

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



CHARTER GRADE LEVEL AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) The Odyssey Preparatory Academy (CTDS) _____

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 111 E. Monroe Suite 101

(City, State) Buckeye, AZ (Zip) 85326

(Charter Representative's Name) Megan Olson

(Phone Number) 623-824-4776 (Fax Number) _____

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.

Check appropriate box

Adding grade levels served for charter

Included are the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (minutes must comply with Open Meeting Law ARS §38-431.01)
- Narrative describing how the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter
- Mastery of coursework for additional grades
- Expected student performance on state mandated tests at all grade levels impacted by the addition
- Timeline for implementation
- Changes in staffing to support the requirements for Highly Qualified.

For K-8

For each grade level being added, provide the following as a representation of a program of instruction aligned to the State Academic Standards and to the methods of instruction described in the charter:

- Math - A completed curriculum sample template including all required attachments as outlined on the template attached.
- Language Arts - A completed curriculum sample template, for both reading and writing, including all required attachments as outlined on the template attached.

For 9-12

For each grade level being added, provide the following as a representation of a program of instruction aligned to the State Academic Standards and to the methods of instruction described in the charter:

- Math - A math course description and a completed curriculum sample template including all required attachments as outlined on the template (template is available on the ASBCS website).
- Language Arts - A language arts course description and a completed curriculum sample template, for both reading and writing, including all required attachments as outlined on the template (template is available on the ASBCS website).
- Graduation requirements (number of credits in each content area and electives)
- Course level proficiency required for credit and acceptance of transfer credit

Decreasing grade levels served for charter

Included is the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (minutes must comply with Open Meeting Law ARS §38-431.01)
- Rationale for decrease in grade levels served and effective date of change

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

FROM: K-5

TO: K-6

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this _____ day of _____, 200____, 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.

Megan Olson
Charter Representative Signature

Representative Signature for the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Odyssey Preparatory Academy

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of The Odyssey Preparatory Academy and to the general public that the Board will hold a meeting, open to the public as specified below. The Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, with the exception of public hearings set for a specific time. One or more members of the Board may participate in the meeting by telephonic communications.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(H), the Board may discuss and take action concerning any matter listed on the agenda.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) the Board may vote to go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice concerning any item on the agenda.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Mary Alvarez at (602) 680-0967. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Meeting will be held at 111 E. Monroe, Suite 101, Buckeye, AZ 85326
May 22, 2009
9:30 a.m.

Board Minute Meetings

Chairman: Frank Yanez

Other Board Members: Mary Alvarez, Megan Olson

I. Call to order

- **Meeting called to order at 9:33 by Frank Yanez**

II. Roll call

- **Members present, Mary Alvarez, Megan Olson**

III. Open issues

- **Discussion on:**
 - **Contract Approval**
 - **Budget Approval**
 - **Address for site**
 - **Federal Grant System**
 - **Attending Meeting June 11 for Special Services**

○ **Foundation Group 501C3**

IV. New business

a) Approve two signers for charter

- **Currently Megan is representative to charter signer,**
- **Motion made to add Frank Yanez to charter as a representative and signer**
- **Approved unanimously and to take effective immediately**

b) Approve addition of 6th grade to charter

- **Motion made by Megan Olson to add 6th grade to charter**
- **Approved unanimously and process to amend to take effect.**
- **When charter is signed then paperwork will be submitted to add**

c) Increase cap for student enrollment

- **Student enrollment is currently at 300 increase to 1,000**
- **Motion made by Megan Olson to increase to 1,000**
- **Approved unanimously**

d) Approve reimbursement spending

- **Frank Yanez suggests to approve it**
- **Motion by Frank Yanez to accept and approve reimburse and expenditures of Megan Olson is estimated amount of \$25, 000, Holly Johnson 15, 000 and itemized amount**
- **Approved unanimously**
- **Motion by Frank Yanez to authorize Megan Olson and Holly Johnson on behalf of board to authorize expenses to open The Odyssey Preparatory up to \$25,000 combined**
- **Approved unanimously and closed**

e) Approve new board member

- **Moved action E to beginning of meeting**
- **Megan Olson motioned to make Holly Johnson to board**
- **Approved unanimously to take effectively immediately**

V. Adjournment

- **Motion to Adjourn by Frank Yanez**
- **Approved Unanimously**
- **Adjourned at 10:05**



The Odyssey Preparatory Academy
Amendment to add 6th grade 2009-2010
Narratives

Narrative describing how the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter.

