## AGENDA ITEM: Replication Application – Archway Classical Academy Chandler

Archway Classical Academy Chandler (ACAC) submitted a complete replication application on August 1, 2013. The corporate entity seeks a charter to replicate Great Hearts Academies – Archway Chandler (Archway Chandler) and to operate a school in Mesa. The school will be named Great Hearts Academies – Archway Mesa (Archway Mesa) and will serve students in grades K through 5.

**Replication Model School –** Great Hearts Academies - Archway Chandler **Grades Served –** K-5

## ACADEMICS

Archway Chandler, the Replication Model School, is eligible to replicate based on three years of academic performance meeting the Board's expectations, summarized in the table below:

| Fiscal Year | Grades Served | Overall Rating |
|---|---|---|
| FY2013 | K-5 | 88.75 |
| FY2012 | K-5 | 75.0 |
| FY2011 | K-12[1] | A[2] |

The Academic Dashboard of the Replication Model School is provided below:

Great Hearts Academies- Archway Chandler

| | | 2012 Traditional Elementary School | | | 2013 Traditional Elementary School | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1. Growth** | | Measure | Points Assigned | Weight | Measure | Points Assigned | Weight |
| 1a. SGP | Math | 48 | 50 | 12.5 | 64 | 75 | 12.5 |
| | Reading | 60 | 75 | 12.5 | 61 | 75 | 12.5 |
| 1b. SGP Bottom 25% | Math | 44 | 50 | 12.5 | 69.5 | 100 | 12.5 |
| | Reading | 69.5 | 100 | 12.5 | 65 | 75 | 12.5 |
| **2. Proficiency** | | Measure | Points Assigned | Weight | Measure | Points Assigned | Weight |
| 2a. Percent Passing | Math | 87 / 66.7 | 75 | 7.5 | 94 / 64.9 | 100 | 7.5 |
| | Reading | 95 / 76.3 | 100 | 7.5 | 96 / 77.3 | 100 | 7.5 |
| 2b. Composite School Comparison | Math | 13.5 | 75 | 7.5 | 21.7 | 100 | 7.5 |
| | Reading | 12.3 | 75 | 7.5 | 12.6 | 75 | 7.5 |
| 2c. Subgroup ELL | Math | NR | 0 | 0 | NR | 0 | 0 |
| | Reading | NR | 0 | 0 | NR | 0 | 0 |
| 2c. Subgroup FRL | Math | NR | 0 | 0 | NR | 0 | 0 |
| | Reading | NR | 0 | 0 | NR | 0 | 0 |
| 2c. Subgroup SPED | Math | 50 / 31.7 | 75 | 7.5 | 64 / 29.6 | 100 | 7.5 |
| | Reading | 72 / 38.6 | 75 | 7.5 | 86 / 39.1 | 100 | 7.5 |
| **3. State Accountability** | | Measure | Points Assigned | Weight | Measure | Points Assigned | Weight |
| 3a. State Accountability | | A | 100 | 5 | A | 100 | 5 |
| **Overall Rating** | | Overall Rating | | | Overall Rating | | |
| Scoring for Overall Rating<br>89 or higher: Exceeds Standard<br>63 or higher: Meets Standard<br>39 or higher: Does Not Meet Standard<br>Less than 39: Falls Far Below Standard | | 75 | | 100 | 88.75 | | 100 |

[1] In FY2011, grades K-5 were served under the charter held by Chandler Preparatory Academy, which received a letter grade of A.

[2] Based on the transitional academic eligibility requirements for replication adopted by the Board, FY 2011 eligibility is indicated by a letter grade of A or B.

To establish eligibility, the 2012 academic performance of Associated Schools was considered, as summarized in the following table. The 2013 Overall Ratings are provided for the Board's information:

| Associated School | Charter Holder | 2012 Overall Rating | 2013 Overall Rating |
|---|---|---|---|
| GHA – Anthem Prep | Anthem Preparatory Academy | 79.78 | 76.47 |
| GHA – Chandler Prep | Chandler Preparatory Academy | 90.31 | 89.38 |
| GHA – Glendale Prep | Glendale Preparatory Academy | 85.31 | 80.31 |
| GHA – Mesa Prep | Mesa Preparatory Academy | 77.5 | 80.0 |
| GHA – Scottsdale Prep | Scottsdale Preparatory Academy | 85.31 | 81.25 |
| GHA – Teleos Prep | Teleos Preparatory Academy | 53.12 | 49.06 |
| GHA – Trivium Prep | Trivium Preparatory Academy | 70.94 | 59.06 |
| GHA – Veritas Prep | Veritas Preparatory Academy | 86.25 | 73.12 |
| GHA – Archway Scottsdale | Archway Classical Academy Scottsdale | 73.12 | 75.94 |
| GHA – Archway Trivium | Archway Classical Academy Trivium | 51.88 | 76.25 |
| GHA – Archway Veritas | Archway Classical Academy Veritas | 68.12 | 80.0 |
| GHA – Maryvale Prep | Maryvale Preparatory Academy | N/A[3] | 75.62 |
| GHA – North Phoenix Prep | North Phoenix Preparatory Academy | N/A[3] | 62.5 |
| GHA – Archway North Phoenix | Archway Classical Academy North Phoenix | N/A[3] | 72.81 |

