

## **AGENDA ITEM: Request to Expand Charter School Operations – Mohave Accelerated Elementary School, Inc.**

### **Issue**

Mohave Accelerated Elementary School, Inc. (MAES) submitted a request to expand charter school operations to increase their enrollment cap to 550. MAES did not meet the Board's academic performance expectations for 2013 and 2014, and is asking for additional consideration from the Board to be eligible to apply for an expansion request that would include a Demonstration of Sufficient Progress (DSP). The charter has a current enrollment cap of 450.

### **Request**

On July 15, 2015, Dr. Vickie Christensen, Charter Representative of MAES, submitted a letter (see letter attached on page 4) to Board staff requesting the Board's consideration to allow MAES to submit an expansion request to increase the enrollment cap to 550 for implementation in FY 2016. In the letter, she wrote:

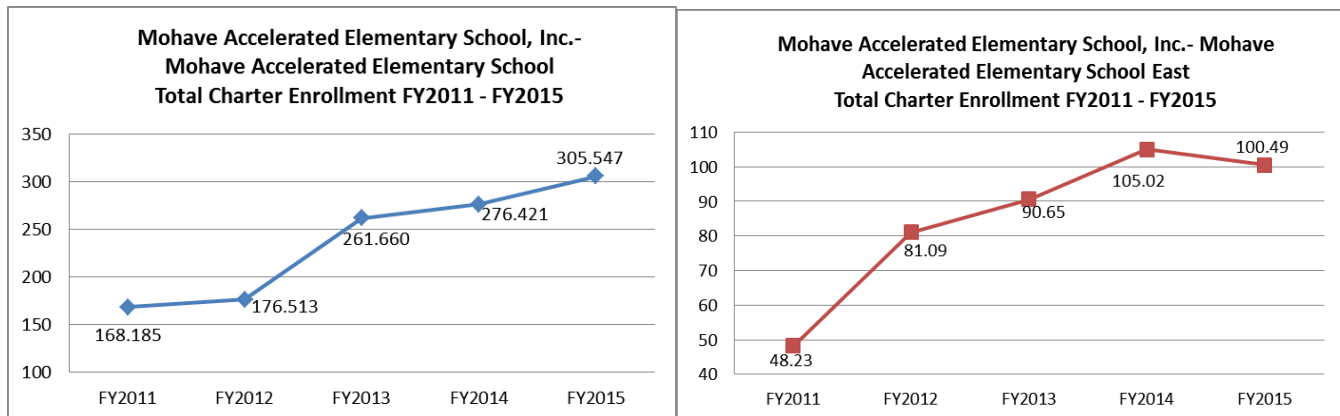
"The rationale for expanding was the following:

- Extensive waiting lists for students
- Having the correct amount of students to flow into our middle and high school, Mohave Accelerated Learning Center
- Providing a caring school for student and families in our community with Highly Qualified Professional staff
- A love for children and their futures!

### **Background**

MAES was granted a charter on February 9, 2004 which became effective on June 8, 2004. In October 2012, the Charter Holder requested an increase in enrollment cap from 300 to 450 and is currently serving grades K through 5 at Mohave Accelerated Elementary School and Mohave Accelerated Elementary School East.

The average daily membership (ADM) for the charter based on 100<sup>th</sup> day ADM is provided below (Data provided by Arizona Department of Education):



### **Academic Performance**

As stated in the Board's Academic Performance Framework and Guidance document, a Charter Holder's academic performance will be evaluated by the Board when considering expansion requests. The academic performance of the Mohave Accelerated Elementary School and Mohave Accelerated Elementary School East are represented in the dashboards below:



