

AGENDA ITEM: Transfer Application – Ombudsman Educational Services, a subsidiary of Educational Services of America (ESA)

2009-2010 Transfer Application Summary Report

Ombudsman Educational Services currently operates eight (8) sites in the Phoenix and Tucson areas. The organization filed a transfer application with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools to transfer four (4) current sites, Charter East, Charter East II, Charter Central and Charter Valencia, to a separate charter contract. Ombudsman Educational Services is an Arizona for-profit corporation organized on 7/13/88 and was originally chartered with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools on 11/12/96.

The following table is a summary of the Ombudsman Educational Services’ ADM (from ADE’s ADMS 45-1 Report).

School Year	Charter Sites Operating	Reported ADM
2009 (8 Sites)	Charter East	90.42
	Charter West	99.11
	Charter Metro	87.99
	Charter Northeast	96.69
	Charter Central	22.04
	Charter Northwest	93.45
	Charter Valencia	80.86
	Charter East II	87.36
	TOTAL	657.92
2008 (6 Sites)	Charter East, Charter West, Charter Metro, Charter Northeast, Charter Northwest, Charter East II	543.14
2007 (5 Sites)	Charter East, Charter West, Charter Metro, Charter Northeast, Charter Northwest	474.84

The following tables outline the academic successes for the schools that would transfer. Charter Central and Charter Valencia opened on 8/25/08 and are too new for profiles

Charter East

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

* The school did not meet their graduation rate or their percent tested.

** The school did not meet their percent tested.

Charter East II (opened 7/1/07)

School Year	AZ LEARNS	Annual Yearly Progress
2007-2008	Performing	Met

Curricular Emphasis:

The program that is used in Ombudsman Schools is based on psychiatrist William Glasser’s *Choice Theory* which focuses on helping the student identify and accept responsibility for their actions and decisions as they are internally and not externally motivated. This approach to instruction is beneficial for at-risk students who have not previously been successful with more traditional methods of instruction. By utilizing computer-assisted instruction, students who work at their own skill levels avoid embarrassment if skill levels are below grade level. Students receive immediate feedback on responses eliminating delays in reinforcing concepts learned or in need of further review. Evaluations are used to determine completion of academic goals, accurate credit recommendation, adjustment of individual student programs, or a recommendation of graduation.

Governance Structure:

Ombudsman Educational Services (OES) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Educational Services of America (ESA). The Ombudsman Charter School operates as a division of OES. The ultimate authority rests with the Board of Directors of ESA. The Board of ESA empowers its officers to conduct the business of the company in such matters as employment and dismissal of personnel, signing of leases, management of fiscal resources, interacting with government agencies, and other such matters that are necessary to operate the business. The Governing Board of the Charter Schools is empowered to oversee the operations of the Charter School. The Charter Schools are managed on a day-to-day basis by the State Charter School Director and the Operations Manager.

The mission of the transfer charter is as follows:

The Mission of OES is to serve students who are “at-risk” in typical 6-12 school population.

Ombudsman Educational Services, a subsidiary of Educational Services of America (ESA)	
Grade Levels	6-12
Special Emphasis	William Glasser’s Choice Theory, Spiral Curriculum, Personalized Education, Computer-based Instruction, Seat Time vs. Time on Task
Methodology	Ombudsman utilizes a number of computer-assisted curriculum platforms including PLATO, NovaNET, Reading Plus, Unitedstreaming, Edge Library
Location	Ombudsman Charter East: 3943 E. Thomas Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85018 Ombudsman Charter East II: 4041 W. Thomas Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85018 Ombudsman Charter Central: 1525 N. Oracle Rd. Tucson, AZ 85705 Ombudsman Charter Valencia: 1686 W. Valencia Rd. Tucson AZ 85746
Market Analysis-Student Population	“at-risk” students in a typical 6-12 school populations
Corporate Principals	Mark Claypool, Donald Whitfield, Bryan Skelton
Governing Body	Same as Corporate Board

Board Options

1. The Board may grant the Transfer Application for Ombudsman Educational Services.
2. The Board may deny the Transfer Application for Ombudsman Educational Services.

Staff Recommendation

Staff’s recommendation is option 1 above.