson

11. DIRECTOR'S REPORT- Karen Callahan reported that Career Day was a success and that we had a great turnout of community guest speakers.

12. BOARD MEMBERS' QUESTIONS/UPDATES AND NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNITY RESPONSE

It is the desire of the Governing Board to solicit input from its visitors relative to action taken at this morning's meeting. At this time, the Board invites your comments. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand to be recognized by the Chair. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

13. FORMAL ADJOURNMENT

ACTION

Motion made by Andy Halaby ; seconded by Frank Milstead.

X Mr. Halaby X Mr. Milstead X Mrs. Schmidt X Jeff Scudder

RESULT OF ROLL CALL VOTE: (4-0)

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:00 p.m.