

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools  
Arizona State Board of Education  
1700 W. Washington St., Room 164, Phoenix, AZ 85007  
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JUL 21 2011

ADDING GRADE LEVELS TO CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School (CTDS) 078580000

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 3155 Maricopa Avenue \_\_\_\_\_

(City, State) Lake Havasu City, AZ (Zip) 86406 \_\_\_\_\_

(Charter Representative's Name) William Coats

(Phone Number) 602 953 2933 \_\_\_\_\_ (Fax Number) 602 277 4900

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.

x 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 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

FROM SERVING GRADES: K-6

TO SERVING GRADES: K-8

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 21 day of July, 2011, 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.

William Coats  
Charter Representative Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Signature for the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

07/14/09

- **Background and support for expansion**

In May of the 2010 – 2011 school year, The Leona Group, L.L.C. was contacted by parents from Lake Havasu region regarding their interest in the option of a smaller school setting for their students. Their desires were related to smaller class sizes and more of a focus on academics and values than existing options provide. Given the number of requests, Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School will open this fall to meet community needs.

Existing public school options include only Thunderbolt Middle School with an enrollment of approximately 1,000 students. Due to the closing of Lake Havasu Charter School which served approximately 100 students in grades K – 12 and the closing of Daytona Middle School which served approximately 500 students in grades 6 – 8, there is the need, as voiced by parents, for the addition of grades 7 and 8 to the existing charter for Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School. The community has expressed the desire for a smaller school setting with a rigorous academic focus. It is the desire of Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School to meet these needs through the addition of grades 7 and 8 to its offerings.

- **How the additional grades support the philosophy, methods of instruction, special emphasis, and mission of the charter**

- **Methods of Instruction** –

Our curriculum will come to life through a rigorous and engaging program. By delivering differentiated instruction, students will be challenged academically, mentally and socially to grow and excel at their own pace. . Highly effective, qualified teachers will use Arizona's common core standards, innovative text and technology resources to provide a challenging and scholastically rewarding program for all students.

The Leona Group recognizes that every child learns differently and at different rates; therefore, every student will receive the personalized attention needed to reach his or her fullest potential. A full array of differentiated instructional strategies, accommodations, modifications, and the implementation of the Responses to Intervention (RTI) model are utilized in classrooms to reach and teach every child. Students thrive with this tiered approach, and parents quickly witness the results

We believe that all children can learn and that all children come to school motivated to do so although they may not all learn at the same rate, and some do not enroll into the system with the same level of preparedness as stated by Lawrence W. Lezotte in Learning for All. Given this key belief, the school will enact benchmark testing in reading and math to best determine student need for proper placement coupled with assessment of strategies aligned to remediation. Student mastery of standards will be attained both through classroom instruction and remediation provided either individually or in a workshop setting.

Seventh and eighth grade instruction will have as its core high yield strategies which will result in significant improvement in student achievement as assessed throughout the year utilizing standards-based benchmark testing aligned to Arizona state standards. These high yield strategies include:

- Standards-based course alignment
- Curriculum mapping reflecting Common Core standards coverage in a timely manner
- Lesson planning aligned to curriculum maps with monitoring for coverage
  - Objective, strategy/activity, assessment alignment
- Assessment of the pre test and post test nature in conjunction with formative testing throughout the grading period to illustrate analysis of both student and class need for remediation and acceleration
- Incorporation of cooperative learning and differentiated instruction in order to better guarantee 100% student participation/time-on-task
- Utilization of technology in order to enhance the learning environment
- District benchmark testing incorporated with math, reading, science, and writing three times during the course of the year to assess student improvement as well as to measure program success in subject areas

The instructional approach taken will consist of nine instruction elements as listed in Improving Student Learning One Teacher at a Time by Jane E. Pollock.

1. Gain learners' attention.
2. Inform learners of the lesson objective.
3. Stimulate recall of previous learning.
4. Present stimulus material.
5. Provide learning guidance.
6. Elicits performance (i.e., practice).
7. Provide feedback.
8. Assess performance.
9. Enhance retention and transfer.

This schema coincides well with Madeline Hunter's basic lesson design components for mastery teaching. This approach incorporates using a well-

articulated curriculum, planning for delivery of instruction, varying assessments, and providing criterion-based feedback which can have a significant impact on all learners providing them with the opportunity to move toward higher levels of learning and achievement according to Jane E. Pollock in Improving Student Learning One Teacher at a Time.

Technology will be integrated for instructional planning, instructional delivery, assessment, monitoring student progress, and communicating information to parents. Data from Galileo benchmark testing will be utilized to drive instruction at the class level as well as aide in prescriptive remediation at the individual student level.