General Site Contact Inspections Grades Governing Body FY Data Site Visits Member Campuses Amendments										
Academic Performance										
Edit this section.										
Mohave Accelerated Elementary School										
		2012 Traditional Elementary School (K-5)			2013 Traditional Elementary School (K to 5)			2014 Traditional Elementary School (K to 5)		
		Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight
<b>1. Growth</b>										
1a. SGP	Math	49	50	12.5	51	75	12.5	46	50	12.5
	Reading	50.5	75	12.5	46	50	12.5	42	50	12.5
1b. SGP Bottom 25%	Math	41.5	50	12.5	53	75	12.5	46.5	50	12.5
	Reading	48.5	50	12.5	43.5	50	12.5	54	75	12.5
<b>2. Proficiency</b>										
2a. Percent Passing	Math	68 / 66.7	75	7.5	62.5 / 65	50	7.5	62.9 / 64.5	50	7.5
	Reading	77 / 76.3	75	7.5	76.7 / 77.5	50	7.5	75 / 78	50	7.5
2b. Composite School Comparison	Math	2.8	75	7.5	-1.8	50	7.5	-0.3	50	7.5
	Reading	1.3	75	7.5	-1.5	50	7.5	-3	50	7.5
2c. Subgroup ELL	Math	NR	0	0	NR	0	0	NR	0	0
	Reading	NR	0	0	NR	0	0	NR	0	0
2c. Subgroup FRL	Math	67 / 57.5	75	3.75	57.6 / 55.8	75	3.75	59.8 / 54.5	75	3.75
	Reading	75 / 68.2	75	3.75	71 / 69.7	75	3.75	71.1 / 69.9	75	3.75
2c. Subgroup SPED	Math	0 / 31.5	25	3.75	23.1 / 28.7	50	3.75	23.1 / 29	50	3.75
	Reading	17 / 38.6	50	3.75	30.8 / 38.9	50	3.75	23.1 / 39	50	3.75
<b>3. State Accountability</b>										
3a. State Accountability		B	75	5	B	75	5	B	75	5
<b>Overall Rating</b>		Overall Rating			Overall Rating			Overall Rating		
Scoring for Overall Rating 89 or higher: Exceeds Standard <89, but > or = to 63: Meets Standard <63, but > or = to 39: Does Not Meet Standard Less than 39: Falls Far Below Standard		62.81		100	59.38		100	56.25		100

The FY 2013 overall rating for Mohave Accelerated Elementary School on the Board's academic performance measures was 59.38 including points received for the letter grade of B as reported by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). The FY 2014 overall rating for Mohave Accelerated Elementary School on the Board's academic performance measures decreased to 56.25 including points received for the letter grade of B as reported by ADE.



General Site Contact Inspections Grades Governing Body FY Data Site Visits Member Campuses Amendments										
Academic Performance										
Edit this section.										
Mohave Accelerated Elementary School East										
		2012 Small Elementary School (K-5)			2013 Traditional Elementary School (K to 5)			2014 Traditional Elementary School (K to 5)		
1. Growth		Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight
1a. SGP	Math	47	50	25	55	75	25	66.5	100	12.5
	Reading	59	75	25	50	75	25	48.5	50	12.5
1b. SGP Bottom 25%	Math	NR	0	0	NR	0	0	77	100	12.5
	Reading	NR	0	0	NR	0	0	73	100	12.5
2. Proficiency		Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight
2a. Percent Passing	Math	81 / 50	75	7.5	80.6 / 66.6	75	7.5	84 / 65.4	75	7.5
	Reading	95 / 66.3	100	7.5	94.4 / 76.5	100	7.5	98 / 77.6	100	7.5
2b. Composite School Comparison	Math	28.8	100	7.5	10.9	75	7.5	17.5	100	7.5
	Reading	25.8	100	7.5	14.7	75	7.5	19.2	100	7.5
2c. Subgroup ELL	Math	NR	0	0	NR	0	0	NR	0	0
	Reading	NR	0	0	NR	0	0	NR	0	0
2c. Subgroup FRL	Math	71 / 41	75	7.5	94.1 / 57.5	100	7.5	78.3 / 54.7	75	3.75
	Reading	88 / 60.4	75	7.5	94.1 / 68.6	100	7.5	95.7 / 69.5	100	3.75
2c. Subgroup SPED	Math	NR	0	0	NR	0	0	72.7 / 27.9	100	3.75
	Reading	NR	0	0	NR	0	0	90.9 / 38.8	100	3.75
3. State Accountability		Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight
3a. State Accountability		A	100	5	A	100	5	A	100	5
Overall Rating		Overall Rating			Overall Rating			Overall Rating		
Scoring for Overall Rating 89 or higher: Exceeds Standard <89, but > or = to 63: Meets Standard <63, but > or = to 39: Does Not Meet Standard Less than 39: Falls Far Below Standard		75.63			81.88			90.94		

