

ARIZONA STATE BOARD FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS
Arizona State Board of Education
1700 W. Washington St., Room 164, Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 364-3080 Fax (602) 364-3089
www.asbcs.az.gov

DECREASE GRADE LEVELS OF CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) Tertulia: A Learning Community (CTDS) 078747000

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 812 S. 6th Avenue

(City, State) Phoenix, AZ (Zip) 85003

(Charter Representative's Name) Gabriella Ketcham

(Phone Number) 602 262-2200 (Fax Number) 602 262-2570

**Failure to submit all required documentation will result in the Amendment Request being returned without being processed.
Faxed copies will not be accepted. Please send originals.**

Decreasing grade levels served for charter

Included is the following:

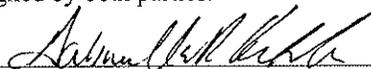
- Board minutes approving the change (If the body is subject to Open Meeting Law, minutes must comply with ARS §38-431.01)
- Rationale for decrease in grade levels served and effective date of change
- Narrative describing 1) the number of students displaced; 2) efforts taken by the school to provide students with options and assistance in enrolling in another school

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and Tertulia: A Learning Community (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

FROM GRADES SERVED: K-8

TO GRADES SERVED: K-6

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 12th day of August, 2010, and the State Board for Charter Schools has signed this contract amendment as of this ____ day of _____, 20__, to take effect at such time as it is signed by both parties.



Charter Representative Signature

Representative Signature for the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools



August 12, 2010

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
1700 W. Washington St., Rm. 164
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Narrative to Support Amendments

Tertulia is requesting the approval of 2 (two) amendments for the SY 2010-2011.

SCHOOL CLOSURE NOTIFICATION REQUEST
DECREASE GRADE LEVELS OF CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUEST

The closure of Tertulia Pre-College Community Intermediate Campus and the reduction in the grades served is being requested for the following reason:

This site housed students in the 5-8th grades. Over the summer, there was a reduction in enrollment in the 7th and 8th grades, which lead to the recommendation that the site be closed and the students in grades 5 and 6 be moved to the existing Primary Campus, closing the Intermediate Campus.

Tertulia's efforts to assist families:

There were approximately 25 students who were displaced as a result of the closure. Tertulia staff personally called each family affected and assisted with the enrollment in other schools. For the families with siblings who were to remain at Tertulia local schools with similar schedules were recommended to eliminate extra efforts by the families to transport students. In addition, parents were provided with all the necessary information that would be needed for enrollment in other schools to expedite the enrollment process.

For additional information, please contact Gabriella Ketcham at (602) 262-2200.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF *TERTULIA PRE-COLLEGE COMMUNITY*

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the *Tertulia Pre-College Community* Board of Directors and to the general public that the *Tertulia* Board of Directors will hold a meeting open to the public on **Thursday, August 12, 2010 at 5:00 PM at 1145 East Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ.**

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

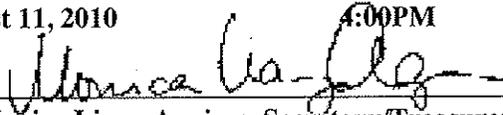
- | | | |
|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| I. | Call to Order | Jesús Aguirre, President |
| II. | Executive Session | Jesús Aguirre, President |
| III. | Minutes from Previous Meetings | For Approval |
| IV. | New Business | |
| | • Student Calendar | For Approval |
| | • Amendment (change grades served) | For Approval |
| | • Amendment (Eliminating a site) | For Approval |
| V. | Student Achievement | Principal's Report |
| VI. | Teacher Representative Report | Tiffany Sandoval (Sobczak) |
| VII. | Executive Report | Gabriella Ketcham |
| | • Charter Renewal | |
| | • Programmatic Changes | |
| | • Staffing Changes | |
| VIII. | Call for Public | Jesús Aguirre, President |
| IX. | Next Meeting Date: | September 9, 2010 |
| X. | Adjournment | Jesús Aguirre, President |

ANNOUNCEMENT POSTED:

812 South 6th Avenue
1145 East Washington Street

Wednesday, August 11, 2010

4:00PM



Monica Liang Aguirre, Secretary/Treasurer

**Minutes of the Public Meeting of the
Tertulia Pre-College Community Board of Directors
August 12, 2010**

A public meeting of the *Tertulia Pre-College Community* Board of Directors was convened on August 12, 2010 at the *Tertulia Pre-College Community* intermediate campus located at 1145 Washington ST, Phoenix, AZ.