○ **Special Emphasis** –

Academic achievement  
Arts exposure/integration  
Values-based character education  
High school and college prep focus/readiness  
Small school environment  
High expectations for students and staff  
Quality, effective educators  
Personalized and tailored education experience

- **Mission** - Our mission is to provide all students with the quality education and opportunities needed to excel in high school and beyond. Through the addition of grades 7 and 8 to the existing charter, this school will be able to meet the expressed needs of the community by providing this quality education opportunity to a larger audience. This mission will be fully accomplished by amending the existing charter of the school to reflect the natural bridge from elementary school to encompass middle school (grades 7 and 8) ushering students straight to high school.

**Timeline for Implementation**

May – Parent meetings to confirm parent interest

June – Marketing campaign. Advertise for highly qualified teachers

July – Continue marketing campaign. Advertise for highly qualified teachers

August – Employ new highly qualified teachers. In – service for new teachers. Open school to new grade levels

### **Mastery of Course**

Proficiency levels for course content mastery in all academic subject areas will be:

A = 90-100% = Exceeds

B = 80-89% = Mastery

C = 70-79% = Mastery

D = 60 - 69% and below = Needs Further Improvement. Remediation will be provided to the student in order to meet mastery.

F = 0 – 59% = Needs Further Improvement. More intense remediation will be provided to the student in order to meet mastery.

### **Grade Level Promotion**

Grade promotion and retention will be determined by multiple criteria which may include the following: standards-based assessment data, social/emotional growth, attendance, evidence of a disability, ELL status. All parents/guardians will be notified throughout the year on their student's performance in all of the above mentioned areas.

Students who fall far below in content mastery in multiple academic subject areas may be considered for retention. At the end of the year, a culminating meeting is held with parents/guardians of those students at risk of failure to discuss possible retention. If/when parents/guardians decline the recommendation of retention of their student, the student will be promoted with the continued opportunity of tutoring as well as continued placement in the school's Response to Intervention program. Parents/guardians will also be encouraged to enroll their student in a summer school academic enrichment program.



Arizona: 7878 N. 16th Street • Suite 150 • Phoenix, Arizona 85020 • Tel: 602.953.2933 • Fax: 602.953.0831

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF:**

EL DORADO PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

MAYA PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

SKYVIEW PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

SUMMIT PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

TEMPE ACCELERATED PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

AND

GILBERT ARTS ACADEMY PUBLIC CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LIBERTY ARTS ACADEMY PUBLIC CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LEONA ADVANCED VIRTUAL ACADEMY

SOUTH POINTE PUBLIC CHARTER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

SOUTH POINTE PUBLIC CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

VISTA GROVE PREPARATORY ACADEMY PUBLIC CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

VISTA GROVE PREPARATORY ACADEMY PUBLIC CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Was convened on: **Wednesday, June 1, 2011**

**TIME: 3:00 p.m.**

**LOCATION: 7878 N. 16TH STREET, SUITE 150, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85020**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER 3:00 p.m.

2.0 PRESENT AT THE MEETING William Coats, Governing Body President

**MINUTES** – The following matters were discussed, considered and decided at the meeting

3.0 CALL TO THE PUBLIC A call was made to the public to discuss items on the agenda. No members of the public were present.

4.0 REVIEW OF THE AGENDA

5.0 **Old Business**

5.1 **Approval of Minutes** - Minutes from the **Tuesday, May 10, 2011** governing body meeting were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

6.0 **New Business**

6.1 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School – Site Specific Change in Grades Served Notification Request from: K-6 to: K-8

The notification request was presented. A motion to approve the change in grade levels from: K-6 to: K-8 was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

6.2 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School – USFRCS Exception Amendment Request

The amendment request was presented. A motion to approve the USFRCS Exception was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

6.3 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School – Procurement Laws Exception Amendment Request

The amendment request was presented. A motion to approve the Procurement Laws Exception was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

6.4 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School – School Site Location Notification Request

The notification request was presented. A motion to approve the site location change to: 3155 Maricopa Avenue, Lake Havasu, City, AZ 86406 was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

6.5 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School Charter Holder Location Notification Request

The notification request was presented. A motion to approve the Charter Holder Location Notification to: 3155 Maricopa Avenue, Lake Havasu City, AZ 76406 was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

6.6 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School – School Name Change Notification Request

Notification request was presented. A motion to approve the School Name Change to: Havasu Preparatory Academy Public Charter Elementary School was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

6.7 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School - Charter Holder Status Amendment Request

The amendment request was presented. A motion to approve the Change in Entity Name of the Charter Holder to: Havasu Preparatory Academy Public Charter Elementary School was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

6.8 Vista Pointe Public Charter Elementary School – Adding Grade Levels to Charter Amendment Request to: K-8

The amendment request was presented. A motion to approve Adding Grade Levels to Charter from: K-6 to: K-8 was duly made and seconded. The motion was approved by the governing body.

7.0 BOARD COMMENTS

The Next Meeting of the governing body is scheduled for **Monday, July 1, 2011** at 3:00 p.m. at 7878 N. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 150, Phoenix, AZ 85020

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was duly adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.

WILLIAM COATS – GOVERNING BODY PRESIDENT

