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**AGENDA ITEM: Replication Application – Legacy Traditional Charter School**

**Legacy Traditional Charter School - Legacy Traditional Charter School – Laveen Village  
Replication Application Summary Report**

Legacy Traditional Charter School (LTCS), a non-profit entity, submitted a complete application for the replication of its Legacy Traditional School school site in Maricopa. The new contract will be held by LTCS and the proposed new charter school will be named Legacy Traditional Charter School – Laveen Village (LV), to operate a school in Phoenix, Arizona, with a planned opening in August 2012.

LTCS is an Arizona non-profit corporation that was incorporated on May 15, 2009. LTCS currently holds one charter which operates three school sites: Legacy Traditional School (Maricopa, K-10<sup>th</sup>), Legacy Traditional School – Casa Grande (K - 8<sup>th</sup>), Legacy Traditional School – Queen Creek (K - 9<sup>th</sup>). In addition, three other organizations associated with the charter holder each hold a charter and operate one site: Athlos Traditional Academy, operates Legacy Traditional Charter School – Athlos Academy (K - 8<sup>th</sup>); Legacy Traditional School – Avondale, operates Legacy Traditional Charter School – Avondale (K - 8<sup>th</sup>); and Legacy Traditional School – Northwest Tucson, operates Legacy Traditional Charter School – Marana (K - 8<sup>th</sup>).

Consistent with the operations of Legacy Traditional School, Legacy Traditional School – Casa Grande, and Legacy Traditional School – Queen Creek, LTCS would be the charter holder for Legacy Traditional Charter School – Laveen Village.

Legacy Traditional School, Legacy Traditional School – Casa Grande, and Legacy Traditional School – Queen Creek all met the Board’s academic requirements for associated schools for LTCS to be eligible to apply for a replication charter. Legacy Traditional Charter School – Athlos Academy, Legacy Traditional Charter School – Avondale, and Legacy Traditional Charter School – Marana are in their first year of operation.

**Replication Model - Legacy Traditional School (Maricopa)**

**Academics:**

Legacy Traditional School (Maricopa) has experienced the following academic success as measured by state and federal academic accountability systems.

Fiscal Year	AZ LEARNS	Adequate Yearly Progress
2011	Highly Performing/B	Met
2010	Highly Performing	Met
2009	Highly Performing	Met
2008	Performing Plus	Not Met

The following statements were excerpted from the LTCS replication application regarding the Program of Instruction of the school to be replicated, Legacy Traditional School (Maricopa). “Legacy Traditional Charter School (LTCS) Maricopa campus was founded on the principle that parents and staff shall work together as partners to provide an education that encourages students to pursue academic excellence to the best of their abilities. The back-to-basics curriculum, accelerated pace of studies, and high expectations for academic achievement, behavior, and dress require a firm commitment from every stakeholder. Legacy Traditional Charter School Laveen Village campus will be a replication of the LTCS Maricopa campus model. The schools’ mission is to provide a structured learning environment based on the traditional values of citizenship, responsibility and respect. Staff, working with parents, will help students build a legacy of learning through intense focus on mastering critical skills that will prepare students to succeed throughout their lives.”

In 2011, Legacy Traditional School (Maricopa) and other LTCS schools had AIMS results shown in the chart below (data supplied by applicant):

	Math	Reading	Writing	Science
LTCS Maricopa	72	86	72	79
LTCS Casa Grande	72	88	72	83
LTCS Queen Creek	77	90	71	79
Arizona	62	77	46	49
Pinal County	57	74	49	58

