Adding Grade Levels to Charter Amendment Request

Charterholder Info

Charter Holder

Name:
The Paideia Academies, Inc.

CTDS:
07-82-06-000

Mailing Address:
550 West Warner Road
Chandler, AZ 85225
View detailed info

Representative

Name:
Robert Winsor

Phone Number:

Downloads

Download all files

Current Grade Levels

Current Grade Levels Served

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

6th

Curriculum Samples

Download File — Paideia Math Sample 6th Grade
Download File — Revised reading sample
Download File — Revised writing sample

Effective Date
07/01/2013

Attachments

Board Minutes — Download File

Narrative — Download File

Timeline for implementation — Download File

Additional Information*
No documents were uploaded.

Signature

Charter Representative Signature
Robert Winsor 03/21/2013

Agenda: Paideia Academies, Inc.
Paideia Academy of South Phoenix

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2013
5:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Location:
7777 S. 15th Terrace
Phoenix, AZ 85042
Called to order at 5:00pm.
The following members of the board were present:
Stephen Court, Robert Young, and Joronda Montano (phone)
Board Member Absent: Rebeca Gau
Present Guests: Vince Fuentes, Brian Winsor, and Lourdes Rodriguez

I. Opening Items
   a. Pledge of Allegiance
   b. Verify quorum – 3 voting members present, one voting member absent

II. Consent Agenda Items
   a. Approval of Minutes
      Moved by Robert Young
      Second by Joronda Montano
      Unanimous in favor with corrections regarding addition of 6th grade for 2013/2014 school year.
   b. Executive Director's Report

III. Increase Grade Level
   a. Dr. Winsor discussed to increase the grade level to 6th grade in the upcoming school year 2013-14.
      Mr. Court entertained a motion to increase Paideia grade level to 6th grade for the 2013 /2014 school year.
      Moved by Joronda Montano
      Second by Robert Young
      Unanimous in favor
   b. Charter Board to approve and increase enrollment from 450 to 525.

IV. Board Development
   The Board continues to look around for another board member to join.

V. Classroom Site Fund Plan Approval
   a. Mr. Fuentes explained the Classroom Site Fund. The teacher evaluation consists of two parts which are student achievement and teacher effectiveness. Dr. Winsor also discussed the levels and percentages of the bonus.
   b. Approval for Classroom Site Fund Policy and Procedure
      Mr. Court entertained a motion to approve the Paideia Classroom Site Fund Policy and Procedure.
      Moved by Joronda Montano
      Second by Robert Young
      Unanimous in favor

VI. Employee Handbook Modifications
   a. Mr. Fuentes discussed to modify the teacher and admin staff handbook. The handbook will be reviewed by the HR department upon completion.

VII. Budget and Finance Report 2012-13
   a. Projection
   b. Impact on Preschool
   c. Impact on Family Center

VIII. Public Comment
   No Public Comment

IX. Adjournment
   Meeting adjourned 6:03pm

Next board meeting set February 14, 2013, 2012 at 7777 S. 15th Terrace Phoenix, AZ 85042

Steve Cmt

Approved by Name & Date

Amendment Request to add sixth grade

Paideia Academies, Inc

Paideia Academy of South Mountain

CTDS Number: 078206000

Authorized Representative: Robert C. Winsor II (Brian)

Title/Relationship to Applicant: Founder and Executive Director

Address: 7777 S. 15th Terrace, Phoenix AZ 85042

Phone Number: 602-343-3040

Email: drbrian@paideiaacademies.com

Amendment Narrative

The amendment narrative below seeks to gain approval by the Arizona State Charter Board to amend the current K-5th grade charter of The Academy of South Phoenix to include a subsequent 6th grade by satisfactorily discussing the background and support for expansion and how the additional grades support the mission, educational philosophy, and methods of instruction

Background

The Paideia Academy of South Phoenix is the first school in Arizona to introduce and embrace the Paideia philosophy and learning methodology that has proven successful in educating diverse student populations and closing the achievement gaps in public schools across the nation. The Paideia Academy was awarded its charter in January of 2012 with goals to expand grade levels each year culminating in a secondary school to serve grades 7 through 12. The Paideia method of learning is whole-child centered placing the responsibility for intellectual and academic achievement on the student and family.

