

AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Application for New Charter

Request

Abraham Lincoln Preparatory School: A Challenge Foundation Academy (“Applicant”) submitted a new charter application package on May 24, 2018. The Technical Review Panel (“TRP”) evaluated the application package and determined that the revised application package meets the minimum scoring requirements set by the Board for the 2019-2020 application cycle. The Applicant also attended a capacity interview conducted by the TRP. Upon consideration of the application package and results of the capacity interview, the TRP recommends that the revised application package for the Applicant be approved.

Applicant Summary

Proposed School Name	Target Start Date	School Location	Grade Levels	School Calendar
Abraham Lincoln Preparatory School	August 5, 2019	Glendale	K-4	181 days

Mission Statement

Abraham Lincoln Preparatory School exists to close the achievement gap for students in Maryvale by providing educational excellence and equity for all children, resulting in students meeting and exceeding academic standards.

Target Population

The following was excerpted from the Applicant’s Educational Plan A.2: Target Population narrative.

Abraham Lincoln Preparatory School (“ALPS”) proposes to serve students and families in Phoenix’s Maryvale community, roughly defined as the area south of Camelback Road, east of 91st Avenue, north of Interstate 10, and west of Grand Avenue. The majority of the target community is in Arizona’s Legislative District 29. In addition, the neighborhood includes portions of the Alhambra Elementary, Cartwright Elementary, Isaac Elementary, Pendergast Elementary, Tolleson Elementary and Phoenix Union High School Districts. According to the 2010 Census, there are approximately 75,000 students in the target community to be served by ALPS. According to the Children’s Action Alliance, 78% of the district’s children are Hispanic/Latino, 12% are non-Hispanic White, 5% are Black, and 4% are of other races, including Native American and Asian.

Three Year Plan

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Grade Levels	K-2	K-3	K-4
Enrollment	150	200	250

Proposed Location (see Business Plan C.1: Facilities Acquisition):

Unconfirmed locations:

- 7317 North 61st Avenue, Glendale
- 7726 North 59th Avenue, Glendale
- SWC 83rd Avenue and Camelback Road, Phoenix

Program of Instruction

This summary is based on information submitted for the Applicant’s Educational Plan A.1: Educational Philosophy and A.3: Program of Instruction narratives.

The Applicant stated: “The program of instruction will focus on expanding background knowledge and fostering civic leadership for the academic and professional success of all students.” English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, and Visual Arts and Music instruction will follow the *Core Knowledge Sequence* and Mathematics will align to the *Core Knowledge Sequence*, and utilize materials from the Singapore Math program. ALPS will “utilize research-based instructional best practices” such as objective-driven instruction, cooperative learning structures, high-yield instructional strategies, differentiation strategies, and *Teach Like a Champion* techniques.

Corporate Board Members
Anthony "Tony" Best
Peter Boyle
Kimberley Marchisotto
James Sandoval

School Governing Body Members	Type
Mariann Nystrom	Community Member
Debbie Peterson	Community Member
Annette Tanori	Community Member

See Charter Principal Resumes in Appendix B

TRP Recommendation and Scoring

The TRP assessed the application package against the evaluation criteria published in the New Charter Application Instructions. Approval is based on either receiving 95% or higher for each plan (Educational, Operational, and Business) and/or through showing capacity throughout the interview process. The following is a summary of the evaluation information in support of the recommendation by the TRP based on the revised application package and the capacity interview.

Overall Scoring Results

	Preliminary TRP Scores		Revised TRP Scores	
Any Falls Below the Expectations ratings?	No		No	
Any section in which more than one evaluation area scored Approaches?	Yes		No	
		<u>Percent Meets</u>		<u>Percent Meets</u>
Educational Plan Score \geq 95% Meet standard?	No	88%	Yes	100%
Operational Plan Score \geq 95% Meet standard?	Yes	96%	Yes	96%
Business Plan Score \geq 95% Meet standard?	Yes	97%	Yes	100%

The TRP provided the Applicant with written technical assistance based on its review of the preliminary written application package and the revised written application package prior to the in-person capacity interview.

