Kingman Academy of Learning
Renewal Executive Summary Report

I. Sources of Evidence for this Document

A.R.S. 15-183.I states that "[a] charter school that elects to apply for renewal shall file an application for renewal…which shall include a detailed business plan for the charter school, a review of fiscal audits and academic performance data for the charter school and a review of the current contract between the sponsor and the charter school."

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools (ASBCS) determined that renewal of a charter is based on affirmative evidence in three areas:

- Success of the academic program, including academic achievement
- Viability of the organization, including fiscal management and compliance
- 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. These sources include:

- Written application for renewal
- Student performance data
- Independent financial audits
- Five year interval summary reviews
- Site visit reports
- Monitoring reports

II. School Profile

Kingman Academy of Learning was granted a charter by the State Board of Education, effective on the first day of the operation of the school which was August 21, 1995. Kingman Academy of Learning is a non-profit in good standing with the Arizona Corporation Commission. Betty Rowe is the charter representative. Kingman Academy of Learning operates four charter schools, all located in Kingman, and had a total FY10 ADM of 1406.357. The Primary School serves grades K-2, the Intermediate School serves grades 3-5, the Middle School serves grades 6-8, and the High School serves grades 9-12.

Mission Statement:
The mission of Kingman Academy of Learning is to provide quality education to children in grades handicapped pre-school through eight. To give students the educational foundation for life long success. It is the goal of Kingman Academy to be a basic skills school emphasizing the reading and language arts areas, social studies, math, and science. Many activities will be provided in writing across the curriculum, with emphasis on correct writing procedures. Behavior goals will be based on students being responsible and respecting the rights of all people. There will be a strong relationship between parents and the school. They will become

partners in the learning process. We would like to encourage all aspects of the community to support the functions of the school.

III. Academic Performance

Primary (K-2)		
Fiscal Year	**AZ LEARNS**	**Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)**
2009	Excelling	Yes
2008	Excelling	Yes
2007	Excelling	Yes

Status Scores	**2009**	**2008**	**2007**
Reading	69	62	58
Math	69	62	61
% of students school-wide who passed Terra NOVA.			

Student Growth Percentile (SGP)	**2009**	**2008**	**2007**
Reading	45	44	52
Math	52	55	48
% of students demonstrating typical growth compared to similar students.			

Intermediate (3-5)		
Fiscal Year	**AZ LEARNS**	**Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)**
2009	Highly Performing	Yes
2008	Highly Performing	Yes
2007	Performing Plus	Yes

Status Scores	**2009**	**2008**	**2007**
Reading	82	82	78
Math	87	83	78
% of students school-wide who passed AIMS.			

Student Growth Percentile (SGP)	2009	2008	2007
Reading	50	55	51
Math	70	65	41
% of students demonstrating typical growth compared to similar students.			

Middle (6-8)		
Fiscal Year	**AZ LEARNS**	**Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)**
2009	Highly Performing	Yes
2008	Performing Plus	Yes
2007	Performing Plus	Yes

Status Scores	2009	2008	2007
Reading	75	73	76
Math	74	69	72
% of students school-wide who passed AIMS.			

Student Growth Percentile (SGP)	2009	2008	2007
Reading	42	39	43
Math	47	49	45
% of students demonstrating typical growth compared to similar students.			

High (9-12)		
Fiscal Year	**AZ LEARNS**	**Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)**
2009	Highly Performing	Yes
2008	Highly Performing	Yes
2007	Performing Plus	Yes

Status Scores	2009	2008	2007
Reading	77	71	80
Math	68	59	66
% of students school-wide who passed AIMS.			

IV. Fiscal Compliance

With the exception of fiscal year 2005, the charter holder has timely submitted the annual audit for the past five years. For the same five years, the audits revealed no audit issues requiring a corrective action plan and no repeat issues were identified.

Kingman Academy of Learning, Inc. must follow the Uniform System of Financial Records for Charter Schools and adhere to State procurement regulations.

V. Legal and Contractual Compliance

The charter holder has timely submitted its Annual Financial Report and Budget for the past five years. All Declarations were submitted to the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) in a timely manner. The Highly-Qualified Teacher report, updated on May 10, 2010, indicated 74 core teachers with 10 being reported as non-highly qualified. Cycle 6 NCLB Compliance Monitoring occurred in 2005-06, Cycle 1 in 2006-07, and Cycle 2 in 2007-08. Cycle 6 and 2 met compliance and Cycle 1 had findings that were corrected. In 2007-08 compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was determined by ADE Exceptional Student Services. A Five-Year Interval Review by ASBCS took place in 2006.

VI. Renewal Application

A. Education Plan

Academic performance of the schools operated by the Charter Holder met the Board's level of adequate academic performance, including status and growth measures, for each of the previous three years. Therefore, the Charter Holder was not required to submit any portion of the academic section of the renewal application.

B. Detailed Business Plan

<u>Organization</u>
According to the application, Kingman Academy of Learning has three basic levels of management. The first level includes the corporate board and the governing board. The corporate board meets infrequently for the purpose of amending the Articles of Incorporation and / or By-Laws or if there is a change in corporate board membership. The corporate board has conferred the responsibility of authorization and oversight, both fiscally and academically, to the Kingman Academy of Learning Governing Board. At this level, budgetary, policy, curriculum and student discipline decisions are made. Most policy decisions are driven by federal or state laws that directly affect charter schools.

