

## AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: New School with Enrollment Cap and Grade Level Change Amendment Request

### Request

The Paideia Academies, Inc. (“Charter Holder”) submitted an expansion amendment request to add a new school to the existing charter contract, increase the grade levels the Charter Holder is approved to serve from grades K-8 to grades K-12, and to increase the enrollment cap from 900 to 1800, beginning in FY 2021. This enrollment cap accounts for three years of projected student enrollment.

*See Appendix A: Amendment Request Materials and Support Materials.*

The Charter Holder is making this request in order to extend its whole-child model of education to students in Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. According to the Charter Holder’s narrative, “when combining the growth trajectory of Paideia, the lack of quality high school options in South Phoenix, along with the demand for the Paideia high school program, it is imperative now to complete the expansion process through high school graduation along with a new campus to house 7th- 12th grades.” The staffing plan includes utilizing internal candidates to take on the role of principal at the current and proposed schools, and having the current principal transition exclusively to the role of Executive Director. Recruitment will be done through “digital advertising, the Paideia substitute cohort, and in-state universities.” Teacher training will be conducted through Paideia’s online training portal and also include coaching from teacher coaches and grade-level/content area team leaders. The 9-12 curriculum will include “rigorous fiction and nonfiction text, meaningful partner discussion, in-depth Socratic seminars, and purposeful coached projects across the disciplines.”

### Three Year Plan

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
<b>Grade Levels</b>	K-8	K-8	K-10	K-11
<b>Enrollment</b>	842	900	1235	1375

### Staff Recommendation

The Charter Holder has not met the criteria to receive a staff recommendation for expansion.

Staff Recommendation Criteria	Analysis
<b>In operation for three years.</b>	The Charter Holder has been in operation for 7 years.
<b>“Meets the Board’s Operational Performance Expectations” based on the dashboards for the most recent two prior years and the current year.</b>	The Charter Holder “Meets” the Board’s Operational Performance Expectations.
<b>“Meets the Board’s Financial Performance Expectations” based on the most recent dashboard.</b>	The Charter Holder “Meets” the Board’s Financial Performance Expectations.
<b>Each school operated by the Charter Holder: Performs at or above the average performance of a majority of schools within a five-mile radius of the school’s current location.</b>	The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix <b>does not</b> perform at or above the average performance of nearby schools in Math.
<b>AND</b>	The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix <b>performs</b> at or above the average performance of nearby schools in ELA.
<b>Performs at or above the average performance of a majority of schools within a five-mile radius of the proposed school’s location.</b>	AND

	<p>At the proposed school's location, the Paideia Academy of South Phoenix <b>does not</b> perform at or above the average performance of nearby schools in Math.</p> <p>At the proposed school's location, the Paideia Academy of South Phoenix <b>performs</b> at or above the average performance of nearby schools in ELA.</p>
<b>Past enrollment trends indicate the charter will exceed its enrollment cap within the next three years.</b>	The ADM in FY 2017 was 641.972, in FY 2018 was 730.155, and in FY 2019 was 782.576. Based on these trends, and the addition of a new school and additional grade levels, the charter will exceed its enrollment cap in FY 2021.
<b>ADM is within 85% of current enrollment cap.</b>	According to ADE School Finance, the Charter Holder's ADM in FY 2019 was 782.576. In FY 2019, the Charter Holder was operating at 87% of its enrollment cap.
<b>Previous grade level cohort(s) are at capacity and/or could fill enrollment for new grade(s) requested.</b>	Based on enrollment for FY 2019, previous grade level cohorts could fill enrollment for the number of 9 <sup>th</sup> graders anticipated in FY 2021. However, the Charter Holder intends to serve 10 <sup>th</sup> grade in the initial year of the new school, and does not currently serve a grade that generates the anticipated enrollment of fifty 10 <sup>th</sup> graders.

## Profile

The Charter Holder was granted a new charter in 2012.

### Governance

Corporate Board Members
Victoria Garrison
Aaron Hess
Lucas Landreth
Amanda Leach
Beth Mendonca
Catherine Miranda
Jennifer Schmaltz
Benjamin Tietgen
Robert Winsor

### School Profile

School Name	The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix		
Date Open	August 2012		
Location	Phoenix		
Grades Served	K-8		
FY 18 Letter Grade	C		
	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18
ELA AzMERIT (41% <sup>+</sup> )	34%	28%	38%
Math AzMERIT (41% <sup>+</sup> )	27%	23%	19%
Science AIMS (52% <sup>+</sup> )	44%	30%	37%

<sup>+</sup>FY 18 State Average Passing

## Targeted School Improvement

The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix was identified for Targeted School Improvement in FY 2018 for the subgroup Students with Disabilities.

