

Adding Grade Levels to Charter Amendment Request

Charterholder Info

Charter Holder

Name:
Candeo Schools, Inc.

CTDS:
07-85-34-000

Mailing Address:
9965 W. Calle Lejos
Peoria, AZ 85383
> [View detailed info](#)

Representative

Name:
Stephanie Musser

Phone Number:
623-332-7833

Fax Number:
623-979-6510

Downloads

 [Download all files](#)

Current Grade Levels

Current Grade Levels Served

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

New Grade Levels

For each grade level being added, provide the following as a representation of a program of instruction aligned to the State's approved academic standards and to methods of instruction described in the charter. Please note that a separate upload must be prepared for each grade level and content area and be named as such. Additionally, applicants must restate the name of the file in the Brief Description box (e.g., First Grade Reading, HS Algebra II).

For K-8

Language Arts & Math: A completed curriculum sample for reading, writing, and math for each grade level being added including all attachments as outlined on the [required template and instructions](#).

For 9-12

Language Arts & Math: A completed curriculum sample for reading, writing, and math coursework for each grade level being added including all attachments as outlined on the [required template and instructions](#). Each course must align with the State's graduation requirements.

Add Grade Levels

7th
8th

Curriculum Samples

-  [Download File](#) — Grade 7 Reading
-  [Download File](#) — Grade 7 Math
-  [Download File](#) — Grade 7 Writing
-  [Download File](#) — Grade 8 Reading
-  [Download File](#) — Grade 8 Math
-  [Download File](#) — Grade 8 Writing
-  [Download File](#) — A revised version of Grade 8 math, per feedback.

Effective Date

02/08/2013

Attachments

Board Minutes —  [Download File](#)

Narrative —  [Download File](#)

Timeline for implementation —  [Download File](#)

Additional Information*

No documents were uploaded.

Signature

Charter Representative Signature

Stephanie Musser 04/04/2013

Candeo Schools, Inc.
Special Meeting of the Corporate Board
9965 W. Calle Lejos, Peoria, AZ 85383
Wednesday, December 12, 2012 – 12:00 noon
Telephonic meeting

Minutes

- 1) Call to Order Stephanie Musser called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.
- 2) Roll Call Board Members present: Stephanie Musser, Kent Ashton, Jim Updike, Brent Peugnet
Absent: Andi Beckham, Tom Shea, Bob Burns
- 3) Items of Business Charter Amendment Request – Adding additional grade levels (7th-8th) to the Candeo charter

A discussion of the amendment request, including background and support for expansion, was led by Stephanie Musser, Executive Director.
A motion to submit an amendment to the Candeo charter to include 7th and 8th grades was made by Brent Peugnet. Second was provided by Kent Ashton.
Unanimously approved.
- 4) Announcements A copy of the amendment submission will be provided to board members at the next meeting.

A recognition of the board term expiration of Tom Reid (term 11/09 – 11/12), corporate board member, with gratitude for his years of service
- 5) Adjournment Adjournment was made at 12:12 p.m.

Amendment Request
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Background and support for expansion

Candeo Schools, Inc. (dba Candeo Peoria) is in its fifth year of operation as a top-performing K-6 elementary charter school in Peoria. Since inception, the school has earned the highest rankings from the State Department of Education. It has also carried an extensive waitlist, which has been built to over 800 students. The school currently holds 480 students, 90 more than the building holds.

Each year, our parent community has consistently expressed positive feedback, both formally through surveys and informally through emails and conversations, regarding our educational program. Fully 97% of survey respondents each year rate our curriculum, instruction, and environment as excellent. The same also indicate that the school follows its mission to provide a rigorous, nurturing academic experience. Our reputation is solid in the community. We have earned this honor through diligent, focused work and commitment to our charter mission and goals.

Since our first year, our parent community has requested that we expand into middle school grades. Our desire has always been to provide a solid K-6 program and prepare our students for the top middle and high schools in the state. As parents have moved on, they continue to express a gap in their needs, urging us to seriously consider expanding into middle school. We surveyed our parents formally over the past two years to learn that 86% of our population will attend a Candeo middle school if provided. Thirteen percent indicated “not yet decided – it depends on a few factors” (171 respondents, K-5, September 2011).

We continue to receive strong feedback from our community that supports the need and desire for a Candeo middle school. With a continued desire to meet the needs of our families and to extend the rigor and nurture that is reportedly lacking in area middle schools, we have chosen to move forward.

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

Candeo Schools (K-6) delivers rigor, relevance, and challenge through a core classical curriculum, which stresses the knowledge most useful for comprehension, school learning, and communication within the civic life of a society. Utilizing the nationally-recognized Core Knowledge® sequence, our students are immersed in World and American History and Geography, Visual Arts, Music, and Language Arts. Our program includes Singapore Math, French, Latin, Classics, and handwriting. Our curriculum is implemented with complete fidelity, delivered by expert elementary educators who are passionate about teaching and learning, believe in the mission and philosophy of Candeo, and have high expectations for all students.

Our middle school, which will be comprised of 6th – 8th grades, will be departmentalized. Building upon the knowledge of content set forth in grades K-5, our middle school students will move into abstract mathematics, logic and reasoning, history/literature utilizing primary source documents, and a full study of the Classics, all of which support our “Classical model, innovative twist” philosophy.

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Our primary methods of instruction, foundationally aligned to the Common Core State Standards and the Core Knowledge® Sequence, include the following: lesson design incorporating the full alignment of the big Idea, lesson objective, and assessment (utilizing Understanding By Design methodology); flexible grouping as needed; Critical thinking (Thinking Maps, Bloom's Taxonomy, Strategic questioning, Socratic discussion); Whole Child/ Brain-Based approach (multi-sensory, challenge, structured support, integration across disciplines); and data-informed instruction.

Our curriculum, Core Knowledge®, is designed to move through the 8th grade. It makes programmatic sense to offer the full sequence of content as set forth by the curriculum. Several of our staff have provided expertise in laying out the particulars of our offerings. Our plan is sound, aligned to our mission, and set to roll out in next school year.

Timeline for implementation

We plan to offer 7th grade next year (2013 – 2014) to our current cohort of 6th graders, and move the same cohort through to the 8th grade the following year (2014 – 2015). The following table represents our timeline for implementation:

School Year	6 th grade	7 th grade	8 th grade
2012 - 2013	1 section 28 students	---	---
2013 - 2014	2 sections 52 students	1 section 28 students	---
2014 - 2015	2 sections 52 students	2 sections 52 students	1 section 28 students
2015 - 2016	2 sections 52 students	2 sections 52 students	2 sections 52 students

Proficiency level required for credit and/ or promotion

Students are considered for promotion when mastery of content (80%) is demonstrated. Students must also meet or exceed on state standardized tests and have attendance rates greater than 90%. Candeo is also in the beginning stages of applying for national accreditation, which enables us to ensure transferability of courses to high schools.