

**StarShine Academy - Entity ID 85807**

Schools: StarShine Academy

Starshine St. John's

## **Renewal Executive Summary Update**

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### **Additional Information**

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At the May 14, 2012 meeting of the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools (Board), the Board voted to deny the request for charter renewal and to not grant a renewal contract for StarShine Academy for the reasons that the charter holder failed to provide a learning environment that improved pupil achievement in accordance with A.R.S. § 15-181(A), failed to comply with the fingerprinting requirements in accordance with A.R.S. § 15-183(C), and failed to comply with state laws regarding member and employer contributions to the Arizona State Retirement System. The portfolio considered by the Board as well as an audio recording of the discussion during the meeting regarding StarShine Academy's renewal consideration is available at [http://www.asbcs.az.gov/board\\_information/meeting\\_info/2012/May.asp](http://www.asbcs.az.gov/board_information/meeting_info/2012/May.asp)

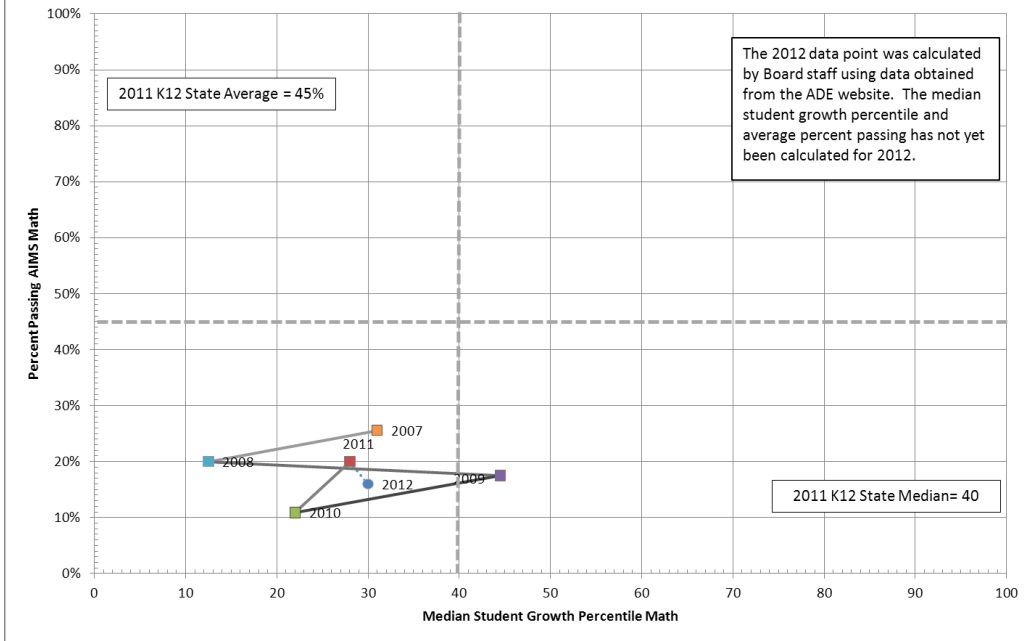
On May 16, 2012, Board staff mailed a certified letter to the charter holder which informed the charter holder of the Board's decision to deny StarShine Academy's request for renewal and the process for appealing the Board's decision. On June 15, 2012, StarShine Academy submitted a timely appeal.

During the week following the Board meeting, the charter holder laid off its employees and closed the Starshine St. John's campus. The charter holder used teachers that stayed on and volunteers for the remainder of the school year.

On July 26, the charter holder submitted a School Closure Notification Request to close Starshine St. John's. The school's last day of instruction was stated as June 15, 2012.