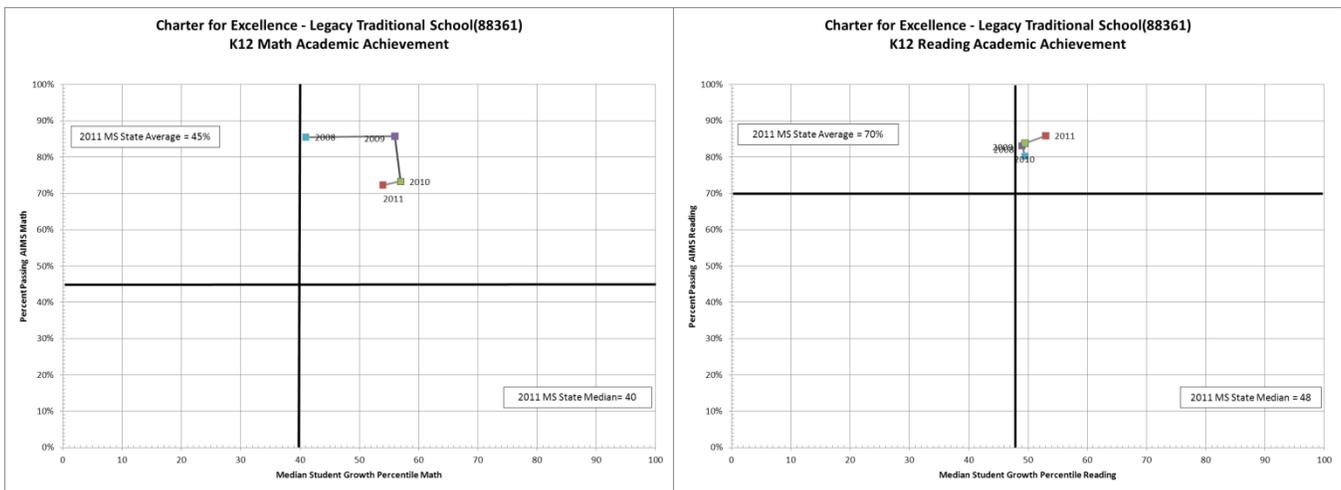
(All numbers in the table above are percentages.)

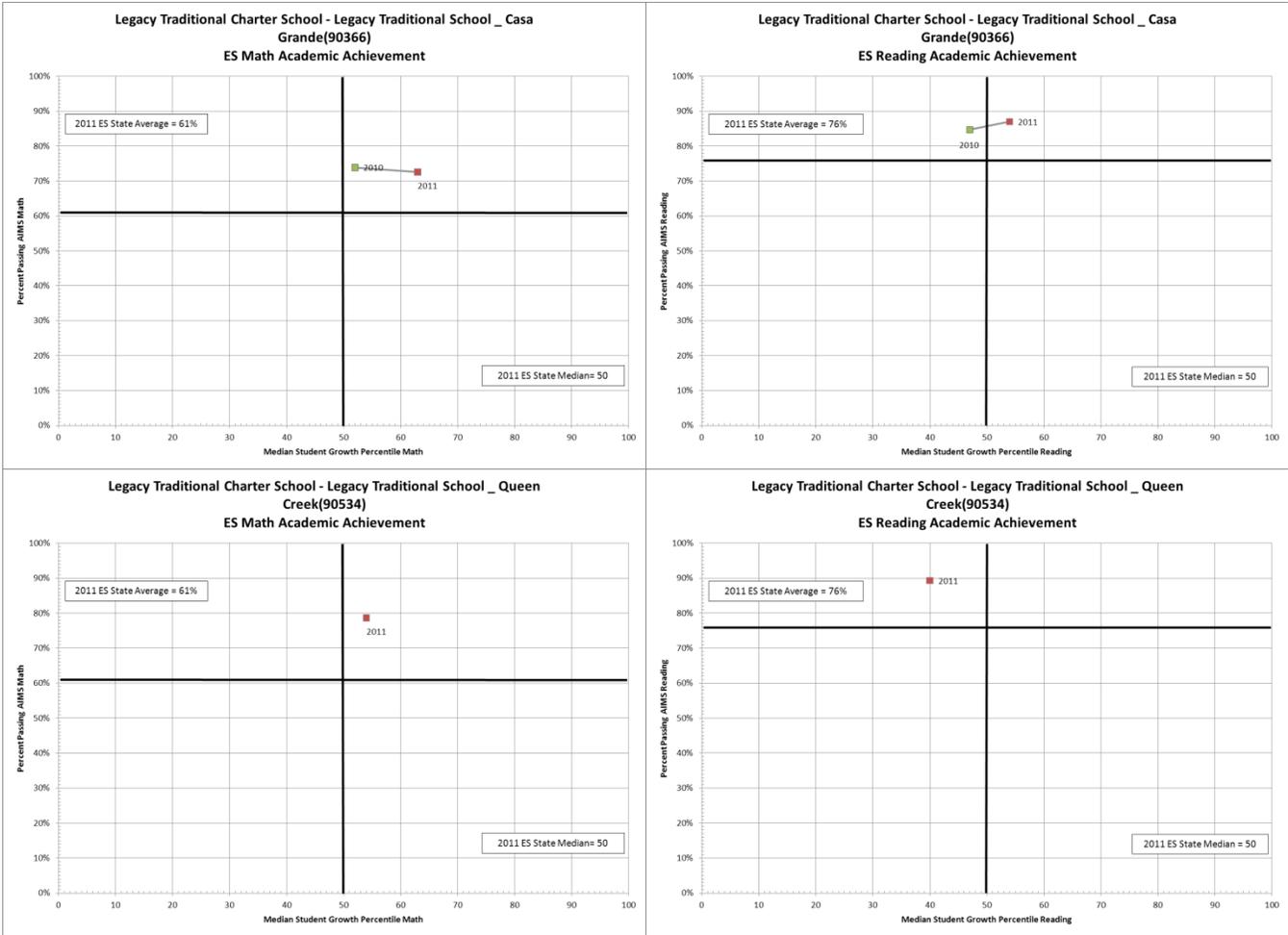
“Legacy Traditional Charter School ‘teaches the curriculum’ at the speed and pace in which it was intended. The methods of instructional delivery are programmed to the high end of the class rather than slowing the curriculum for a few. Students struggling are provided with additional help and tools to succeed. LTCS uses a direct instructional model, also known as teacher-centered instruction, for all grades.

