Benchmark School, Inc. - Entity ID 10972
School: Benchmark School

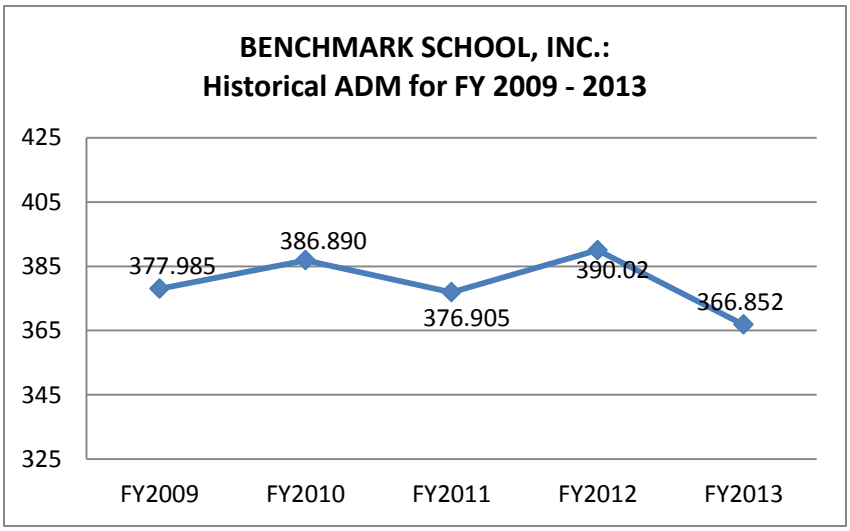
Renewal Executive Summary

Performance Summary

Benchmark School, Inc. met both the Board's academic performance expectations and the financial performance expectations as set forth in the Performance Framework adopted by the Board. Therefore, the charter holder was waived from submitting the Academic Performance Section of the renewal application and the Financial Sustainability portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section of the renewal application. The charter holder did have compliance matters. The charter holder's organizational membership on file with the Board was consistent with the information on file with the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Profile

Benchmark School, Inc. operates one school serving grades K-6. The graph below shows the charter holder's actual 100th day average daily membership (ADM) for fiscal years 2009-2013.



A dashboard representation of Benchmark School's academic outcomes, based upon the indicators and measures adopted by the Board, is provided below.

Academic Performance Rating FY 2012

Charter Holder: Benchmark School, Inc.
Entity ID 10972

Charter School: Benchmark School
Entity ID 78803, Grades K-6

1. Growth

Traditional Elementary		1a. SGP		1b. SGP Bottom 25%	
School	**School Year**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**
Benchmark School	2011-2012	47	62	46	66
Points Assigned		50	75	50	100
Weight		12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5

2. Proficiency

Traditional Elementary		2a. Percent Passing		2b. Composite School Comparison		2c. Subgroup ELL		2c. Subgroup FRL		2c. Subgroup SPED	
School	**School Year**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**
Benchmark School	2011-2012	93/66	98/77	21.1	15.5	NR	NR	NR	NR	89/30	96/39
Points Assigned		100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0	100	100
Weight		7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	0	0	0	0	7.5	7.5

3. State Accountability & Overall Rating

Traditional Elementary		3a. State Accountability	Overall Rating
School	**School Year**	**Grade**	
Benchmark School	2011-2012	100	84.375
Points Assigned		100	
Weight		5	100

Overall Rating	Point Range
Exceeds Standard	> or = to 89
Meets Standard	< 89, but > or = to 63
Does Not Meet Standard	< 63, but > or = to 39
Falls Far Below Standard	< 39

For additional information, see *Academic Performance Framework and Guidance*, available on the ASBCS webpage http://asbcs.az.gov

5/14/2013

I. Success of the Academic Program

The academic performance of the school operated by the charter holder meets the Board's academic performance expectations set forth in the performance framework adopted by the Board. Therefore, the charter holder was not required to submit a Demonstration of Sufficient Progress.

The overall rating for the school on the Board's academic performance measures was 84.375 including points received for the FY 2012 letter grade of A as reported by the Arizona Department of Education.

II. Viability of the Organization

The charter holder meets the Board's financial performance expectations. Therefore, the charter holder was not required to submit the Charter Holder's Financial Sustainability portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section.

III. Adherence to the Terms of the Charter

A. Compliance Matters Requiring Board or Other Agency Action

Over the past five years, there were no items to report.

B. Other Compliance Matters

The fiscal year 2012 audit identified an issue that required a corrective action plan (CAP). Specifically, the audit indicated that the charter holder did not have an adequate segregation of duties or monitoring over cash receipts as the same person collects the cash receipts, enters data into the records, and deposits cash. The audit further indicated that while the charter holder has a system in place, no managerial review to ensure the completeness and timely deposit of receipts was documented. The charter holder submitted a satisfactory CAP.

The fiscal year 2009 audit identified an issue that required a CAP. Specifically, the audit indicated that one employee turned 18 in September 2008, but had not applied for a fingerprint check as of the testing date. The charter holder submitted a satisfactory CAP.

In February 2009, ADE Exceptional Student Services notified the charter holder of partial-compliance in some areas with regard to specific regulations for Part B, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the Arizona Revised Statutes. The compliance issues were reported as resolved in November 2009.

C. Charter Holder's Organizational Membership

Because the organizational membership on file with the Board was consistent with the information on file with the Arizona Corporation Commission, the charter holder was not required to submit the charter holder's Organizational Membership portion of the Detailed Business Plan Section.

Board Options

Option 1: The Board may approve the renewal. Staff recommends the following language provided for consideration: Renewal is based on consideration of academic, fiscal and contractual compliance of the charter holder. In this case, the charter holder meets the academic performance expectations set forth in the Board's performance framework. There is a record of past contractual noncompliance which has been reviewed. With that taken into consideration as well as all information provided to the Board for consideration of this renewal application package and during its discussion with representatives of the charter holder, I move to approve the request for charter renewal and grant a renewal contract to Benchmark School, Inc.

Option 2: The Board may deny the renewal. The following language is provided for consideration: Based upon a review of the information provided by the representatives of the charter holder and the contents of the application package which includes the academic performance, the fiscal compliance, and legal

and contractual compliance of the charter holder over the charter term, I move to deny the request for charter renewal and to not grant a renewal contract for Benchmark School, Inc. Specifically, the charter holder, during the term of the contract, failed to meet the obligations of the contract or failed to comply with state law when it: (Board member must specify reasons the Board found during its consideration.)