

**AGENDA ITEM: Phoenix Collegiate Academy Inc. Application Overview**

Phoenix Collegiate Academy Inc. submitted an application for a new charter school on July 25, 2008.

- Phoenix Collegiate Academy Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit corporation that was created on October 23, 2007 with the purpose of conducting public education.
- The name of the school is Phoenix Collegiate Academy Charter School and will be located in Phoenix, Arizona.
- The applicant will initially offer 6<sup>th</sup> grade and have an enrollment cap of 120 in the first year and grow to 360 by year three while serving grades 6-8.
- The applicant has met all the substantive eligibility criteria as documented in the following pages and in the [attached scoring rubric](#).
- Fingerprint clearance cards and background information including credit, employment and education have been verified for all corporate principals.

Phoenix Collegiate Academy Inc.	
<b>Instructional Program</b>	
Mission	Phoenix Collegiate Academy Charter School prepares sixth to twelfth grade students to succeed in college and be leaders in our community.
Description of Community and Target Market	The school will be located in South Phoenix within the Roosevelt School District boundaries. Ethnic breakdown of students within RSD is 77% Latino, 18% African American and 5% Caucasian.
Methods of Instruction	The school is designed with four key elements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundamental Elements - Professional development centered on data analysis and student support and curricula aligned to state and national standards.</li> <li>• Seamless Path to College – Focuses on the acceptance and success at an accredited four year college or university.</li> <li>• Compilation of Best Practices – Longer school day and school year with a focus on classroom efficiency.</li> <li>• Frequent Standards Driven Assessments – Guided analysis of assessment results allows teachers to modify instruction in response to students’ needs.</li> </ul>
School Calendar	Standard with 187 Instructional days and start date of July 27, 2009.
<b>Organizational Structure</b>	
Corporate Principals	Rachel Bennett, Susan Ontiveros, Robert Andrew Shaw
Governing Body	3 Charter Organization Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rachel Bennett, Susan Ontiveros, Robert Andrew Shaw</li> </ul> 1 Parent Member: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gregory Linaman</li> </ul> 6 Community Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jonathon Archer, Michael McNulty, Mary Hostetler, Tina Skjerping, Michael Zimmerman, Anahi Godinez</li> </ul>
<b>Site Information</b>	
Location	5 mile radius of 7 <sup>th</sup> St and Southern in Phoenix, AZ
Unsecured Facility	1 <sup>st</sup> Year Requirements: 9,000 sq ft facility; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Requirements: 18,000 sq ft facility; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Requirements: 18,000 sq ft facility

Year	Grades Served	# of Students	# of Sites
1	6	120	1
2	6-7	240	1
3	6-8	360	1

**The following information is being provided for consideration:**

**Applicant's Background Information:**

1. The corporation has three members, with all three serving on the governing board:
  - **Rachel Bennett**: Currently serves as a Fellow/Lead Founder of Phoenix Collegiate Academy and has served in that capacity since 2007. Rachel has obtained a BA in History and Economics through Georgetown University, a Masters in Education from Arizona State University and a Certificate in Administration from the University of Phoenix.
  - **Susan Ontiveros**: Currently employed as a Realtor with Keller Williams Realty and has served in that capacity since 2000. Susan obtained her Associates Degree from Mesa Community College and is a member of the Phoenix Association of Realtors.
  - **Robert Andrew Shaw**: Currently employed as a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at P.T. Coe Elementary School through Teach for America and has served in that capacity since 2005. Robert obtained BA degrees in International Studies and Romance Languages from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Elementary Education Certification from Rio Salado College.

**New Charter Application Background:**

**Comprehensive Program of Instruction/Curriculum**

*Short description:*

Phoenix Collegiate Academy Charter School will emphasize reading and writing across the curriculum. All classrooms will be structured through the common use of the Blackboard Configuration (BBC), with Do Now/AIM/Agenda/HW, classroom procedures for notebooks and classroom supplies, and instruction that follows the "I do, we do, you do" approach. State and national academic standards will be the foundation while standards-driven assessments will be used as benchmarks. Flexible Ability Groupings in the core subjects of English and math will also be utilized. Teachers will use a Curriculum Alignment Template (CAT) to design a curriculum map and lesson plans for specific courses. The curriculum map will be directly tied to state and national standards to ensure that students are prepared to academically achieve each year.

The application meets the minimum requirements in all the areas of the comprehensive Program of Instruction.

**Business Plan/Budget**

*Short description:*

The applicant identifies total start-up expenditures of \$98,700 which does not exceed the total start-up revenues of \$130,000 as indicated in the Start-Up Budget. As a Building Excellent Schools Fellow-founded school, Phoenix Collegiate Academy is eligible for \$250,000 in start-up grant money. The first \$20,000 installment was received in January 2008 and is eligible for the remainder of the grant upon charter approval. In addition, Compass Bank donated \$30,000 for start-up funding in May 2008.

The operational budget for the first year of operation is based on a student enrollment of 120. The applicant anticipates a Budget Balance of \$42,911 at the end of the first year of operation.

The application meets the minimum requirements in all the areas of the Detailed Business Plan.

---

**Motion Notes for Phoenix Collegiate Academy Inc.:**

- The application includes all required curriculum samples to operate a 6-8 program.
- The application met the minimum requirements in all areas of the application.