FY 18 Targeted School Improvement Data—Students with Disabilities The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix					
Subgroup Number of Students Tested—Math	Subgroup % Passing Math	Total Number of Students Tested—Math	Subgroup Number of Students Tested—ELA	Subgroup % Passing ELA	Total Number of Students Tested—ELA
40	3%	414	40	5%	416

## Additional School Choices Serving Grades K-8 within 5 Miles of The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix

Total Schools	FY 18 Letter Grade	Total Charter Schools	FY 18 State Assessment Data Greater than State Average			Subgroups within (±5%) of Charter Holder's Subgroup Data		
			ELA (>41%)	Math (>41%)	Science (>52%)	FRL (±5%)	ELL (±5%)	SPED (±5%)
7	A	3	6	7	6	0	0	6
10	B	6	4	1	4	1	5	9
16	C	3	0	2	1	1	2	14
11	D	4	0	0	0	2	2	10
2	F	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	N/R	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

## Comparison of Nearby Schools to The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix

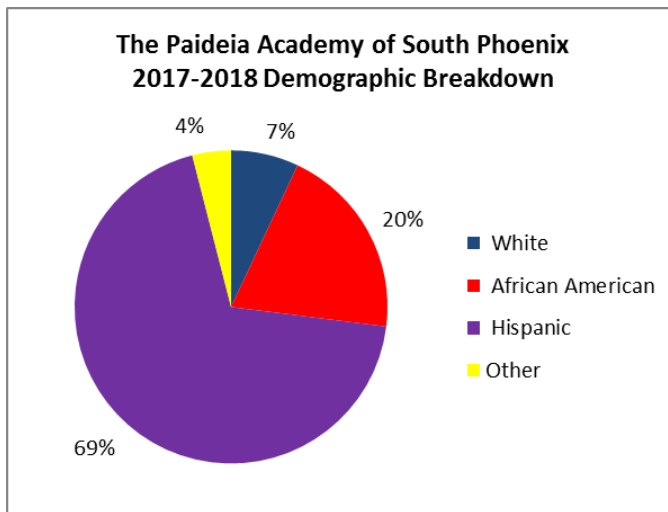
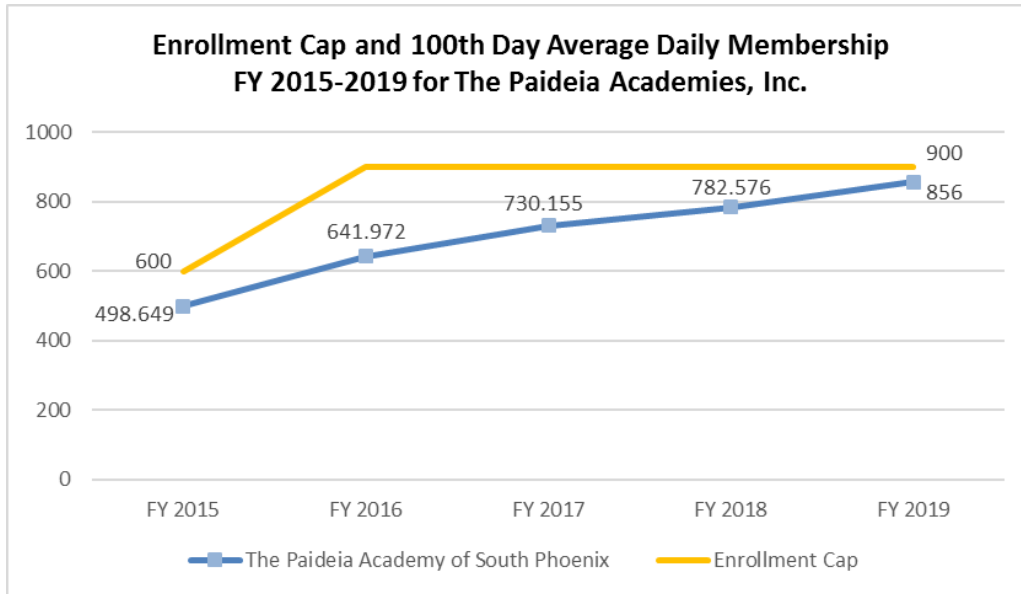
Total Schools	FY 18 Letter Grade	Total Charter Schools	FY 18 State Assessment Data Greater than The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix		
			AzMERIT ELA (>38%)	AzMERIT Math (>19%)	AIMS Science (>37%)
7	A	3	6	7	7
10	B	6	5	10	9
16	C	3	0	13	6
11	D	4	0	5	3
2	F	0	0	0	0
1	N/R	0	0	1	0
<b>Total Number of Schools Performing Better than The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix (Percentage of Total)</b>					
47		16 (34%)	11 (23%)	36 (77%)	25 (53%)

## Additional School Choices Serving Grades 7-12 within 5 Miles of Paideia Liberal Arts Academy (Proposed School)

Total Schools	FY 18 Letter Grade	Total Charter Schools	FY 18 State Assessment Data Greater than The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix		
			AzMERIT ELA (>38%)	AzMERIT Math (>19%)	AIMS Science (>37%)
2	A	0	2	2	2
12	B	9	7	2	6
18	C	4	0	0	0
10	D	3	0	0	0
4	F	2	0	0	0
<b>Total Number of Schools (Percentage of Total)</b>					
46		18 (39%)	9 (20%)	4 (9%)	8 (17%)

## Enrollment and Demographic Data

100th Day Average Daily Membership for FY 2015–FY 2019.



2017-2018 Subgroup Data	
Free and Reduced Lunch	89%
English Language Learners	8%
Special Education	10%