

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools  
Arizona State Board of Education  
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[www.asbcs.az.gov](http://www.asbcs.az.gov)

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ADDING GRADE LEVELS TO CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) The Odyssey Preparatory Academy (CTDS) 078561001

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 4290 S Miller Rd

(City, State) Buckeye, AZ (Zip) 85326

(Charter Representative's Name) Megan Olson

(Phone Number) 623-327-3111 (Fax Number) 623-327-0554

**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.**

**Adding grade levels served for charter**

Included are the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (If the body is subject to Open Meeting Law, minutes must comply with ARS §38-431.01)
- Narrative that 1) provides background and support for expansion; 2) how the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter
- Timeline for implementation
- Proficiency level required for credit and/or promotion and credit transfer policies

For each grade level being added, provide the following as a representation of a program of instruction aligned to the State Academic Standards and to the methods of instruction described in the charter:

- Math – A completed curriculum sample template including all required attachments as outlined on the template attached.
- Language Arts - A completed curriculum sample template, for both reading and writing, including all required attachments as outlined on the template attached.

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and The Odyssey Preparatory Academy (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

**FROM SERVING GRADES: K-6**

**TO SERVING GRADES: K-7**

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 2 day of April 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

## Board Meeting Minutes

### The Odyssey Preparatory Academy

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of The Odyssey Preparatory Academy and to the general public that the Board will hold a meeting, open to the public as specified below. The Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, with the exception of public hearings set for a specific time. One or more members of the Board may participate in the meeting by telephonic communications.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(H), the Board may discuss and take action concerning any matter listed on the agenda.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) the Board may vote to go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice concerning any item on the agenda.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Mary Alvarez at (602) 680-0967. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Meeting will be held at 111 E. Monroe, Suite 101, Buckeye, AZ 85326  
February 3, 2010  
9:00 a.m.

Chairman: Frank Yanez

Other Board Members: Mary Alvarez, Megan Olson, Holly Johnson

I. Call to order

- Frank Yanez called meeting to order at 9:06 a.m

II. Roll call

- All members present

III. Open issues

IV. New business

a) Approval of contracted service agreements:

- FMY Consultants LLC: Business Services
  - Covers all business, HR services and facility operation
  - Olson motions to approve FMY consultants contract
  - Yanez excuses himself from voting
  - Johnson seconds the motion
  - Unanimously approved
- Integrated Educational Services: Special Education
  - Contract for services at The Odyssey Preparatory Academy
  - Olson motions to approve Jon Bauer as consultant for Integrated Educational Services

- Yanez seconds the motion
  - Unanimously approved
  - Principal's Office: Staff Development
    - Training of teachers and Principals for 18 months
    - Yanez makes motion to approve contract with Principal's Office
    - Alvarez second's the motion
    - Unanimously approved
  - BuchalterNemer: Law Corporation
    - Contract for legal services for general bond and real estate matters
    - \$7500 retainer fee, is reimbursed once the bond closes
    - Alvarez motions to approve contract of services
    - Olson seconds the motion
    - Unanimously approved
  - Tom Lavoie, Auditor
    - Senior partner of firm
    - Estimated audit fees \$9,000-\$11,000
    - Olson motions to approve Tom Lavoie as auditor
    - Johnson seconds the motion
    - Unanimously approved
  - Remax, Kevin Johnson, Realtor
    - Contract for land acquisition
    - No monetary value until process is completed
    - Johnson excuses herself from the vote
    - Yanez motions to approve contract with Kevin Johnson
    - Alvarez seconds the motion
    - Unanimously approved
- b) Approve exemption from procurement
- Opportunity to conduct business in a fair way
  - Olson motions to accept exemption from procurement
  - Johnson seconds the motion
  - Unanimously approved
- c) Approve exemption from USFRCS
- Alvarez motions to approve exemption from USFRCS
  - Olson seconds the motion
  - Unanimously approved
- d) Approve D.A. Davidson as bond relationship
- Bond investors that will manage entire process
  - Johnson motions to approve relationship

- Yanez seconds the motion
  - Unanimously approved
- e) Approve addition of seventh grade for 2010-2011
- Johnson motions to approve the amendment of the addition of seventh grade for 2010-2011 school year
  - Alvarez seconds the motion
  - Motion approved unanimously
- f) Discuss and/or approve decision to join team CFA
- Board may elect to go into executive decision to discuss legal matters  
Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2) the Board may vote to go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, for discussion or consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection.
  - Olson motions to enter executive session at 9:40 a.m.
  - Alvarez motions to exit executive session at 9:54 a.m.
  - Will continue to discuss option to join CFA
  - Discuss the possibility to add an additional member to our board
- g) Approve reimbursement resolutions for bond
- Alvarez motions to approved the reimbursement resolutions for the bond
  - Johnson seconds the motion
  - Unanimously approved

## V. Adjournment

- Olson motioned to adjourn meeting at 9:55 a.m.
- Yanez seconds the motion
- Unanimously approved



The Odyssey Preparatory Academy  
Amendment to add 7<sup>th</sup> grade 2010-2011  
Narratives

# Narrative describing how the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter.

It was the original intent of the Odyssey Preparatory Academy to open Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and open one grade level every year until we were a full K-8 school. Due to community demand we amended our original charter from K-5 to K-6. Because it is the intent of the Odyssey Preparatory Academy to open the next grade level each year through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, it is necessary to amend the charter to add 7<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2010-2011 school year.

