American Heritage Academy- Entity ID 6365
Schools:
American Heritage Academy- Entity ID 6366
American Heritage Academy- Entity ID 88201

Renewal Executive Summary

Sources of Evidence for this Document

Pursuant to A.R.S. 15-183.I, the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools (Board) has established a process for the renewal of a charter that is based on affirmative evidence in three areas:

I. Success of the academic program, including academic achievement
II. Viability of the organization, including fiscal management and compliance
III. Adherence to the terms of the charter, including contract and legal compliance

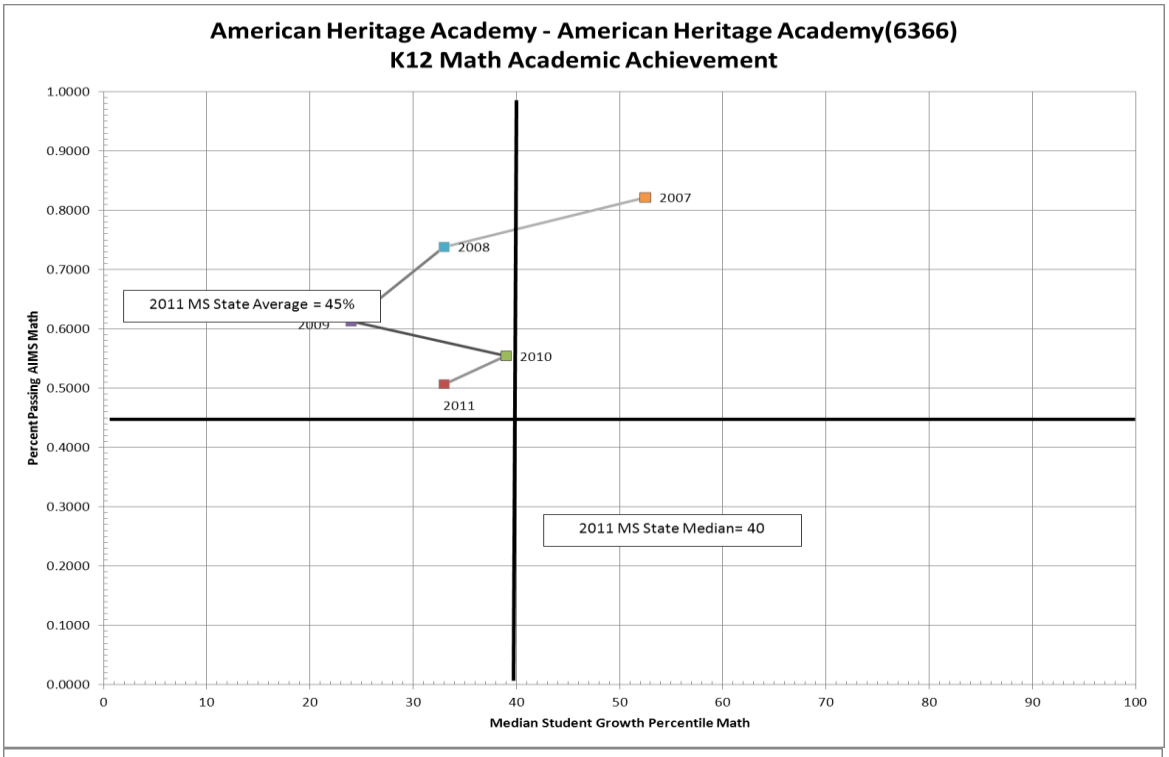
Evaluation of the charter holder's success in these three areas is based on a variety of information that will serve as sources of evidence in determining renewal of a charter. These sources include, but are not limited to:

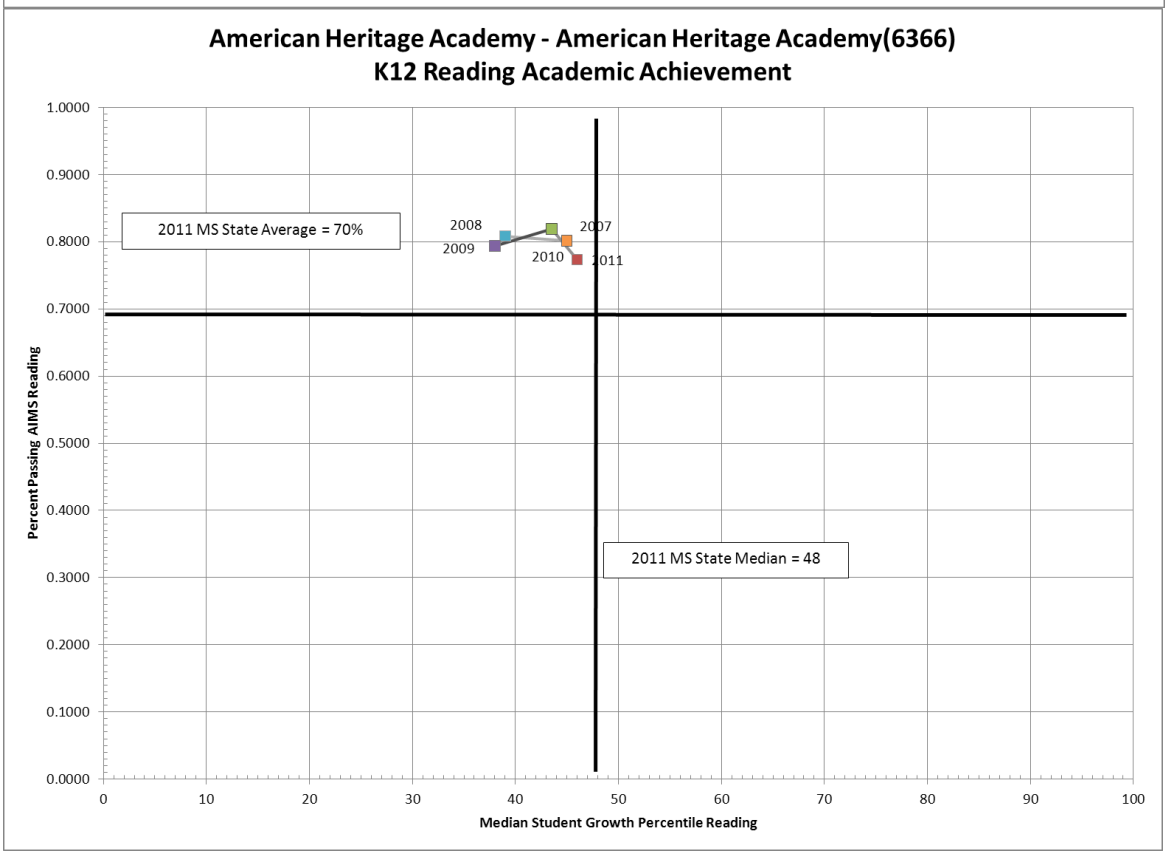
- Pupil achievement data
- Independent financial audits
- Five-year interval summary reviews
- Site visit reports
- Monitoring reports
- Application package for renewal