In keeping with the Direct Instructional model, LTCS uses a program of instruction that features incremental skill introduction which provides sequential learning through progressively more complex concepts and skills. Throughout the teaching process, teachers are sensitive to the needs of each individual student and carefully monitor their progress. The major benefit is that students are receiving instruction directly from a knowledgeable teacher, rather than from a peer, or through self-learning.

The structured curriculum at LTCS utilizes the phonics based Spalding program as the basis for its Language Arts curriculum. LTCS utilizes the Saxon math curriculum as the third prong of the back to basics curriculum. Instructors follow the Madeline Hunter’s Steps of Instruction in lesson planning and the implementation of the curriculum in their individual classrooms.”

The graphs below depict the charter holder’s academic performance using the Board’s Level of Adequate Academic Performance. Please note: The original charter was granted to Charter for Excellence, which amended its contract, transferring ownership to LTCS, in 2009.





**Academic Choice:**

All data in this section is supplied by applicant.

**A. Enrollment:** Since opening in 2008, Legacy Traditional Charter School - Maricopa campus has expanded from serving 389 in kindergarten through 6th grade, to serving nearly 900 in kindergarten through 9th grade during the 2010 school year. LTCS – Maricopa reached 984 Average Daily Membership (ADM) the 2011 school year. Three Legacy Traditional Charter Schools were operational during the 2011 school year, LTCS – Maricopa, LTCS – Casa Grande and LTCS – Queen Creek. The combined ADM for the 2011 school year reached 2172. The 2012 school year, Legacy Traditional Charter School operates six schools in three counties within Arizona. The current ADM for these six schools is 4159.

**B. Retention Rate:** The retention rate is demonstrated by the following chart.

**Retention Rates, LTCS, 2009-2011 (by school year)**

	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
LTCS	88%	93%	97%

**C. Enrollment Practices:** LTCS does not have specific school boundaries and accepts all eligible pupils who submit a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, and grade level or building. LTCS does not limit admission based on ethnicity, national origin, gender, income level, disabling condition, and proficiency in the English language or athletic ability. LTCS gives

enrollment preference to pupils returning to the school from any subsequent year of enrollment. New students are accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis with the following priorities:

1. Children of employees of the school
2. Children with siblings already accepted into the program
3. Date enrollment is received

Parents must complete a pre-enrollment questionnaire, enrollment form, and provide immunization records and an official birth certificate at the time of registration. All parents and students will sign an agreement each school year stating that parents and students will comply with the rules and policies of LTCS. A pupil who has been expelled from another educational institution or who is in the process of being expelled from another educational institution will not be admitted.

## **Replication School – Legacy Traditional Charter School – Laveen Village**

### **School Mission Statement:**

LTCS' mission is to provide motivated students with the opportunity to achieve academic excellence in an accelerated, back- to-basics, safe learning environment taught by caring and knowledgeable educators in cooperation with supportive, involved parents.