The FY 2013 overall rating for Mohave Accelerated Elementary School East on the Board's academic performance measures was 81.88 including points received for the letter grade of A as reported by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). The FY 2014 overall rating for Mohave Accelerated Elementary School East on the Board's academic performance measures increased to 90.94 including points received for the letter grade of A as reported by ADE.

### Board Options

Option 1: The Board may approve the request to be eligible to apply for expansion. The following language is provided for consideration: I move, based on the information contained in the Board materials and presented today, that the Board approve the request of Mohave Accelerated Elementary School, Inc. to be eligible to submit an Enrollment Cap Notification Request to increase the enrollment cap to 550 with a Demonstration of Sufficient Progress that includes benchmark data and undergo a site visit based on the evaluation of the FY2015 DSP. Following their submission, the results of Board staff's review of these items will be provided to the Board for its consideration of Mohave Accelerated Elementary School, Inc.'s expansion requests.

Option 2: The Board may deny the request to be eligible to apply for expansion. The following language is provided for consideration: I move, based on the information contained in the Board materials and presented today, the Board does not find sufficient support to consider an expansion request. The Charter Holder may submit a request in the future when the academic dashboard provides evidence of additional improvement.





July 15, 2015

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools  
1616 West Adams Street, Suite 170  
Phoenix Arizona, 85007

Re: Letter of Intent – Enrollment Cap Increase

Dear Charter Board Members,

This is a letter of intent from Mohave Accelerated Elementary School located in Bullhead City, requesting to be placed on an agenda for consideration of permission to submit an expansion request to increase our enrollment cap one hundred students (450 to 550).

This request was initiated back in July of 2014, but with faulty technology and lack of understanding with communication, this enrollment cap was not approved. Mohave Accelerated Schools takes pride in being a professional education institution with exceptional audits with no corrective plans, in good standing with the Arizona Corporation Commission, being in compliance with the No Child Left Behind and National School Lunch and Breakfast programs, as well as the Arizona State Retirement System.

After we completed the list that was provided by the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, with the DSP being approved, we moved forward honestly thinking our enrollment cap was complete. Therefore, we initiated hiring the additional teachers, building additional classrooms, and bringing in the students off of the waiting lists. As soon as we found out we were not approved, we stopped enrolling students, but had already registered over forty students for the following school year.

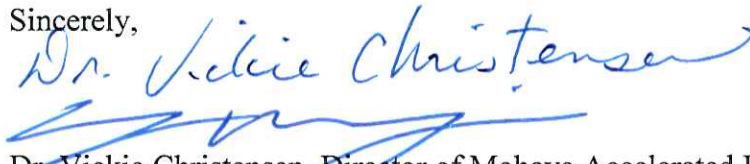
The rational for expanding was the following:

- Extensive waiting lists for students
- Having the correct amount of students to flow into our middle and high school Mohave Accelerated Learning Center
- Providing a caring school for students and families in our community with Highly Qualified Professional staff
- A love for children and their futures!

At this time, we are not submitting any other expansion requests, but have successfully been growing as a district since September 2001. The timeframe was to have a hundred new students, expanding our kindergarten and fifth grade, as well as filling up the East Campus, an "A" rated school since its conception six years, going on seven. The main campus is located in the lower economical area of the town and has over 85% free and reduced population, but continues to be rated a "B" school.

Thank you for your consideration in granting Mohave Accelerated Elementary Schools with an enrollment cap for this 2015-2016 school year.

Sincerely,



Dr. Vickie Christensen, Director of Mohave Accelerated Elementary Schools  
Mr. Casey Mulligan, Superintendent of Mohave Accelerated Elementary Schools