
AGENDA ITEM: Transfer Application – Legacy Schools

2009-2010 Transfer Application Summary Report

Legacy Schools filed a transfer application to transfer their current charter contract, Legacy Elementary School, currently sponsored by the State Board of Education, to sponsorship with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools. Legacy Schools is an Arizona non-profit corporation organized on June 22, 2000. Legacy Schools currently operates one school site; Legacy Elementary School and was originally chartered on June 12, 2001.

Legacy Schools has the same corporate principals as Legacy Education Group which currently operates East Valley High School. Legacy Education Group signed their contract with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools on May 17, 2005.

According to the Arizona Department of Education's ADMS Report 45-1, Legacy Schools had a reported Average Daily Membership (ADM) of 312.17 students in 2007. The ADM fell to 251.25 students in 2008 and has decreased to 229.97 students in 2009.

Legacy Schools and Legacy Education Group have experienced the following academic success:

Legacy Elementary School

School Year	AZ LEARNS	Annual Yearly Progress
2007-2008	Underperforming	Not Met* <i>School Improvement Year 1</i>
2006-2007	Underperforming	Not Met**
2005-2006	Performing Plus	Met

* The school did not meet their percent tested or their test objectives.

** The school did not meet their percent tested.

East Valley High School

School Year	AZ LEARNS	Annual Yearly Progress
2007-2008	Performing	Not Met*
2006-2007	Performing	Not Met*
2005-2006	Performing Plus	Met

*The school did not meet their percent tested.

Curricular Emphasis:

Legacy Elementary School is a traditional school that utilizes a standards based Core Knowledge® sequenced curriculum. Fundamental to Core Knowledge is the belief that children best learn new content by building on what they already know and understand. Students at Legacy Elementary School are also immersed in the performing and visual arts. The school believes that when students become actively engaged in music, drama and visual arts, they typically build character and confidence which enhances their academic success.

Governance Structure:

The Governing Board is responsible for the policy and operation guidance of the school. The Board charges the Director to implement State and Federal Requirements and Governing Board Policy. The board advises on budget and other concerns, assists with administrative decision-making and ensures democratic due-process procedures to the school community in discipline and other actions. The School Director is responsible for developing school policies, fulfilling school planning, managing day-to-day operations, ensuring public reporting and accountability requirements are met, including all financial reporting and compliance requirements, student data reporting, curricular alignment and all other compliance reporting and management including local, state and federal requirements and policies. The School Director is the Charter Representative.

The mission of the charter is as follows:

Legacy is committed to excellence in education. We believe a child is the most important resource on the earth. We further believe each child has a mission to share with humanity and needs a wide and varied knowledge base to fulfill that mission. Therefore, we at Legacy aspire to challenge students to greatness. We dedicate ourselves to strong academics, leadership training and an enriching arts program in a safe and structured environment. With this base for success, students will learn to love life, liberty, leadership and learning.

Legacy Schools	
Grade Levels	K-8 <i>The application identifies plans to expand to K-12 in FY2011. Consideration of the transfer application should be for the current grade levels served only. Amendments for expansion may be processed at a later date.</i>
Special Emphasis	Traditional school model using Core Knowledge® Curriculum
Methodology	Teacher led instruction that includes individual and group problem solving activities, team teaching and a hands-on approach.
Location	7464 E. Main St. Mesa, AZ 85207
Target Community	K-8 students in far eastern Maricopa County
Corporate Principals	Kathy Tolman, Julie Clement, Michael Clement
Governing Body	<u>2 Charter Organization Members:</u> Michael and Julie Clement <u>3 School Staff Members:</u> Kathy Tolman, Tracy Leonard and a vacant spot <u>3 Community Members:</u> Jerry Eakin, Julie Hatch and Rodney Tolman <u>1 Parent Member:</u> Vacant

Board Options

1. The Board may approve the Transfer Application for Legacy Schools to serve only grades K-8 for the 2009-2010 school year and subsequent years pending improved academic performance and the submission and approval of future grade level amendment requests.
2. The Board may deny the Transfer Application for Legacy Schools.

Staff Recommendation

Staff's Recommendation is option #1 above.