The community of parents and students currently served are very hopeful for the eventual expansion to 12th grade. Students, graduating from the future Paideia high school will possess the necessary academic knowledge, intellectual skills, and work ethic to be admitted to and graduate from rigorous, high quality universities thus setting the foundation for success later on in career, citizenship, and family life.

Additional Grades Support the Paideia Mission, Methods, and Goals

Paideia (py-dee-uh) is a Greek term meaning the upbringing of the whole child. The Paideia mission is to help learners discover their individual worth, immeasurable potential, and inherent gift of agency for the good of others. To reach this heightened awareness of worth, potential, and agency students must be developed into proactive, independent, aggressive learners. The current system for educating children in the South Phoenix area fosters reactive, resistant, passive learners. It will take more than the years of Kindergarten through fifth grade to change the paradigm of students from dependent to independent learners. The Paideia Academy whole-child philosophy, teaching and learning model, and curricular components have been chosen and implemented to create just such learners.

Whole-Child Education

The ultimate goal of Paideia Academy is to assist learners in life-long success in college, career, citizenship, and family life. The goal and mission of Paideia Academy is brought to pass by creating a hub of synergy within the school facility to assist families in the upbringing of the whole child – intellectual and academic, character and leadership, culture and recreation, physical, mental, and emotional health.

Paideia Family Resource Center A significant portion of the hub of positive synergy is generated through the Paideia Family Resource Center (PFRC) operated by Tanner Community Development Corporation. Within the PFRC services are offered for the strengthening and support of all families within the Paideia and South Phoenix community. These services include behavior and mental health counseling, parent and family enrichment coaching, family finance and economic education courses, and adult education courses to name just a few. These services assist parents in creating positive home environments conducive to nurturing children's sense of worth, potential, and use of agency towards success in life – college, career, citizenship, and family. To achieve high rates of long-term success, the

support our families receive must extend beyond the fifth grade. Several of our families receive ongoing nurturing through the PFRC in hopes of extending beyond the fifth grade.

Paideia Cub Scout Troop 787 Understanding the significance of whole-child education, Paideia Academy has charted its own Cub Scout and Boy Scout program – Paideia Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop 787. This program reaches boys from first through eighth grade. The Cub Scout Pack teaches boys self-discipline, integrity, and hard work towards significant goals. The Cub Scout program is integrally tied to the school program. Boys work towards earning awards rich in reading, writing, critical thinking, citizenship, and physical activity. The Webelos are fourth and fifth grade boys working towards becoming Boy Scouts when they enter the sixth grade.

Paideia Girl Scout Troop 1381 Paideia Academy has aligned itself with the Girl Scouts to provide whole-child education for the girls of Paideia. The Paideia Girl Scout program reaches out to girls from kindergarten through high school. The Paideia Girl Scout program empowers girls to be confident, creative, and strong independent learners. This program is rich in reading, writing, intellectual reasoning, and real-life learning. The fifth grade girls are Juniors hoping to continue with Paideia Girl Scouts as Cadets in the sixth grade and beyond.

Extra-curricular Enrichment In keeping with the whole-child focus, Paideia Academy has developed a strong program of after-school enrichment to include art club, Owl Choir, dance club, sports, and garden club. Each of these programs is designed to provide the foundation for further learning and experience in the upper grades.

Paideia Teaching and Learning Model

The Paideia teaching and learning model is designed to place the responsibility for learning on the student. Students gain greater confidence and feelings of self-worth through this model leading them to success in college, career, citizenship, and family life. This model is specifically implemented to change the paradigm of students from passive to proactive learners. To achieve highest impact students must remain in this model well beyond the fifth grade.