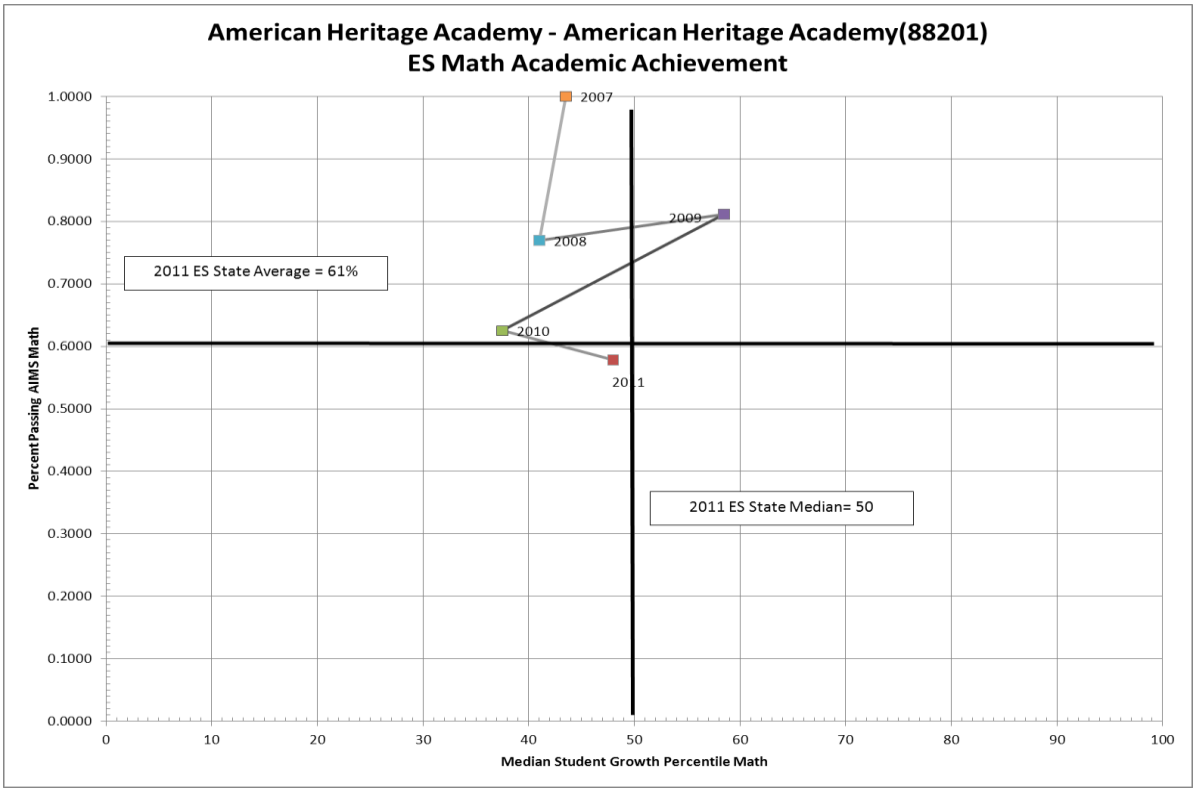
Profile

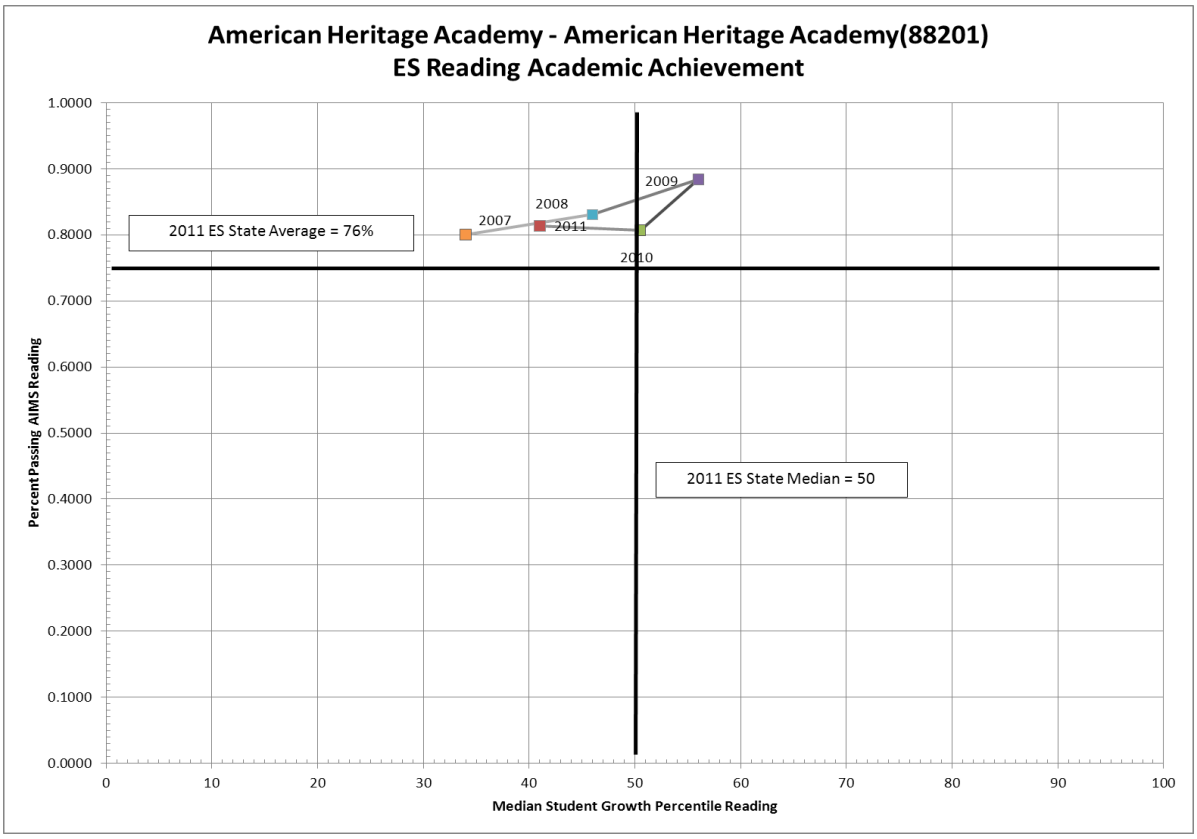
American Heritage Academy operates two (2) schools, one serving grades K-12 and one serving grades K-8 with a total FY11 average daily membership (ADM) of 426.682. Additional information can be found in the Renewal Summary Review.