It was the original intent of the Odyssey Preparatory Academy to open Kindergarten through 5th grade and open one grade level every year until we were a full K-8 school. Upon the approval of the charter, the outcry of the community to add a section of 6th grade the first year has been so overwhelming, the founders of The Odyssey Preparatory Academy believe it is in the best interest of the school and of the community to add an additional 6th grade for the 2009-2010 school year. The informal surveys conducted within the last few weeks have resulted in over 30 6th grade students that would enroll in The Odyssey Preparatory Academy at enrollment time if we were to offer the grade level.

- The Odyssey Preparatory Academy will provide their students with the highest quality education. By infusing technology with a variety of proven educational philosophies, the academy will prepare students to compete and succeed in today's global economy.
- An Odyssey classroom will mirror the business world.
- Students will be well versed in technological applications.
- The Odyssey Academy will foster graduates who have an appreciation for hard work and accomplishment. A strong work ethic will be encouraged, valued and rewarded.
- Students will learn to work cooperatively to come up with creative problem solving solutions. They will see the benefit of working together as a team as opposed to attacking problems solely on an individual basis.
Students will leave the Odyssey Academy armed with a myriad of critical thinking and creative problem solving strategies
- Students will also be immersed in the fine arts and physical fitness.
- Students will see how music and art is infused into everything that they do.
- An emphasis will be placed on physical fitness. We believe in educating the whole child; mind and body.
- Cultural literacy will be emphasized and infused throughout all lesson plans. "Literacy demands interaction with the culture and reflection of it. A knowledge of a canonical set of literature is not valuable when engaging with others in a society if the knowledge stops at the end of the text — as life is interwoven with art, expression, history and experience, cultural literacy requires the broad range of knowledge and the use of that knowledge in the creation of a communal language and a collective knowledge. Cultural literacy stresses the knowledge of those pieces of information which content creators will assume the audience already possesses." (Wikipedia, 2008)

The Core Knowledge Sequence continues through the grades 6,7,8, so we will be able to use the same curriculum throughout the entire school, the training for 6th grade teacher will be exactly the same as the training for the K-5 teachers; so no additional training or expense will be needed to add a 6th grade this year. The teaching philosophy will remain the same.

Methods of Instruction: It is expected that the same methods of instruction that are to be used by our teachers in the K-5 model will be implemented in the 6th grade classroom. The methods of instruction to be used are:

Teacher Directed Instruction: When a concept or skill is first being introduced, it is necessary to employ teacher directed instruction. It is also necessary to use this method with practice or review of specific concepts. The teacher would get the attention of the class, share the objective, model specific activity, whole group activity, check for understanding, individual practice.

Integrated Technology: Students must be well versed in technology. Odyssey Prep teachers will integrate technology into the majority of their lesson plans. Every classroom will be equipped with a flat screen projection monitor for the teacher. Each teacher will be issued a laptop and the students will have complete access to mobile laptop labs and a fully equipped computer lab.

Differentiated Instruction: Teachers will modify their lessons to meet the needs and strengths of all learners. Each modality will be addressed in the lessons.

Cooperative Learning: Employers today require their employees to be able to work cooperatively in projects. Students must learn these skills in the classroom. Teachers know the difference between group work and cooperative learning. They also must be trained in facilitating cooperative learning groups effectively.

Cross-Curricular Thematic Unit: Students need to see that themes carry over across different subject levels. This enables them to make higher level connections and synthesize knowledge.

Cross-Curricular Project Based Learning: Projects that integrate multiple subject levels allow students to demonstrate mastery of a certain concept or skill while allowing students to apply their knowledge to a real life example.

The special emphasis will be technology and college prep. The curriculum used continues through this grade level and beyond, adding a 6th grade will align with the special emphasis of the school.

The Mission of the school is to provide students with the technology training and a robust curriculum that will prepare them for the finest colleges. Adding a 6th grade will align with this mission because we will continue to prepare the students through college prep curriculum and immerse them in all forms of technological applications.

Expected Student Performance: The goal at The Odyssey Preparatory Academy for our additional 6th grade is the same as our goal for the rest of our students, 80% of the students at The Odyssey Preparatory Academy will achieve Meets or Exceeds on the AIMS Test.

80% of the students at The Odyssey Preparatory Academy will score above the 70th percentile on the national Terra Nova test.

Timeline of Implementation: The 6th grade will open August 31st, 2009. The same time as the rest of the school.

Staffing: It is the intention of The Odyssey Preparatory Academy to add two sections of 6th grade. We will hire 2 certified, Highly Qualified teachers, the classes will be capped at 25 a piece, this will add 50 students to our expected enrollment.

Mastery of Coursework

At The Odyssey Preparatory Academy, students are considered to have mastered a concept when they score 80% or above on the assessments given for that concept. Per the curriculum sample, students must achieve 80% mastery on each concept taught.