Sustainability

Young Scholar's Academy holds a very strong position in regard to fiscal viability. In these recent times of recession and budget cuts, Young Scholar's Academy has been able to maintain teacher salaries, keep paraprofessionals in EVERY classroom, maintain low classroom student-teacher ratios, and provide ALL of the textbook and classroom supplies needed for each teacher. This is accomplished through the smart business planning and budgeting provided by the Director and the school governing board.

For fiscal year 2008, the total liabilities and net assets for Young Scholar's Academy was +$7,696,144 (reference p. 4 FY2008 audit). For fiscal year 2009, the total liabilities and net assets for Young Scholar's Academy was +$8,350,856 (reference p. 4 FY2009 audit). This positive asset amount is accomplished by proper money management of current year funds as well as practicing wise investment strategies with monies in holding for future projects (such as building replacement, technology upgrades, large maintenance repairs, etc.). The financial sustainability is quite evident when examining other portions of the audits, as well.

Young Scholar's Academy has had funds readily available during these recent times of budget cuts, thereby being able to continue high levels of educational resources at a time when other schools are implementing extreme cost-saving measures. Young Scholar's Academy has not implemented ANY staff cutbacks, ANY salary reductions, ANY class size increases, or other methods of budget-trimming in order to compensate for the massive reductions in state funding to schools. Because of excellent financial management over the past fourteen years, we have been able to absorb these cuts without reducing services to our students or reducing staff numbers or salaries.

Proof of sound financial planning was required when the original charter was applied for and has been carried out throughout the past fourteen years, without sacrificing the education of the students, as proven by the Excelling label earned by the staff and students at Young Scholar's Academy for the 2009 fiscal year! Young Scholar's Academy had been a Highly Performing school in previous years and had reached Excelling status for the 2009 fiscal year. This comes in a rural area where NO OTHER elementary/middle school received higher than a "Performing Plus" label! (see chart below) In addition, Young Scholar's Academy is rated by several outside companies such as Great Schools. As seen in the chart below, Young Scholar's Academy received a ranking of 8 (out of 10), whereas ALL other local schools received a 6 or below!

Elementary schools found within **5** miles of zip code **86442**
1-10 of **10** elementary schools found within **5** miles of zip code **86442**, sorted by distance.

OVERVIEW

Sort by School name	Sort by Distance	Sort by School type	Sort by GreatSchools Ratings	Sort by Parent Reviews	Sort by AZ LEARNS profile	Sort by Students per certified teacher
Desert Valley School	*0.4*	public	4	Read >	Performing Plus	15
Maria Montessori School	*0.6*	private	---	Read >	---	---
Montessori School House	*0.8*	private	---	Rate it!	---	---
Coyote Canyon School	*0.9*	public	---	Read >	Performing	16
Mohave Accelerated Learning Center	*1.3*	charter	5	Read >	Performing	---
Mohave Accelerated Elementary School	*1.3*	charter	5	Read >	Performing Plus	---
Diamondback Elementary School	*2.2*	public	6	Read >	Performing Plus	18
Mountain View Elementary School	*3.9*	public	3	Read >	Performing	14
Young Scholars Academy	*4.4*	charter	8	Read >	Excelling	---
Camp Mohave Elementary School	*4.8*	public	3	Read >	Performing	21

(source=greatschools.com 6/11/2010)

Young Scholar's Academy also maintains a waiting list for entry into our classes. As of this date, Young Scholar's Academy has 920 names on the waiting list, including Kindergarten classes through FY16. The Kindergarten classes through FY2014 are already filled beyond capacity, with FY15 and FY16 nearing capacity already! As can be seen, Young Scholar's Academy is not only sustainable financially, but is also sustainable in student numbers and community support for our program! We are well-known throughout the community as "the" school, and parents often place their newborn child on the list in order to assure a spot in Kindergarten when their child is of age!

As evidenced above, Young Scholar's Academy is sustainable in regard to student base as well as financial position. We have been able to sustain our student base through positive success and reputation within the community. In addition, we have been able to sustain an excellent financial position due to a high level of fiscal responsibility over an extended period of time. This consistency in both areas demonstrates the strength of the Young Scholar's Academy Corporate Board, Governing Body, and Director.