### **Market Analysis:**

The southwest portion of the Phoenix metro area, including Laveen Village, Tolleson, and Avondale, has grown in the past decade, with nearly 360,000 residents within a 15 mile radius of the LTCS – Laveen Village site. Laveen Village has over 37,000 residents. There were 8,304 K-8 students reported to ADE within a 5 mile radius of the proposed site during the 2011 school year. LTCS will target 850 students. Demographic analysis by the applicant indicates a sufficient student population for LTCS-Laveen Village sustainability.

The Laveen campus will be located on 43rd Avenue, south of Baseline Road. LTCS is currently in the process of acquiring over ten acres of land to build the campus so the physical address for this site has not been established.

### **Governance Structure:**

LTCS is a non-profit, tax-exempt (501c3) corporation that operates charter schools. The Corporate Board of Legacy Traditional School is responsible for corporate policy and for operations of the corporation including the charter schools. The Corporate Board has the general charge of the affairs, property and assets of the corporation, including setting school policy, and the implementation of fiscal management policies and procedures. The corporation may appoint additional members to the Corporate Board, as officers, agents and committees, as it deems necessary, appropriate, or proper. The Corporate Board may establish such rules of the conduct of its business and affairs, consistent with the provisions of Bylaws.

LTCS governing board for the schools is, pursuant to ARS 15-183, responsible for the policy decisions of the charter schools. The school's governing body will provide knowledgeable oversight of the school's operations, financial matters, and student growth and achievement. In cooperation with the Corporate Board, the school governing board will provide strategic direction for the school, nurture strong school leaders, and ensure the school's financial and legal health.

	LTCS Maricopa	LTCS Laveen Village
<b>Instructional Program</b>		
Grade Levels	K-10	K-8
Special Emphasis	Back-to-basics curriculum, accelerated pace of studies, and high expectations for academic achievement, behavior, and dress.	Back-to-basics curriculum, accelerated pace of studies, and high expectations for academic achievement, behavior, and dress.
Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct instructional model, also known as teacher-centered instruction, for all grades.</li> <li>• Spalding program as the basis for Language Arts curriculum.</li> <li>• Saxon math curriculum.</li> <li>• Instructors follow the Madeline Hunter’s Steps of Instruction in lesson planning and the implementation of the curriculum.</li> <li>• Students will develop patriotism and citizenship.</li> <li>• Students demonstrate mastery when they score an 80% or better on an assessment or when the instructor determines that they have mastered the skill, whether through direct observation and/or other means.</li> <li>• Remediation efforts to support learning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct instructional model, also known as teacher-centered instruction, for all grades.</li> <li>• Spalding program as the basis for Language Arts curriculum.</li> <li>• Saxon math curriculum.</li> <li>• Instructors follow the Madeline Hunter’s Steps of Instruction in lesson planning and the implementation of the curriculum.</li> <li>• Students will develop patriotism and citizenship.</li> <li>• Students demonstrate mastery when they score an 80% or better on an assessment or when the instructor determines that they have mastered the skill, whether through direct observation and/or other means.</li> <li>• Remediation efforts to support learning.</li> </ul>
<b>Demographics</b>		
Location	17760 N. Regent Drive Maricopa, AZ 85138	43 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. south of Baseline, Laveen, AZ
Enrollment	983.57 (100 <sup>th</sup> Day, 2011)	850
<b>Organizational Structure</b>		
Authorized Representative(s)	William Gregory	William Gregory
Corporate Principals	Aaron Hale William Gregory Steven Ray Cory Theobald Nathan Schlink Derek Samuel	Aaron Hale William Gregory Steven Ray Cory Theobald Nathan Schlink Derek Samuel
Governing Board	William Gregory Steven Ray Cory Theobald Nathan Schlink Derek Samuel	Corporate: Bill Gregory School Staff: Steve Ray Parents: Nathan Schlink Community: Derek Samuel Other: Cory Theobald

**Board Options:**

Option 1: The Board may approve the replication application package. Staff recommends the following language for consideration: I move, based on the information contained in the Board materials and presented today, that the Board approve the replication application and grant the replication charter to Legacy

Traditional Charter School to establish Legacy Traditional Charter School – Laveen Village charter school to serve grades K-8.

Option 2: The Board may deny the replication application. The following language is provided for consideration: I move, based on the information contained in the Board materials and presented today, that the Board deny the request for the replication charter of Legacy Traditional Charter School to establish a charter school for the reason: (list the specific reasons the Board may have found during its consideration).