Sonoran Desert School - Entity ID 78868
School: Sonoran Desert School

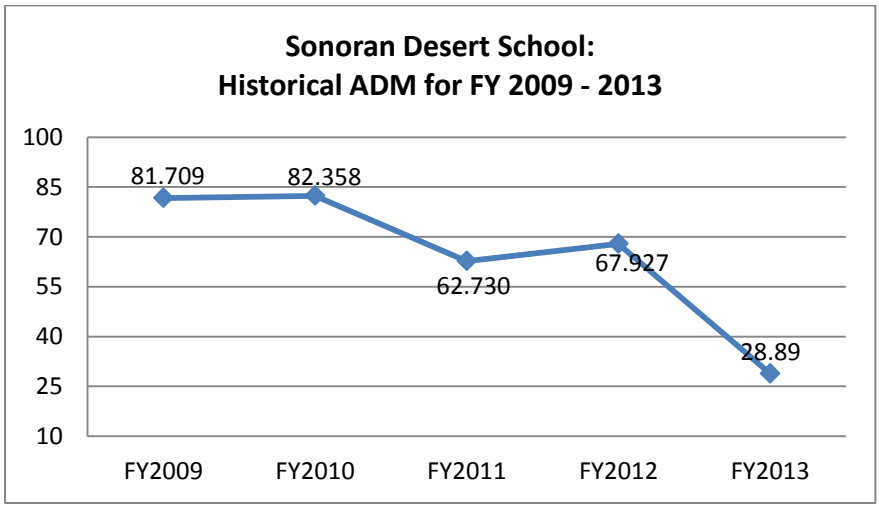
Renewal Executive Summary

Performance Summary

Sonoran Desert School did not meet the academic performance expectations of the Board as set forth in the Performance Framework and was required to submit a Demonstration of Sufficient Progress. Through the submission and evidence reviewed during an on-site visit, the charter holder demonstrated sufficient progress toward meeting the Board's academic performance expectations. 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. The charter holder did not 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

Sonoran Desert School operates one school serving grades 9-12. Sonoran Desert School is designated as an alternative school. The graph below shows the charter holder's actual 100th day average daily membership (ADM) for fiscal years 2009-2013.



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

Academic Performance Rating FY 2012

Charter Holder: Sonoran Desert School
Entity ID 78868

Charter School: Sonoran Desert School
Entity ID 78869, Grades 9-12

1. Growth

Alternative High School		1a. SGP		1b. Improvement	
School	**School Year**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**
Sonoran Desert School	2011-2012	NR	NR	25	41.5
Points Assigned		0	0	50	50
Weight		0	0	15	15

2. Proficiency

Alternative High School		2a. Percent Passing		2b. Subgroup ELL		2b. Subgroup FRL		2b. Subgroup SPED	
School	**School Year**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**	**Math**	**Read**
Sonoran Desert School	2011-2012	0/20	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Points Assigned		25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weight		30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

3. State Accountability & Overall Rating

Alternative High School		3a. State Accountability	4a. Graduation Rate	4b. Academic Persistence	Overall Rating
School	**School Year**	**Grade**	**GradRate**	**Persist**	
Sonoran Desert School	2011-2012	50	met	NR	51.25
Points Assigned		50	75	0	
Weight		5	35	0	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 overall rating for the school on the Board's academic performance measures was 51.25 including points received for the FY 2012 letter grade of C-ALT as reported by the Arizona Department of Education.

The Demonstration of Sufficient Progress (DSP) submitted by the charter holder with the renewal application package was evaluated using the DSP evaluation criteria to determine if the school operated by the charter holder is making progress toward meeting the Board's academic performance expectations. At the time of the charter holder's Five-Year Interval Review, Performance Management Plans were not included in the Board's processes for review.

The initial evaluation of the DSP for Sonoran Desert School did not provide a description of a systematic plan for the majority of the measures in the areas of instruction and professional development.

Following a preliminary evaluation of the DSP, staff conducted a site visit on May 17, 2013 to meet with Patricia Dalman, Charter Representative/Administrator and Shawn Dalman, Administrator to confirm the documentation presented in the DSP and review additional information to be considered in the final evaluation (presented in the charter holder's renewal portfolio: c. DSP Evaluation Instrument) of the charter holder's Demonstration of Sufficient Progress submission. All evidence discussed in the DSP was

confirmed during the site visit. The charter holder provided additional evidence and documentation (presented in the renewal portfolio: d. DSP Evidence) regarding all areas not sufficiently addressed in the submitted DSP including an on-line demonstration of the systematic plan to monitor standards, monitor and response to intervention, and data analysis to individualize instruction. The charter holder also provided an individualized professional development system for staff that was able to be cross-referenced to the professional development plan.

Therefore, Sonoran Desert School, through an evaluation of the DSP submitted, including information and documentation confirmed at the site visit, was able to demonstrate sufficient progress toward meeting the Board's academic performance expectations.

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

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

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 did not meet the academic performance expectations set forth in the Board's performance framework but was able to demonstrate sufficient progress toward the Board's expectations. Additionally, the Board has adopted an academic performance framework that allows for additional consideration of the charter holder throughout the next contract period. 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 Sonoran Desert School.

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 Sonoran Desert School. 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.)