Decisions by the governing board are implemented by the charter director, charter administrator and the business manager. These three positions are key personnel for Kingman Academy of Learning, responsible to appropriately implement all governing board decisions as they might apply to personnel, funding levels, students, etc. Because each school serves a different age population and grade level, thus funding, curriculum, federal and state grants are different for each school.

Decisions for proper implementation made at level two are passed on to level three personnel. Level three personnel are school principals, Director of Student Services, Director of Transportation, and Special Programs Administrator. These personnel carry out the directives generated at the other levels.

Sustainability

Fiscal Viability

Kingman Academy of Learning follows the Uniform System of Financial Records for Charter Schools and State procurement regulations. The charter director, charter administrator, and the business manager work together to create a proposed budget based upon input from teachers, school principals, and charter administration as well as anticipated state and federal funding. Once approved by the Governing Board, other than certain items which must be approved by the governing board in accordance with the USFRCS and state procurement regulations, all fiscal decisions are made by the charter director and charter administrator. Each school is provided a school level budget. The school principal is responsible to spend funds as appropriate for the school. School principals are allowed to move funds to appropriate account codes but they do not have the authority to exceed their school's budget maximum.

Another measure of fiscal viability is the number of students exceeding capacity who wish to enroll in the school. The Kingman Academy of Learning schools currently have a combined waiting list of approximately 1,000 students.

For fiscal year 2008 and fiscal year 2009, the independent certified public accountant issued an unqualified (or "clean") opinion on Kingman Academy of Learning's financial statements. In each fiscal year, the charter holder ended the year with positive net assets. The Budget Plan submitted as part of the renewal application indicates that Kingman Academy of Learning's ending net assets will increase between fiscal year 2010 and fiscal year 2012. According to the assumptions provided, the three-year Budget Plan incorporates known cuts to kindergarten funding and charter school "Additional Assistance".

Strength and Stability of the Governing Body

The six (6) corporate directors are also governing board members. The governing board consists of six (6) members who are also corporate board directors. The corporate board has remained stable over the years. The death of one board member and his replacement on the board has been the only significant and necessary change made during the length of the charter. The governing board is responsible for setting policy and has financial oversight of the operation of Kingman Academy of Learning.

Kingman Academy of Learning Governing Board members:

Bill Blake-President	Susan Chan-Member
Barbara Ricca-Clerk	Brownell Hamlyn-Member
Betty Rowe-Member	Ken Whitten-Member

According to the application, both the charter director and the charter administrator continually monitor the academic progress of all Kingman Academy of Learning students. Academic progress is analyzed using state mandated norm and criterion referenced tests, school- and teacher-produced formative and summative tests, quarterly grade comparisons and student portfolios. All of these aspects of student progress are brought before the governing board on a timely basis throughout the school year.

Strength and Stability of the Corporate Board

The corporate board of directors has the same members as the governing board but has different officers. The corporate board meets only as necessary to amend the articles of incorporation, by-laws, and to conduct any other corporate responsibilities as required.

Kingman Academy of Learning Corporate Board members:

Betty Rowe-President	Bill Blake-Member
Susan Chan-Vice President	Ken Whitten-Member
Brownell Hamlyn-Secretary	Barbara Ricca-Member

Succession Plan

Charter Holder: The Corporate Board and Governing Body for Kingman Academy of Learning are comprised of the same membership. The replacement strategy for both would be to select a member that has consistently demonstrated an alignment with the Kingman Academy of Learning philosophy for behavior and academic standards. In the event a member, retires, resigns or other circumstances prevent him/her from serving on the board, the application states that the Corporate Board continually identifies potential candidates that meet the criteria for membership. At this time, prospective Corporate Board members would be gleaned from Kingman Academy of Learning staff, parents and local business people.

Instructional Leadership: Should a vacancy for principal or assistant principal or charter administrator occur, it is the practice of the charter holder to hire from within, if at all possible. The organization has numerous classroom teachers who hold principal certification.

Facilities Plan

There are no plans for expansion of facilities at this time. Kingman Academy of Learning has four school buildings, a Transportation Office and a District Office. All of the facilities are modular construction and were built by Accelerated Construction, formerly Modular Technology. The Primary School building is under one roof and was constructed in 2007. The building has 28,000 square feet, houses 17 classrooms, an office complex and a multipurpose room. The Intermediate School campus was constructed and opened in 2002. It is designed in a pod formation with each grade level occupying a four classroom pod. The building has 29,000 square feet, 14 classrooms, a computer lab, a full size gymnasium that doubles as a cafeteria, and an office complex. The Middle School campus, at 35,000 square feet, is the oldest facility. It

was built in 1998 and houses 14 classrooms. The school is designed with each grade level having a wing of classrooms. The High School building has 45,000 square feet, is under one roof and was constructed in 2004. The building contains 20 classrooms with several specialty classrooms. The gymnasium houses a full size basketball court and a performance platform. A new District Office building was constructed in 2007 to house the district level functions of the charter schools. The transportation department now uses the old District Office building.

VII. Staff Recommendation

Based upon the information in the application, academic performance over the charter term, fiscal compliance, and legal and contractual compliance, I move to approve the renewal application and transfer of the sponsorship from the State Board of Education to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, and grant a renewal contract for Kingman Academy of Learning.