

AGENDA ITEM: Transfer Application – Legacy Traditional Charter School

Issue

Legacy Traditional Charter School submitted a complete Transfer Application to transfer a school site (Legacy Traditional School – Queen Creek) from the current charter to its own charter.

BACKGROUND

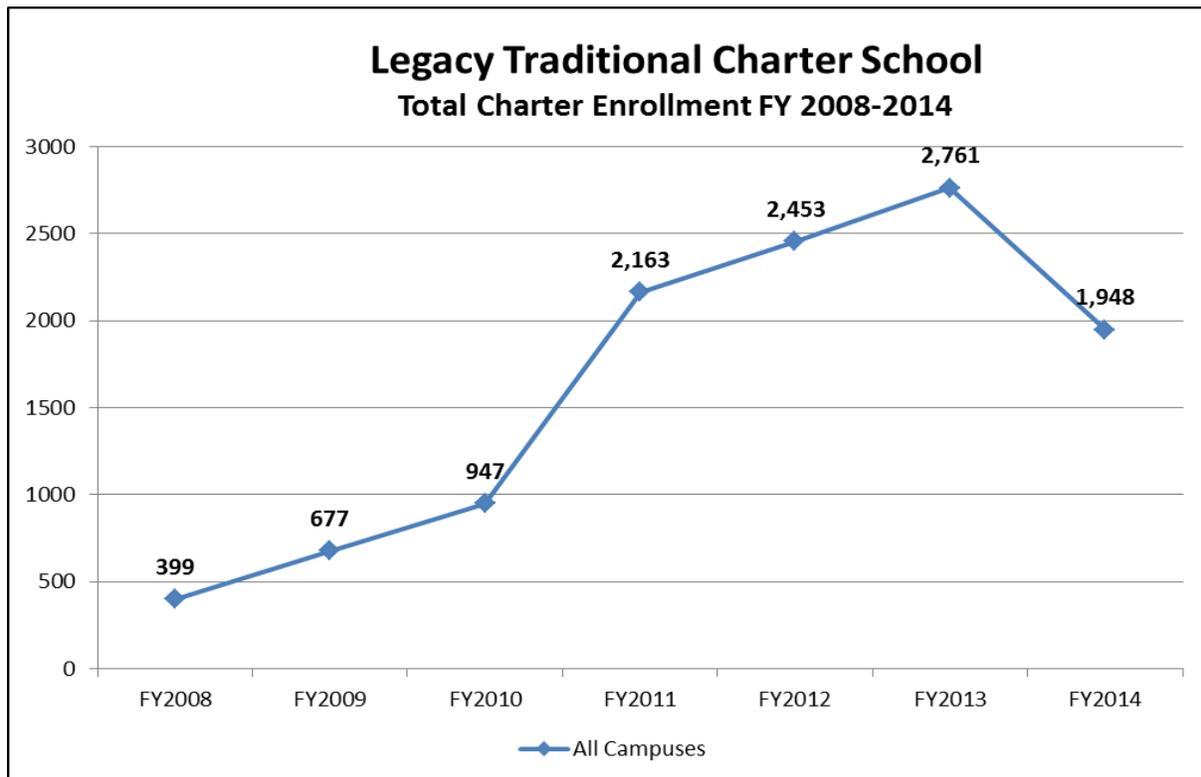
Charter History:

Legacy Traditional Charter School was granted a charter in 2006 and operates two schools: Legacy Traditional School, serving grades K-8 in Maricopa since September 2009, and Legacy Traditional School – Queen Creek, serving grades K-8 in Queen Creek since August, 2010. The Board approved the transfer of Legacy Traditional School – Casa Grande, which opened in August 2009, to its own charter in May, 2013. The charter becomes eligible for renewal on December 20, 2019 and expires on June 30, 2021.