TRP Recommendation

Based on the Applicant's application package and the in-person capacity interview, the TRP recommends that the revised application package be approved. A full explanation of the TRP's recommendation is provided in Appendix A. Recommendation Report

Applicant Background Summary

Additional data is provided in relation to the Applicant's principals' experience and qualifications, as an indicator of the Applicant's ability to implement a charter or operate a charter school.

Principal Name: James Sandoval

Current Affiliation(s): 2 years as the Arizona State Director for Team CFA

Past Affiliation(s) of Note:

- 9 years as Vice President of Community Initiatives for the Valley of the Sun YMCA
- 2 years as mathematics instructor at James Sandoval Preparatory High School
- 3 years as a School Board Member of Pioneer Preparatory School
- 3 years as Governing Body President of Arizona Virtual Academy

Principal Name: Peter Boyle

Current Affiliation(s): 4 years as School Director of Western School of Science and Technology: A Challenge Foundation Academy

Past Affiliation(s) of Note:

- 2 years as a middle school math teacher at Pioneer Preparatory School



Principal Name: Anthony "Tony" Best

Current Affiliation(s): Director of School Support for Team CFA

Past Affiliation(s) of Note:

- 7 years as School Director at Pioneer Preparatory School: a Challenge Foundation Academy

Principal Name: Kimberley Marchisotto

Current Affiliation(s): 1 year as a Gold Leadership Fellow and Future School Leader for Team CFA

Past Affiliation(s) of Note:

- 10 years at Paradise Valley Unified School District as a teacher
- 18 years as a National Consultant/Licensed Professional with the Core Knowledge Foundation

Education Service Provider Background Information

This summary is based on information submitted for the Applicant's Operational Plan B.3.1: Education Service Providers. Additionally, as part of the due diligence process, staff reviewed the academic performance of the ESP the Applicant intends to contract with.

The Applicant team consists of several individuals affiliated with CFA of Arizona, Inc. (also known as TeamCFA), an Arizona nonprofit corporation. The sample management agreement submitted as part of the application package indicates that CFA of Arizona, Inc. intends to provide the Applicant with professional, educational and management services. CFA of Arizona, Inc. provides services to four schools authorized by the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools.

Academic Performance of Associated Schools

- Ethos Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy, a K-8 school in Glendale, in operation since FY 2016.
- Hirsch Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy, a K-6 school in Scottsdale, in operation since FY 2014.
- Pioneer Preparatory School: A Challenge Foundation Academy, a K-6 school in Phoenix, in operation since FY 2010.
- Western School of Science and Technology: A Challenge Foundation Academy, a 7-12 school in Phoenix, in operation since FY 2015.

A chart summarizing the academic performance data for these schools is below.

Charter Holder	FY 18 Letter Grade	FY 18 State Assessment Data			FY17 Academic Performance Dashboard Overall Rating
		ELA	Math	Science	
Ethos Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy	A	37%	36%	80%	Not Reported
Hirsch Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy, Inc.	D	10%	14%	44%	Falls Far Below Standard
Pioneer Preparatory School: A Challenge Foundation Academy	D	21%	31%	27%	Meets Standard
Western School of Science and Technology: A Challenge Foundation Academy, Inc.	B	33%	27%	44%	Above Standard

Operational Performance of Associated Charters

Charter Holder	FY18 Operational Performance
Ethos Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy	Meets Operational Expectations
Hirsch Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy, Inc.	Meets Operational Expectations
Pioneer Preparatory School: A Challenge Foundation Academy	Meets Operational Expectations
Western School of Science and Technology: A Challenge Foundation Academy, Inc.	Meets Operational Expectations

Financial Performance of Associated Charters

Charter Holder	FY18 Financial Performance
Ethos Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy	Does Not Meet Financial Performance Expectations
Hirsch Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy, Inc.	Meets Financial Performance Expectations
Pioneer Preparatory School: A Challenge Foundation Academy	Meets Financial Performance Expectations
Western School of Science and Technology: A Challenge Foundation Academy, Inc.	Meets Financial Performance Expectations

Additional information regarding the academic, financial and operational performance of these schools can be found in Appendix C.

