
AGENDA ITEM: Compliance Matters – Pinnacle Education - Casa Grande, Inc.

Issue

Pinnacle Education - Casa Grande, Inc. (“Pinnacle”) has failed to provide a certificate of occupancy and current fire marshal inspection report approved for educational use for the school site, Pinnacle High School – Casa Grande (“Casa Grande campus”).

Background

A charter holder is prohibited from providing instruction to students at a facility for which they have not provided a valid certificate of occupancy and current fire marshal inspection report approved for educational use.

Communications with Pinnacle and Other Relevant Information

The following communications have occurred with Pinnacle regarding the necessary documentation required for a school site:

- On June 26, 2015, Board staff received documentation via USPS mail requesting to change the Casa Grande campus to 901 East Cottonwood Lane. Board staff contacted Muhammad Padela, the charter representative, and informed him that all requests need to be submitted electronically through ASBCS Online.
- On July 15, 2015, Mr. Padela submitted a School Site Location Notification Request through ASBCS Online requesting to move the Casa Grande campus to 901 East Cottonwood Lane. No state fire marshal inspection report was provided and the certificate of occupancy showed an address of 1487 North Crane Street. Mr. Padela did sign an Occupancy Compliance Assurance and Understanding form that stated if these documents are not submitted prior to occupancy, the school's opening date may be postponed and/or the Board may take action as allowed by statute and the charter contract.
- On July 20, 2015, the School Site Location Notification Request for Pinnacle was approved to change the Casa Grande campus' mailing and physical address to 901 East Cottonwood Lane in Casa Grande, Arizona 85122.
- On July 20, 2015, due to Pinnacle signing the Occupancy Compliance Assurance and Understanding form and a certificate of occupancy and state fire marshal inspection report not having been received by the Board for the Cottonwood Lane location, Board staff placed Pinnacle on the equalization payment withholding list. Pinnacle did not receive an August 1st payment.
- On August 20, 2015, since the facility documentation had not yet been submitted to the Board, Pinnacle continued to be placed on the equalization payment withholding list and did not receive a September 1st payment.
- On August 24, 2015, Mr. Padela requested a meeting with Board staff to discuss the Pinnacle Education - Kino, Inc. conditional renewal agreement.
- On August 25, 2015, Board staff met with Mr. Padela and Richard Hinkle, Director of Compliance. During the meeting, Mr. Padela provided Board staff with facility documentation for the Casa Grande campus. After Board staff reviewed the documents, it was determined that the documentation provided was not for the location listed (901 East Cottonwood Lane) in the approved request, but for 1487 North Crane Street. These documents did not meet the required occupancy group (Educational ("E") Use Occupancy).
- On August 26, 2015, Mr. Padela submitted a new request through ASBCS Online requesting to move the Casa Grande campus to 1487 North Crane Street. No facility documentation was provided. Pinnacle submitted a signed Occupancy Compliance Assurance and Understanding form.
- On August 26, 2015, Mr. Padela emailed Board staff stating they are moving to Central Arizona College at 8470 North Overfield Drive, Coolidge on September 1st and will remain there until October 31st. They will then move to their final location at 2510 North Trell Road, Casa Grande.
- On September 1, 2015, Board staff spoke with Pinnacle regarding submitting a request to move the site to Central Arizona College.
- On September 1, 2015, Mr. Padela submitted request through ASBCS Online requesting to move the Casa

Grande's campus to Central Arizona College. No facility documentation was provided. Pinnacle provided a signed Occupancy Compliance Assurance and Understanding form.

- On September 2, 2015, Board staff sent a letter to Mr. Padela requesting by the end of business on Thursday, September 3, 2015, Pinnacle provide a certificate of occupancy and current fire marshal inspection report both approved for educational ("E") use for the location in which the Casa Grande campus is providing educational.
- On September 3, 2015 at 5:17pm, Board staff received an email from Mr. Padela that included an email he received from Central Arizona College stating, "Our Chief of Police and Director of Facilities have made multiple attempts to contact the Fire Marshall for Regional Fire and all attempts have been unsuccessful. As soon as, we are able to get in contact we will request the letter."

Board Options

Option 1: The Board may vote to issue a Notice of Intent to Revoke the charter contract. The following language is provided for consideration: I move to issue a Notice of Intent to Revoke the charter contract of Pinnacle Education - Casa Grande, Inc. for failure to provide a certificate of occupancy and current fire marshal inspection report approved for educational use for the school site as required by A.R.S. §15-183(E)(1), A.R.S. §15-189.01(C), and the charter contract.

- Within 48 hours of receipt of the Notice the charter operator shall notify staff and parents/guardians of registered students of the Notice of Hearing on Intent to Revoke Charter and provide a school location where the copy may be reviewed;
- Within 20 days of receipt of the Notice the charter operator shall provide copies of all correspondence and communications used to comply with the preceding provision; and
- Within 20 days of receipt of the Notice the charter operator shall provide the Board with the names and mailing addresses of parents/guardians of all students registered with the school.

Option 2: The Board may decide to take no action at this time.