

# Decreasing Grade Levels to Charter Amendment Request

## Charterholder Info

### Charter Holder

**Name:**  
Ventana Academy, A  
Challenge Foundation  
Academy

**CTDS:**  
07-86-09-000

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 1589  
Cave Creek, AZ 85327  
> [View detailed info](#)

### Representative

**Name:**  
Matthew Clark

**Phone Number:**  
623-910-7546

## Downloads

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## Current Grade Levels

Current Grade Levels Served

- Kindergarten
- 1st Grade
- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

## Remove Grade Levels

Remove Grade Levels

7th  
8th

**Effective Date**  
08/11/2011

## Attachments

Board Minutes —  [Download File](#)

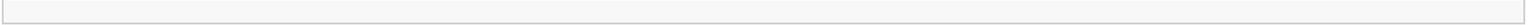
Narrative —  [Download File](#)

**Additional Information\***  
No documents were uploaded.

## Signature

**Additional Information\***  
No documents were uploaded.

**Charter Representative Signature**  
Matthew Clark 09/21/2011



## **Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy**

### **Minutes of the Board of Directors**

**Thursday, August 2011 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Held at Ventana Academy, 6424 East Cave Creek Road, Cave Creek, AZ**

**Board Members Present:** Shea Stanfield, Jennifer Bryan, Terry Warren, Jason Klonoski

**Board Members Absent:** Erin Gerston, Matt Clark

**Also Present:** Tisha Crisler, Bookkeeper, and members of the public

Shea Stanfield called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and a quorum was established.

Terry Warren moved to adopt the agenda with the following change: Move "Updates of Academic Standing to the last item." Jason Klonoski seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the minutes of the July 14, 2011 Board meeting was tabled until the next meeting.

There was no public comment.

### **Continuing Business**

#### *Financial Report*

Tisha Crisler presented vouchers for May and June 2011 and the year-to-date financial reports.

Jennifer Bryan moved to approve the vouchers as presented for July 2011. Jason Klonoski seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### *Adopt school calendar for the 2011-12 year*

After discussion, Jason Klonoski moved to authorize and approve the calendar for the 2011-2012 school year, commencing the school year on August 2, 2011 and ending the year on May 25, 2012, with instruction starting on August 11, 2011 and ending on May 24, 2012, with the exception of changing the half days as denoted by a triangle to make them paid instructional days by moving dismissal from 11:30 am – 12:30 PM. Terry Warren seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed and briefly discussed the teaching schedule

### *Appointment of new signers on accounts*

Per the board meeting of July 14 it had been approved to add Shea Stanfield and Erin Gerston as signers on Ventana's bank and financial accounts. Jason Klonoski made a motion that the bank signature cards be changed over to Shea Stanfield and Erin Gerston. Jennifer Bryan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

### *Changes in articles of incorporation and restated Bylaws*

Terry Warren detailed and the board discussed TeamCFA's proposed changes to the corporate structure of Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy, including advantages and disadvantages, and including adding TeamCFA as a corporate member and changes to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

Terry Warren disclosed a potential conflict of interest related to this matter because Mr. Warren is a TeamCFA representative on the Ventana board, is also on the advisory committee of TeamCFA and was involved with TeamCFA in developing the proposed changes. Although Mr. Warren does not have a personal interest or benefit in the matter to be decided, Mr. Warren opted to recuse himself from the board vote and discussion (except for answering board questions).

Jennifer Bryan disclosed a potential conflict of interest related to this matter because Ms. Bryan is a TeamCFA representative on the Ventana board. Although Ms. Bryan does not have a personal interest or benefit in the matter to be decided, Ms. Bryan opted to recuse herself from the board vote and discussion.

Jason Klonoski also disclosed a potential conflict of interest related to this matter because Mr. Klonoski is also on the advisory committee of TeamCFA. Although Mr. Klonoski does not have a personal interest or benefit in the matter to be decided, Mr. Klonoski opted to recuse himself from the board vote and discussion.

After questions and discussion Shea Stanfield made a motion to accept the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws. For purposes of validating the motion Terry Warren seconded and the motion carried unanimously (with Terry Warren, Jennifer Bryan and Jason Klonoski abstaining).

### *Charter representative update*

Terry Warren moved to add Shea Stanfield as a charter representative, leaving Matt Clark in place, but removing Chris Whittaker as a charter

representative. Jason Klonoski seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### *Reduction in grade levels*

Jennifer Bryan moved to reduce the grade levels offered for the 2011-12 school year, from K-8 to K-6. Terry Warren seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### *Curriculum Discussion*

Terry Warren moved to incorporate the Core Knowledge curriculum into the Ventana curriculum. Jason Klonoski seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### *Review of Teacher Daily Schedule*

The board briefly discussed and tabled the teacher daily schedule.

#### *Updates of Tax Credit Money*

The board discussed Tax Credit donations, how to better communicate the need for such donations and tabled the discussion for a subsequent board meeting.

#### *Updates of School Culture Activities*

Paul Weed updated the board on “school culture” activities.

#### *Academic Standing*

Jason Klonoski moved to enter executive session to discuss embargoed student test data and academic labeling (pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.2). Jennifer Bryan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The board requested that Mrs. Gail Molloy participate in the executive session to present and critique the student test scores and academic labeling.

The board entered executive session at 7:40 p.m. and returned to regular session at 7:52 p.m.

#### *Adjourn*

Terry Warren moved to adjourn the meeting. Jason Klonoski seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be held at Ventana Academy at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2011.

## **Rationale for Reducing the Grade Levels Served at Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy**

A significant drop in enrollment left Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy with three students in the upper grade levels. Because of the reduced in enrollment, the Ventana Board of Directors voted to for a temporary reduction in grade levels served to K – 6 for the 2011-2012 school year, returning to K – 8 for the 2012-2013 school year and thereafter.

## **Narrative Describing the Number of Students Displaced and the Efforts Taken by Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy to Provide Students with Options and Assistance in Enrolling in another School**

### **Number of Students Displaced**

By decreasing the grades offered at Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy from K-8 to K-6, the school displaced three students.

### **Efforts Taken by Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy to Provide Students with Options and Assistance in Enrolling in another School**

After the decision was made by the Governing Board to reduce the grades offered at Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy, because of budgetary limitations. The Governing Board held a parent meeting to discuss the changes and offer assistance to the families. However no assistance was required because one family is moving to Las Vegas and their two children will not be attending Ventana Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy. The other student enrolled in a nearby local school within days of the announcement of the grade reduction and offer of assistance from the Governing Board.