Adding Grade Levels to Charter Amendment Request

Charterholder Info

Charter Holder

Name:
Phoenix Collegiate Academy, Inc.

CTDS:
07-85-59-000

Mailing Address:
5610 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85040

› View detailed info

Representative

Name:
Rachel Bennett- Yanof

Phone Number:
480-213-1301

Fax Number:
602-268-9911

Downloads

Download all files

Current Grade Levels

Current Grade Levels Served

- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade
- 9th Grade
- 10th Grade
- 11th Grade
- 12th Grade

New Grade Levels

For each grade level being added, provide the following as a representation of a program of instruction aligned to the State's approved academic standards and to methods of instruction described in the charter. Please note that a separate upload must be prepared for each grade level and content area and be named as such. Additionally, applicants must restate the name of the file in the Brief Description box (e.g., First Grade Reading, HS Alegebra II).

For K-8
Language Arts & Math: A completed curriculum sample for reading, writing, and math for each grade level being added including all attachments as outlined on the required template and instructions.

For 9-12
Language Arts & Math: A completed curriculum sample for reading, writing, and math coursework for each grade level being added including all attachments as outlined on the required template and instructions. Each course must align with the State's graduation requirements.

Add Grade Levels

K
1st
2nd
3rd

Curriculum Samples

Download File — K Math
Download File — K Reading
Download File — K Writing
Download File — 1st Math
Download File — 1st Reading
Download File — 1st Writing
Download File — 2nd Math
Download File — 2nd Reading

Download File — 2nd Writing
Download File — 3rd Math
Download File — 3rd Reading
Download File — 3rd Writing

Effective Date
07/21/2014

Attachments

Board Minutes — Download File

Narrative — Download File

Timeline for implementation — Download File

Additional Information*
No documents were uploaded.

Signature

Charter Representative Signature
Rachel Bennett- Yanof 12/20/2013

September 25, 2013
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Phoenix Collegiate Academy
5610 S Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ

Agenda
Phoenix Collegiate Academy

A COPY OF THE AGENDA BACKGROUND MATERIAL PROVIDED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MATERIAL RELATING TO POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS) IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.

A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Consent Agenda
    a. Minutes from July 9, 2013
    b. Approval of Annual Financial Report
    c. Approval to amend Phoenix Collegiate Academy charter to add K- 3rd Grade Levels
    d. Approval to increase enrollment cap to 750 students
D. Election of new Treasurer of the Board
E. Discussion of the Draft Strategic Report from BES consultants
    - What questions about growth and planning for that growth are still remaining from this report?
    - What are the next steps we as a Board should be taking to address these remaining questions?
    - What key metrics do we want to set to approve forward progress? What goals or benchmarks need to be set to assure confidence in growth?
F. Development Committee Update
G. Finance Committee Update
H. *The High Bar* Webinar training
I. Adjournment

Minutes

Phoenix Collegiate Academy

Board Meeting

Wednesday Sep 25, 2013 @ 5:30 PM at PCA- 5610 S Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85040

Board Members Present A. Villegas (remote), C. DeRose (remote), J. Miller, L. Adams, L. Saenz, S. Minor, S. Porter, T. Reveles (remote)

Board Members Absent D. Dillon, M. Zimmerman (remote)

Guests Present Akshai Patel, R. Bennett-Yanof

I. Opening Items

Call the Meeting to Order J. Miller called a meeting of the board of trustees of Phoenix Collegiate Academy to order on Wednesday Sep 25, 2013 @ 5:41 PM at PCA- 5610 S Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85040.

Consent Agenda L. Adams made a motion to Approve the consent agenda. S. Porter seconded the motion. The board unanimously to approve the motion. VOTED

II. Governance

Election of New Treasurer S. Porter made a motion to Elect Abran as Treasurer for rest of board year. L. Saenz seconded the motion. The board unanimously to approve the motion. VOTED

III. Development

Development Update (Tax Credit Season!) Reviewed upcoming Tax Credit push. Sentari is leading the charge on this in Rachel's upcoming maternity leave. Community breakfast on November 13, 2013. Partnership with New Way Academy to drum up new donors.

IV. Finance

Finance Update Abran reviewed the metrics we are developing to ensure financial clarity and transparency. Reporting will be made on a quarterly basis not monthly. Made a pitch for the finance committee needing more members. Akshai reviewed the most current financials. Profit/Loss sheet and Balance Sheet. We have a loss in July as is expected as we have no income that month.

V. Other Business

Strategic Plan for Inflexion Fund Discussed the Strategic Plan document and financial model for the next five years of growth. Identified questions and areas of concern and areas we are looking to do more research. The group decides to move forward with Strategic Plan as written and Financial Model.

The High Bar Training

VI. Closing Items

Adjourn Meeting L. Adams made a motion to Adjourn. L. Saenz seconded the motion. The board unanimously to approve the motion. VOTED There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 06:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, A. Diaz

Narrative for Grade Level Expansion to add K-3rd Grades

Phoenix Collegiate Academy is expanding to K-3rd grades in order to better prepare students for the rigor of Advanced Placement classes in the high school grades. Years of successful instruction with students behind grade level and purposeful study of the nation's best schools has taught us that effective college preparation begins at very early ages. Students at PCA are currently required to complete Algebra and Biology in the eighth grade. Many students struggle with these courses and then continue to struggle in High School because they lack a rigorous academic foundation. If students enter the structured, demanding PCA system earlier they will have more time to fill in gaps in education and build those foundational skills. Further, it means students won't be in an underperforming school and get further behind in their education before arriving at PCA – eliminating the gaps before they occur.

Adding K-3 supports the mission of PCA perfectly—PCA prepares all students to succeed in college and be leaders in our community. In order to succeed, we need more time to academically prepare students for the rigor of college. The addition of grades K-3 will support PCA's educational philosophy, as well. We believe all students can learn at the highest levels, and this gives more time to push kids to those higher levels. Our middle school methods of instruction have proven to be effective for the population we serve (PCA was an A school for two years in a row and students outperformed their area peers in every grade and subject). We've deliberately spent several years learning from top charter and district schools nationally to learn about how our methods can be modified to provide excellent opportunities in earlier elementary grades. In addition, we've already identified a successful school leader, now in a training program to be the ideal principal for a PCA elementary campus. We will implement the same methods we have learned and refined and see even better results because students start at a younger age before years of poor instruction.

Students in K-3 will complete an English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies course with targeted instruction to become excellent readers, writers and critical thinkers that are ready to take on very difficult middle school subject matter. In order to be promoted, they will have to pass each course with a 70% or higher and be grade-level readers before moving on. We heavily weight student academic mastery in promotion decisions, so students will have to show they have learned 70% before moving on, ensuring every student is ready for the next grade. All courses are aligned to the Common Core standards and curriculum that pushes them to reach higher national percentiles as judged by the NWEA MAP test and higher levels on the STEP reading assessments, among other recognized evaluation tools.

We will continue to hire highly qualified teachers and will look for content experts in their fields, particularly those with proof of success in low-income communities with young learners. All staff members, academic and non-academic, will share a strong commitment to changing life trajectories for disadvantaged urban youth.

Timeline for Implementation of new grades at Phoenix Collegiate Academy

- We will begin planning for second and third grade in January 2014.
- We will begin hiring teachers for second and third grade in March 2014.
- We will welcome second and third grade students in July 2014.
- We will begin planning for first grade in January 2015.
- We will begin hiring first grade teachers in March 2015.
- We will welcome first grade students in July 2015.
- We will begin planning for kindergarten students in January 2016.
- We will begin hiring kindergarten teachers in March 2016.
- We will welcome kindergarten students in July 2016