9 of 11 (82%) of Associated Schools eligible to receive an overall rating have 2012 Overall Ratings of Meets or Exceeds, exceeding the 75% threshold established by the Board for eligibility to replicate. Based on 2013 Overall Ratings, 11 of 14 (79%) of Associated Schools Meet Standard or Exceed Standard, indicating that ACAC remains eligible to replicate.

## EDUCATIONAL PLAN

*The following summary was created from excerpts and summaries of the information submitted for the applicant's Educational Plan.*

In the application, ACAC has affirmed that the Educational Plan of the new entity and school will be consistent with the Educational Plan of the existing entity and Replication Model School. Details can be found on page 12 of the application packet (presented in the application portfolio: b. Application Package).

**Mission -** The mission of Great Hearts Academies - Archway Mesa is to enable students in Grades Kindergarten through 5 to acquire critical reasoning and communication skills and to explore the cultural and scientific achievements that are at the heart of the liberal arts. The school will prepare its graduates for success in a Great Hearts preparatory academy and, ultimately, in college and to be leaders in creating a more philosophical, humane, and just society.

**Program of Instruction**

Archway Chandler provides a common, compulsory, one-track curriculum based on academic rigor, small class sizes, and a classical study of the liberal arts. They use the Core Knowledge curriculum, Great Books program, Riggs phonics, and Singapore math. Their courses are taught using the Socratic Method.

The narrative identifies the program implemented at Archway Chandler as the most effective for all populations, and states that "every student in the proposed target population who has passed the appropriate prerequisites, is genuinely curious, and applies him/herself diligently on a daily basis will succeed at the school." Details can be found on pages 13-15 of the application packet (presented in the application portfolio: b. Application Package).

[3] Three Associated Schools (GHA – Maryvale Prep, GHA – North Phoenix Prep, and GHA – Archway North Phoenix) were in their first year of operation and not eligible to receive an Overall Rating in 2012.

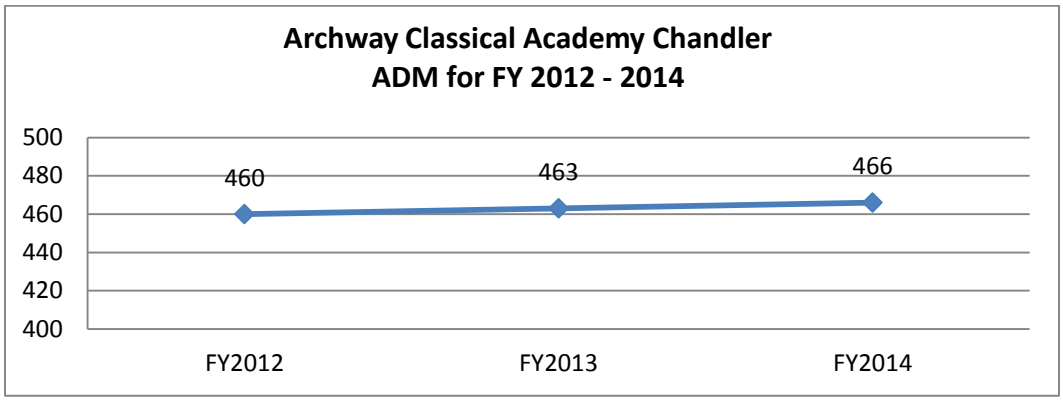
**Target Population**

In the application, ACAC has affirmed that the target population of the new school may be similar to the population of the Replication Model School. Details can be found on pages 8-10 of the application packet (presented in the application portfolio: b. Application Package).