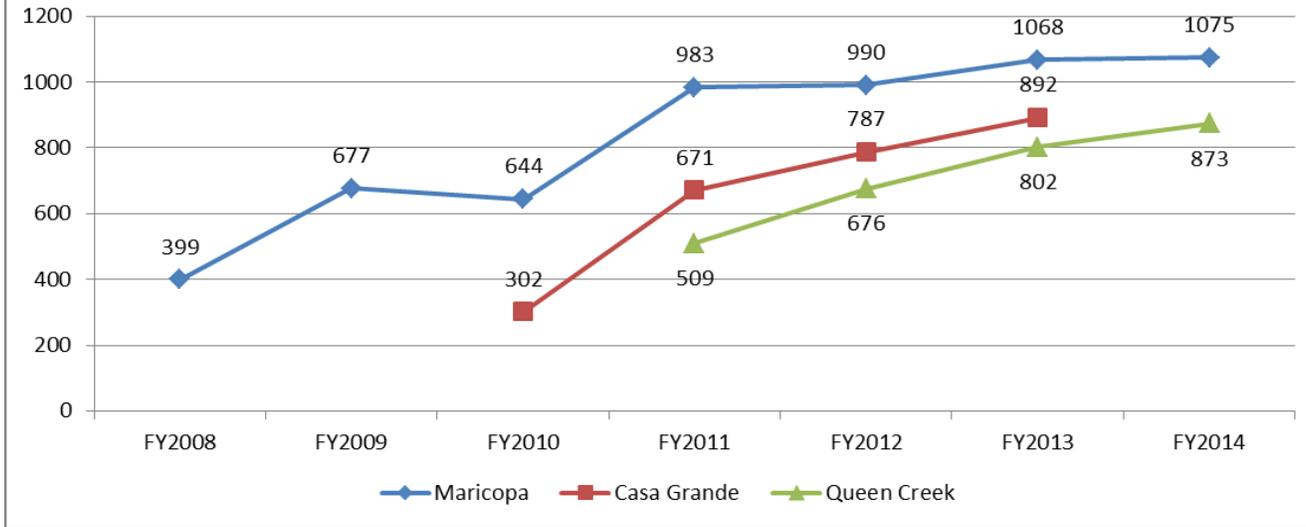
Enrollment:

According to the curricular emphasis narrative, the Queen Creek school serves a population that is 91% Caucasian, 6% Hispanic or Latino, 1% Asian, 1% African American, and 1% Native American; 35% of the students are eligible for the federal free and reduced lunch program.

The graphs below show the charter holder's actual 100th day average daily membership (ADM) for fiscal years 2008 to 2014, and 100th day ADM for each school site. Note that the decline in FY2014 is due to the transfer of the Casa Grande site to its own charter. All data was provided by the Arizona Department of Education.



Legacy Traditional Charter School Enrollment by School Site FY 2008-2014



ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Academic Performance

The Queen Creek site is eligible to transfer to its own charter based on three years of academic performance meeting the Board's expectations, summarized in the table below:

Fiscal Year	Grades Served	State Letter Grade	Overall Rating
FY2013	K-8	B	67.5
FY2012	K-8	A	76.25
FY2011	K-8	B	n/a

The academic performance of the schools operated by LTCS during the FY2012 and FY2013 school years, as based upon the Board's academic framework, is represented in the dashboard below:

Legacy Traditional School

		2012 Traditional Elementary School (K-8)			2013 Traditional Elementary School (K to 8)		
		Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight
1. Growth							
1a. SGP	Math	59	75	12.5	50	75	12.5
	Reading	56	75	12.5	51	75	12.5
1b. SGP Bottom 25%	Math	59	75	12.5	51	75	12.5
	Reading	59	75	12.5	50	75	12.5
2. Proficiency							
2a. Percent Passing	Math	83 / 64.4	75	7.5	81.3 / 64.2	75	7.5
	Reading	91 / 77.4	100	7.5	91 / 78	100	7.5
2b. Composite School Comparison	Math	15.6	100	7.5	8.8	75	7.5
	Reading	10.5	75	7.5	5.5	75	7.5
2c. Subgroup ELL	Math	71 / 43.8	75	2.5	52.9 / 41.7	75	2.5
	Reading	79 / 56.9	75	2.5	76.5 / 52.8	75	2.5
2c. Subgroup FRL	Math	76 / 54.5	75	2.5	69.9 / 54.6	75	2.5
	Reading	85 / 69.7	75	2.5	83.1 / 70.7	75	2.5
2c. Subgroup SPED	Math	63 / 28.6	100	2.5	42.2 / 25.2	75	2.5
	Reading	61 / 37.7	75	2.5	51.1 / 38.6	75	2.5
3. State Accountability							
3a. State Accountability		A	100	5	A	100	5
Overall Rating		Overall Rating			Overall Rating		
Scoring for Overall Rating 89 or higher: Exceeds Standard <89, but > or = to 63: Meets Standard <63, but > or = to 39: Does Not Meet Standard Less than 39: Falls Far Below Standard		78.68	100		78.12	100	