Present at the meeting were the following members of the *Tertulia Pre-College Community* Board of Directors:

Present:

- Jesús Aguirre – via conference call
- Irma Arboleda
- John Ellis
- Jose Jimenez
- Tiffany Sandoval

Also Present:

- Carlos Arboleda
- Gabriella Ketcham
- Miriam Zamora

The following matters were discussed, considered and decided at the meeting:

I. Call to Order

Jesús Aguirre called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

II. Executive Session

No Executive session

III. Previous Minutes

A summary of the previous meeting has yet to be submitted.

IV. New Business

➤ Calendar

Voting to approve the 2010-2011 calendar

Reviewed: Explanation of the calendar legend; number of instructional days; commencing August 23, 2010 due to construction at the Primary Campus; last day June 7; every Friday will be early dismissal due to professional development; number of days is 180; change the 10 March event to be a professional development day.

J. Jimenez moved for an approval. I. Arboleda seconded. Consensus was reached through a unanimous decision.

➤ Amendment to change grade served

Amendments related to the summary in the Executive Report* in these minutes included below:

T. Sandoval moves to approve. J. Jimenez seconded. Consensus was reached through unanimous decision.

➤ *Amendment to close the Washington site*

T. Sandoval motions. I. Arboleda seconded. Consensus was reached through unanimous decision.

V. Student Achievement (Principal's Report)

Reported on contacting Tertulia families regarding the decision taken by the ASBCS to not renew the school's Charter after June 30, 2011, the immediate implications and the closing and changes affecting the 7 & 8 grades.

All families contacted. A flood of support and understanding was reported.

Tertulia office staff will be working to help families in finding an appropriate and suitable middle school for affected students.

Only one (1) family reported that they would be withdrawing younger siblings directly due to the changes in the older grades, however, the decision was attributed to transportation challenges.

Regarding the academic trajectory of reaching the standard of "Excelling:"

We will be taking a lot of the decisions made from our AIMS scores and areas identified as strengths and weaknesses. We have approached our curriculum building with an emphasis on student test achievement. We will increasingly have scores drive our program, not losing site of Tertulia values, but adding more standards based approaches.

"No doubt that we will have the results we are looking for."

VI. Teacher Representative Report

Nothing to report.

VII. Executive Report

*Gabriella Ketcham gave a summary of the renewal process and her meeting with the Arizona State Board of Charter Schools.

Summary of questions and concerns from ASBCS:

ASBCS seemed to have developed a brief impression that what Tertulia was presenting was *something new*. Clarification to what the statement meant was not clear, and, a chance to further inquire was not made available. G. Ketcham spoke, with limited time imposed by the Board, with purpose to clarify that the items presented were not reactionary to Tertulia's recent knowledge of the recommendation made to the Board that the charter not be renewed, but, as the original renewal application showed, they were actions already set in motion as part of our growth trajectory and process of execution.

The Board mentioned the high number of audits submitted late over the past 15 years- to which G. Ketcham pointed out that, to Tertulia's favor, they have been submitted on time for the past several years.

The Board followed through with the decision that Tertulia's Charter not be renewed after June 30, 2011. Guidelines for appeal have yet to be provided by ASBCS, and, at this point, it is the Executive Director's intention that Tertulia will submit an appeal.

Miriam Zamora was present at the meeting. She reports that it seemed to her that they were not open to any further explanation on Tertulia's defense.

VIII. Parent Representative Report

Not present.

IX. Call for Public

No public input.

X. Next Meeting Date

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 9, 6pm, at 812 S 6th AVE Phoenix, AZ.

Suggested agenda item for the next Board meeting:

Organization of the Board- Officers and Bylaws
Adding a staff representative
Updated Budget

X. Adjournment

J. Jimenez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:04 pm