The following table includes demographic data provided by the ACAC to establish consistency between the population served by the Replication Model School and the target population of the proposed school.

| Demographic Profile | Archway Chandler | Proposed Target Population of Archway Mesa |
|---|---|---|
| White | 55% | 63% |
| Asian | 20% | 4% |
| Hispanic | 11% | 27% |
| Black | 6% | 4% |
| Other | 9% | 2% |
| FRL | 3% | 19% |
| ELL | 1% | 7% |
| SPED | 5% | Not Provided |
| Reading Score (surrounding districts) | 90 | 83 |
| Math Score (surrounding districts) | 83 | 75 |

**Enrollment History –** ACAC has experienced stable enrollment. The table below summarizes enrollment in the last three years, based on ADE 100th day ADM (FY 2014 enrollment is based Charter School Estimated Counts). The enrollment cap has been 600 since 2011:




(Data provided by Arizona Department of Education)

**Enrollment Policies** – In the application, ACAC has affirmed that enrollment policies of the new school will be consistent with the enrollment policies of the Replication Model School. Within one month of replication charter approval, Archway Mesa will announce a two-week open enrollment period for the 2014-2015 school year. If there are more enrollment packets for a specific grade than openings, a random lottery will be held. Details can be found on page 10 of the application packet (presented in the application portfolio: b. Application Package).

**Proposed Growth Plan for Proposed School**

| Fiscal Year | Grades Served | Projected Full Enrollment |
|---|---|---|
| 2015 | K-5 | 540 |
| 2016 | K-5 | 540 |
| 2017 | K-5 | 540 |

## OPERATIONAL PLAN

*The following summary was created from excerpts and summaries of the documents submitted for the applicant's Operational Plan.*

ACAC is an Arizona non-profit corporation that was incorporated on October 18, 2010. ACAC currently holds one charter, which operates 1 school site: Archway Chandler in Chandler.

In the application, ACAC has affirmed that organizational structure, governance structure, and relationship with an Education Service Provider of the replication charter will be consistent with the organizational structure, governance structure, and relationship with an Education Service Provider of the existing charter.

**Charter Holder Entity for Replication Charter**
The replication charter will be held by Archway Classical Academy Mesa (ACAM), which is a new entity. ACAM is a non-profit corporation that was incorporated on April 17, 2013 for the purpose of operating a liberal arts public charter school in Mesa, Arizona, with one Director: Daniel Scoggin, and with one Member: Great Hearts Academies.

**School Governing Body**
A School Governing Body separate from the corporate board will be established that will follow the same membership structure and responsibilities as the governing body for Archway Chandler: two organization principals; one member of the school staff; two parents; and one community member.

**Education Service Provider**
ACAM is a subsidiary of Great Hearts Academies (GHA). GHA is a non-profit corporation incorporated in 2004 to create a network of academically rigorous liberal arts charter schools. To replicate the success of Associated Schools, GHA has authority over the headmasters, teacher and staff contracts, and the membership of local governing bodies. Details can be found on page 6 of the application (presented in the application portfolio: b. Application Package).

GHA plans to grow from the current size of 16 schools in Metro Phoenix to its goal of 23 schools by 2018. GHA has a staff of 52 with expertise in finance, human resources, curriculum and instruction, facilities acquisition and management, information technology, fundraising, and professional development. GHA shares management with site leaders to support the operational and financial success of replication schools. Details can be found on pages 17-18 of the application packet (presented in the application portfolio: b. Application Package).

## BUSINESS PLAN

*The following summary was created from excerpts and summaries of the documents submitted for the applicant's Business Plan.*

**Site Information**

| | |
|---|---|
| Proposed School Name: | Great Hearts Academies – Archway Mesa |
| Proposed Location: | Unconfirmed location: Within 2.5 miles of the intersection of E. Southern Ave. and N. Lindsey Rd. in Mesa. |
| Proposed Facility: | The facility will consist of 18 classrooms, a multipurpose room, auditorium, science labs, and office space, totaling 27,000 sq. ft. |

**Financial Performance of Applicant**
Based on the financial performance of ACAC as measured by the Financial Performance Framework, the applicant met the expectations and was not required to submit additional financial information or budgets.

## BOARD OPTIONS

Option 1: The Board may approve the replication application package. Staff recommends the following language for consideration: I move, based on the information contained in the Board materials and presented today, that

the Board approve the replication application and grant the replication charter to Archway Classical Academy Mesa to establish Great Hearts Academies – Archway Mesa charter school to serve grades K-5.

Option 2: The Board may deny the replication application. The following language is provided for consideration: I move, based on the information contained in the Board materials and presented today, that the Board deny the request for the replication charter of Archway Classical Academy Chandler to establish a charter school for the reason:

- (list the specific reasons the Board may have found during its consideration).