Legacy Traditional School - Queen Creek

		2012 Traditional Elementary School (K-8)			2013 Traditional Elementary School (K to 8)		
		Measure	Points Assigned	Weight	Measure	Points Assigned	Weight
1. Growth							
1a. SGP	Math	58	75	12.5	49	50	12.5
	Reading	57	75	12.5	47	50	12.5
1b. SGP Bottom 25%	Math	60	75	12.5	48.5	50	12.5
	Reading	60	75	12.5	57	75	12.5
2. Proficiency							
2a. Percent Passing	Math	80 / 63.9	75	7.5	78.8 / 63.9	75	7.5
	Reading	89 / 77.6	75	7.5	90.9 / 78	100	7.5
2b. Composite School Comparison	Math	12.8	75	7.5	6.1	75	7.5
	Reading	8.1	75	7.5	5	75	7.5
2c. Subgroup ELL	Math	NR	0	0	NR	0	0
	Reading	NR	0	0	NR	0	0
2c. Subgroup FRL	Math	74 / 53.7	75	3.75	72.9 / 54.6	75	3.75
	Reading	83 / 69.7	75	3.75	86.4 / 70.5	75	3.75
2c. Subgroup SPED	Math	44 / 27.6	75	3.75	36.7 / 25.7	75	3.75
	Reading	50 / 37.1	75	3.75	56.7 / 38.5	75	3.75
3. State Accountability							
3a. State Accountability		A	100	5	B	75	5
Overall Rating		Overall Rating			Overall Rating		
Scoring for Overall Rating 89 or higher: Exceeds Standard <89, but > or = to 63: Meets Standard <63, but > or = to 39: Does Not Meet Standard Less than 39: Falls Far Below Standard		76.25	100		67.5	100	



As the charter holder meets the Board’s academic performance expectations, it was not required to submit a Demonstration of Sufficient Progress as part of the transfer application.

Curricular Emphasis:

According to the transfer application narrative, Legacy Traditional School – Queen Creek provides an accelerated, back-to-basics, safe learning environment using traditional methods of instruction focused on a scripted direct instruction model focused on mastering critical skills. The Language Arts curriculum uses the Spalding program, and the Math curriculum uses the Saxon program. Student performance is monitored using the Acuity benchmark assessment system as well as standardized pre- and post-assessments, unit assessments, weekly assessments, independent practice, and state standardized tests. Student learning needs are supported through a tiered intervention system and Title I tutoring.

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

The charter holder’s corporate board on ASBCS Online consists of William Gregory, Jenni Ferrin, Derek Samuel, Nathan Schlink, and Cory Theobald. The Arizona Corporation Commission identifies the same five individuals as directors of LTCS.

According to the applicant, the corporate board serves as the school governing body pursuant to A.R.S. 15-183 (E) (8) for each school operated under the charter, and will continue to serve the same function for the Queen Creek site after transfer to its own charter.

As stated in Board policy, prior to a charter holder being placed on an agenda, staff conducts a compliance check as part of the approval process. The charter holder is compliant in all areas.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As the charter holder requesting transfer is currently sponsored by the ASBCS, it was not required to submit financial information as part of the transfer application.

BOARD OPTIONS

1. Approve the Transfer Application for Legacy Traditional Charter School. Staff recommends the following language provided for consideration: I move to approve the request to transfer Legacy Traditional School – Queen Creek from the current charter held by Legacy Traditional Charter School to a new charter held by Legacy Traditional Charter School.
2. Deny the Transfer Application for Legacy Traditional Charter School. The following language is provided for consideration: I move to deny the request to transfer Legacy Traditional School – Queen Creek from the current charter to its own charter for the reason: (list the specific reasons the Board may have found during its consideration).