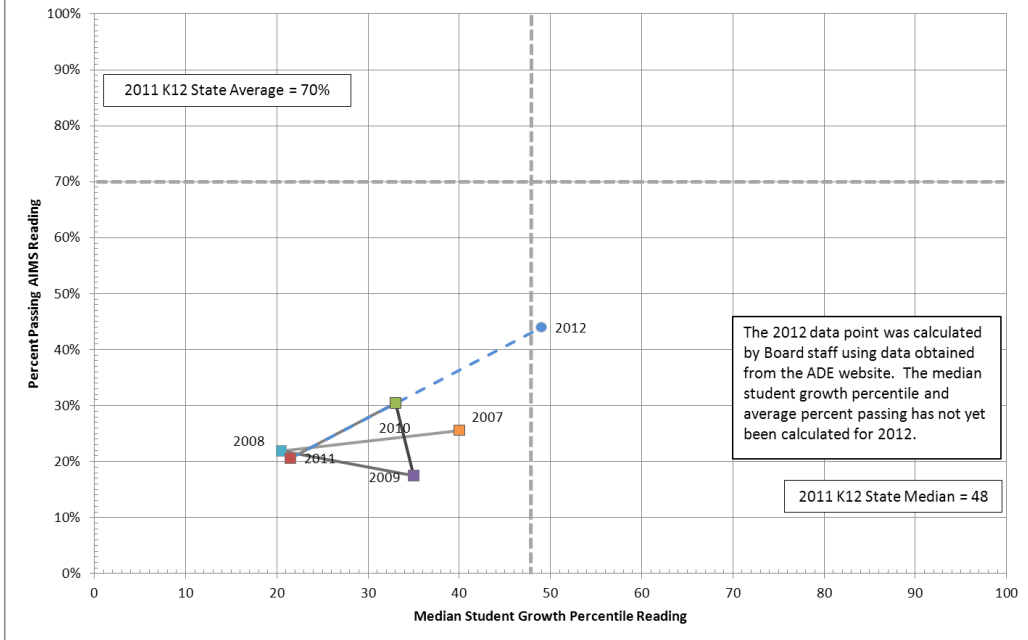
On August 2, 2012, the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) released the 2011-2012 A-F letter grades for all district and charter schools in the state as a part of the A-F Accountability System for schools in accordance with A.R.S. § 15.241.H. StarShine Academy, designated as an alternative school, received an B-Alt. The updated graphs reflecting the school's percent passing and median growth percentile are included below.

**StarShine Academy - StarShine Academy(80475)  
K12 Math Academic Achievement**



Note: Except for the 2012 data point, this chart is based on data obtained from the ADE in Oct. 2011. Proficiency and growth percentiles are only reported for FAY students.

**StarShine Academy - StarShine Academy(80475)  
K12 Reading Academic Achievement**



Note: Except for the 2012 data point, this chart is based on data obtained from the ADE in Oct. 2011. Proficiency and growth percentiles are only reported for FAY students.

Starshine's delinquent payments and accrued interest to the Arizona State Retirement System in the amount of \$23,605.15 were deducted from its June 1, 2012 state equalization assistance. This amount covered pay periods ending February 29, 2012, March 15, 2012, March 30, 2012, April 15, 2012 and April 30, 2012. As of August 6th, the charter holder has communicated to the ASRS that all payrolls for fiscal year 2012 have been received by ASRS and that the charter holder will not have another payroll until August 20th.

The fiscal year 2012 audit reporting package is not due until November 15, 2012. Therefore, no new information is available regarding the charter holder's compliance with statutory fingerprinting requirements.

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### **Board Options**

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Option 1: The Board may choose to take no action and the matter will proceed to hearing.

Option 2: The Board may reverse its previous decision and approve the renewal. The following language is provided for consideration: Renewal is based on consideration of academic, fiscal and contractual compliance of the charter holder. In this case, there is a record of academic performance below the Board's level of adequate academic performance, which has been addressed by the charter holder through the inclusion of a performance management plan as part of the renewal application package and can be incorporated in the charter contract. There is also a record of past contractual noncompliance which has been reviewed. With that taken into consideration, as well as the information provided to the Board on May 14 and today for consideration of this renewal application package, and during its discussion with representatives of the charter holder, I move to reverse the previous decision and approve the request for charter renewal and grant a renewal contract to StarShine Academy that incorporates the performance management plan.