Graphs displaying the academic achievement for the past five years, if available, are provided on the next page.


American Heritage Academy - American Heritage Academy(6366)
K12 Math Academic Achievement
Percent Passing AIMS Math
Median Student Growth Percentile Math
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2011 MS State Average = 45%
2011 MS State Median= 40


American Heritage Academy - American Heritage Academy(6366)
K12 Reading Academic Achievement
Percent Passing AIMS Reading
Median Student Growth Percentile Reading
2008
2009
2007
2010
2011
2011 MS State Average = 70%
2011 MS State Median = 48


American Heritage Academy - American Heritage Academy(88201)
ES Math Academic Achievement
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2011 ES State Average = 61%
2011 ES State Median= 50
Percent Passing AIMS Math
Median Student Growth Percentile Math


American Heritage Academy - American Heritage Academy(88201)
ES Reading Academic Achievement
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2011 ES State Average = 76%
2011 ES State Median = 50
Percent Passing AIMS Reading
Median Student Growth Percentile Reading

I. Success of the Academic Program

The academic performance of the schools operated by the charter holder meets or demonstrates sufficient progress toward the Board's level of adequate academic performance. Therefore, the charter holder was not required to submit a Performance Management Plan.

II. Viability of the Organization

The charter holder meets the standards specified in the *Renewal Application Instructions*. Therefore, the charter holder was not required to submit the charter holder's Financial Sustainability portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section.

III. Adherence to the Terms of the Charter

A. Compliance Matters Requiring Board or Other Agency Action[1]

Over the past six years, there were no items to report.

B. Other Compliance Matters[2]

In April 2006, ADE Exceptional Student Services notified the charter holder of partial low compliance in some areas with regard to specific regulations for Part B, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the Arizona Revised Statutes. The compliance issues were reported by ADE as resolved in October 2008.

In December 2006, ADE Exceptional Student Services notified the charter that the allowable time period to correct all deficiencies identified during their special education monitoring of April 3, 2006 was about to expire. The charter was given a date of April 7, 2007 to document compliance to avoid a special education funding interruption. The deficiencies were reported by ADE as resolved in March 2007.

The fiscal year 2008 audit identified one issue that required a corrective action plan (CAP). Specifically, the audit indicated that one employee was hired prior to the fingerprint clearance card being issued. The audit indicates that the charter school completed all the required steps to hire someone without a card except for obtaining statewide criminal history information. The charter holder submitted a satisfactory CAP.

Repeat audit issues were identified in the fiscal years 2006 and 2007 audit. The fiscal year 2006 audit indicated that the charter school did not maintain up-to-date fingerprints for one of its governing body members as required by the charter contract. The fiscal year 2007 audit indicated that receipts for credit card purchase were missing. Neither of these issues has been identified as repeat in subsequent audits.

[1] For more information about the areas of compliance reviewed for this section, please see the "Renewal Guide".
[2] For more information about the areas of compliance reviewed for this section, please see the "Renewal Guide".

For the previous five fiscal years, the charter holder has failed to timely submit its Annual Financial Report for one or more years.

C. Charter Holder's Organizational Membership

Because the organizational membership on file with the Board was consistent with the information on file with the Arizona Corporation Commission, the charter holder was not required to submit the charter holder's Organizational Membership portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section.

Staff Recommendation

Based upon the academic performance, fiscal compliance, legal and contractual compliance, and the information in the renewal application package, I move to approve the request for charter renewal and grant a renewal contract to American Heritage Academy.