## Philosophy

- The Odyssey Preparatory Academy will provide their students with the highest quality education. By infusing technology with a variety of proven educational philosophies, the academy will prepare students to compete and succeed in today's global economy.
- An Odyssey classroom will mirror the business world.
- Students will be well versed in technological applications.
- The Odyssey Academy will foster graduates who have an appreciation for hard work and accomplishment. A strong work ethic will be encouraged, valued and rewarded.
- Students will learn to work cooperatively to come up with creative problem solving solutions. They will see the benefit of working together as a team as opposed to attacking problems solely on an individual basis.  
Students will leave the Odyssey Academy armed with a myriad of critical thinking and creative problem solving strategies
- Students will also be immersed in the fine arts and physical fitness.
- Students will see how music and art is infused into everything that they do.
- An emphasis will be placed on physical fitness. We believe in educating the whole child - mind and body.
- Cultural literacy will be emphasized and infused throughout all lesson plans. "Literacy demands interaction with the culture and reflection of it. A knowledge of a canonical set of literature is not valuable when engaging with others in a society if the knowledge stops at the end of the text — as life is interwoven with art, expression, history and experience, cultural literacy requires the broad range of knowledge and the use of that knowledge in the creation of a communal language and a collective knowledge. Cultural literacy stresses the knowledge of those pieces of information which content creators will assume the audience already possesses." (Wikipedia, 2008)

The Core Knowledge Sequence continues through the grades 6,7,8, so we will be able to use the same curriculum throughout the entire school, the training for a 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher will be exactly the same as the training for the K-6 teachers; so no additional training or expense will be needed to add a 7<sup>th</sup> grade this year. The teaching philosophy will remain the same.

**Methods of Instruction:** It is expected that the same methods of instruction that are to be used by our teachers in the K-6 model will be implemented in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade classroom. The methods of instruction to be used are:

**Teacher Directed Instruction:** When a concept or skill is first being introduced, it is necessary to employ teacher directed instruction. It is also necessary to use this method with practice or review of specific concepts. The teacher would get the attention of the class, share the objective, model specific activity, whole group activity, check for understanding, individual practice.

**Integrated Technology:** Students must be well versed in technology. Odyssey Prep teachers will integrate technology into the majority of their lesson plans. Every classroom will be equipped with a flat screen projection monitor for the teacher. Each teacher will be issued a laptop and the students will have complete access to mobile laptop labs and a fully equipped computer lab.

**Differentiated Instruction:** Teachers will modify their lessons to meet the needs and strengths of all learners. Each modality will be addressed in the lessons.

**Cooperative Learning:** Employers today require their employees to be able to work cooperatively in projects. Students must learn these skills in the classroom. Teachers know the difference between group work and cooperative learning. They also must be trained in facilitating cooperative learning groups effectively.

**Cross-Curricular Thematic Unit:** Students need to see that themes carry over across different subject levels. This enables them to make higher level connections and synthesize knowledge.

**Cross-Curricular Project Based Learning:** Projects that integrate multiple subject levels allow students to demonstrate mastery of a certain concept or skill while allowing students to apply their knowledge to a real life example.

**The special emphasis** will be technology and college prep. The curriculum used continues through this grade level and beyond, adding a 7<sup>th</sup> grade will align with the special emphasis of the school.

**The Mission** The mission at The Odyssey Preparatory Academy is to make certain that all of our students develop the character, intellectual and creative problem solving skills as well as the technological wherewith-all needed for success in high school, college and beyond.

There are 54 7<sup>th</sup> grade students currently enrolled for the 2010-2011 school year (with the understanding that the 7<sup>th</sup> grade amendment is approved.) It is the desire of the current 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents as well as the administration of The Odyssey Preparatory Academy to continue this mission for 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Parents have enrolled their 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at Odyssey this year knowing that we would pursue all efforts to add a grade level each year through 12<sup>th</sup> grade so that our students do not have to seek an alternative educational setting after 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Timeline of Implementation:** The 7<sup>th</sup> grade will open August 30<sup>st</sup>, 2010. The same time as the rest of the school.

**Proficiency Level** 80% mastery of the grade level standards is required for promotion to the next grade level.