II C Strength and Stability of the Charter Holder

Part 1 Officers, Directors, and Board Members

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley (BGCEV) was established in 1963, as one Club site – the Tempe Boys Club. A group of dedicated Tempe citizens started the Club and in those early years paid to keep it open and available to the children because they recognized a need for a place for boys to go to escape the boredom and dangers of the streets.

In 1980, the Tempe Girls Club merged with the Tempe Boys Club, staying at the same Boys Club location at Jaycee Park. In 1984 the Club changed its name to the Boys & Girls Club of the East Valley. This new site was the first Club organization in the state to become a Boys & Girls Club, providing valuable after-school programs to both girls and boys. Today, this site continues to be the location for the Ladmo Branch, Tempe of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley – an organization that now serves over 30,000 children annually at eleven branches. In 1996, the Boys and Girls Clubs of the East Valley opened the Mesa Arts Academy, the first charter school nationally to be operated by a Boys and Girls Club organization.

For over 45 years, we have made it our number one priority to fill the opportunity gap and provide kids who come to us with a chance to build their talents, learn the value of contributing to others, and realize their dreams. The Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley is looking forward to another 45 years of providing hope and opportunity to young people.

Chairwoman of the Board: Cindy Creed (Creed & Robinson CPA,)

Immediate Past Chair: Jim Hayden (Jim Hayden & Associates,)

Corporate Board Members: Clint Arrowsmith (Mutual of Omaha Bank,) Leigh Anne Ciccarelli (Diversified Human Resources,) Adam Dekavallas (Andek Financial Group,) Robert Dilzer (Chasse Building Group,) Freddie Dobbins (SRP,) Kjersten Dockery (Law Office of Kjersten G. Dockery,) Shawn Duncan (Cox Communications,) Timothy France (Mayo Clinic,) Rich Frazier (CHW Foundation - East. Valley,) Jay Friedman (Gartner, Inc,) Lisa George (M & I Bank,) Glynn Gilcrease (Law Offices of Glynn W. Gilcrease,) Peggy Hoag (Air Quality Management,) Lana Hock (Robert W. Baird & Co.,) David Jensen (Willis of AZ,) Dawn Jones (Intel,) Clay Kazmierski (Bamboo Financial,) Lance Keller (Elite Communities,) Lincoln Kennedy (Farmers Insurance and Fox Sports Radio,) Greg Krekeler (The Boeing Company,) Michael Mason (Greenberg Traurig,) Drew Meredith (Chapman Chevrolet,) Mike Neill (American Alliance Mortgage Co.,) Joe O'Donnell (Western Refinery Co,) Greg Patterson (Andale Advertising,) Angela Prestinario (Stratum Laser Tag,) Scott Sasso (Toyota Financial Services,) Claudio Silva (Wells Fargo Bank,) Leonard Torres (Irwin Union Bank,) Charlie Vester (Marvest Financial Services,) Tina Walton (Verizon Wireless,) Joel Witt (Sundt Construction,) Neal Yukolis (Estate Gallery II,) Javier Zuluaga (Home Repairs & Remodeling)

Ramon Elias, President/CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley

Ramon Elias, President/CEO of BGCEV and Charter Holder for the Mesa Arts Academy is one of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's most respected leaders becoming the first executive in Arizona to receive the prestigious "Masters and Mentors" honor which is the highest honor bestowed upon a Boys & Girls Club professional staff member in the Boys & Girls Clubs of America movement. Only 30 people have ever received this honor. Elias was also named *2009 East Valley Man of the Year* by the Fresh Start Women's Foundation.

A graduate of Arizona State University, Elias has been with the Boys and Girls Club movement for 35 years as Director of Operations, Executive Director and eventually President/CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley in 1996. He has been involved with the Mesa Arts Academy Charter School since its charter was written.

In this position Mr. Elias is responsible for overseeing all aspects of Administrative, Charter School, and Club operations. Under his leadership the organization has grown tremendously, adding six new branches totaling 11 in Apache Junction, Chandler, Gilbert, Guadalupe, Mesa, Queen Creek and the Gila River Indian Community. He also oversees the Mesa Arts Academy, a K-8 charter school which has doubled its student population since he has been managing the school. Elias has developed and manages an $8.2 million dollar budget, leads a Corporate Board of over 40 community partners, directs a staff of more than 70 full time and 120 part-time employees. His service to the community does not stop at the Boys & Girls Club and Charter School. Ramon is past President of the Tempe East Rotary, past President of the Sun Devil Lion's Club, past President of the Boys & Girls Clubs Professional Association and former member of the Executive Council of the Valley of the Sun United Way. Elias is currently a member of: the Chandler Compadres, City of Tempe Mayor's Gang Task Force and City of Mesa Gang Task Force. His broad background, multiple links to the larger community and 35 years experience with the Boys & Girls Club movement provide strength and stability to the Club Organization and Charter School.

Part 2 Roles and Responsibilities of the Charter Holder

The Corporate Board of the Charter Holder is separate from the School Governing Board. It is the role and responsibility of the Corporate Board of the BGCEV to develop policies and procedures that impact the entire organization. This includes: finance, human resource, personnel, property and facilities, fundraising, Club programs, Board development, and technology. It is the role and responsibility of the Academy Governing Board to develop policies and procedures that are exclusive to the school environment (expulsion, special needs, federal food program, etc.)

The BGCEV Corporate Board views the Academy budget because it is a component of its organizational budget; however, it designates the development, adoption, and

oversight of that budget to the Academy Governing Board under the guidance of the School Administrator and the CEO/President of the BGCEV.

The President/CEO of the Charter Holder reviews the Annual Audit of the BGCEV which includes the sections directly relating to the Mesa Arts Academy. Should concerns arise regarding the audit, the Charter Holder would ensure that they were being addressed by the School Governing Board and Academy staff.

The President/CEO of the BGCEV is the key link between the two boards and the person who facilitates this process of communication. He takes a direct leadership role in the operation of the charter school and ensures that it continues to meet the requirements of its Charter Contract.

The Charter Holder also provides the Academy with opportunities for additional fundraisers as part of their annual fundraising efforts and Corporate Board members are encouraged to consider opportunities such as tax credits and business matching grants to public schools.

Part III Role of Charter Holder in Monitoring Academic Performance

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley (Charter Holder) Corporate Board has delegated responsibility for oversight and monitoring of the Mesa Arts Academy's academic performance to the Mesa Arts Academy Governing Board. The Corporate Board member who also serves on the Academy Governing Board provides updated information to the Corporate Board on the academic progress of Mesa Arts Academy students as well as highlights of its programs.