The teaching and learning model of the Paideia philosophy is defined by the following characteristics:

- All teachers in the school use **intellectual coaching** as the central teaching and learning strategy, where teachers guide students through modeling and questioning to acquire expertise in skills of critical thinking in the context of reading, writing, calculating, and observing.
- All teachers in the school use **product-oriented learning techniques** (coached projects) for the majority of the instructional program, where teachers apply whole-task approaches to the design of learning tasks, which focus on the coordination and integration of constituent skills from the very beginning. Product-oriented learning as a form of complex learning is always involved with achieving highly integrated sets of learning goals, where the whole is clearly more than the sum of its parts because it also includes the ability to coordinate the parts. Product-oriented learning thus stresses that effective performance relies on an integration of skills, knowledge and attitudes.
- All teachers in the school use **relatively little direct teaching** and that which is used actively engages students in meaningful, higher-order learning activities.

- The school stresses the same **integrated core curriculum** for all students, including fine arts, music, foreign language, and the manual arts, giving students the independent opportunity to explore these areas as they relate to the core academic subjects. This makes the curriculum rigorous, relevant, and engaging while increasing the opportunities for students to excel in advanced curriculum environments.
- **Assessment** of students is **individualized in addition to standardized** emphasizing portfolio and narrative assessments in conjunction with traditional grading and appraisal. Individual potential and growth is consistently stressed.

Paideia Curricular Components

Each curricular component of the Paideia learning model was specifically chosen to create independent, critical thinking learners. Each component builds upon itself culminating in a rigorous advanced grade experience of self-motivated learning. These components include:

Language Arts and Literacy Paideia Academy uses the combination of the Spalding Writing Road to Reading and Jr. Great Books Shared Inquiry for the foundation of its language arts and literacy program. When combined these two programs build the essential and foundational language arts skills to enable the learner to expand upon literacy skills.

The Spalding Writing Road to Reading is a comprehensive K-6 total language arts program, where all elements of the language, are integrated in spelling, writing, and reading lessons. It incorporates all the components identified by the National Reading Panel as essential and necessary for success in reading and acquiring early literacy skills required to build a strong foundation for ongoing reading development - phonemic awareness, systematic phonics, high-frequency vocabulary, word meanings and usages, word parts, grammar, composition, literary appreciation, text structure, fluency, listening and reading comprehension.

Paideia Academy uses the Junior Great Books Shared Inquiry program to help students in grades 1 through 8 become independent readers and thinkers ready for the diverse demands of the 21st century. The Great Books program aligns with the Common Core standards and matches key components of language arts curriculum standards and helps students meet specific performance objectives—which typically include reading comprehension, oral communication, writing, vocabulary, literature, and literary response.

To achieve greatest impact, students must have continuous experience in these two programs through advanced grade levels.

Mathematics To fulfill the goal of creating independent, proactive learners, Paideia Academy has implemented the Singapore Math system. This system is designed to build a foundation of arithmetic theory into learners that will position them for more advanced math in higher grade levels. Singapore Math accomplishes this is by first introducing learners to a few key concepts with concrete examples and pictures. Then, the learner is led progressively and logically to understand the abstract concept. Singapore Math is a pleasing balance between drill and creative problem solving. Those who have compared Singapore Math with other math curriculum report that Singapore math moves the students

more quickly and rationally toward abstract concepts. There is an emphasis on homework and practice, and an effective mix of word problems, drills and mental calculation. Instruction is paced to the needs of each individual student. Paideia learners must continue these math strategies throughout the higher grade levels in order to achieve greatest impact.

Conclusion

To accommodate the 57 fifth graders advancing through the Paideia method of learning, Paideia Academies, Inc is requesting the addition of 6th grade to the charter. The Paideia Academy whole-child philosophy, teaching and learning model, and curricular components have been chosen and implemented specifically to empower students towards success in college, career, citizenship, and family life.

Proficiency Level for Promotion

Students must achieve an 80% mastery of academic core content to be eligible for promotion to the next grade level. No student will advance to the next grade level without having mastered or be progressing rapidly toward mastery level of common core and state standards.

A student at risk of retention will be identified in early spring through benchmark assessments and class work grades. The at-risk student will be placed in the RTI program for skill deficit remediation. At the end of the year, promotion decisions will be made by the teacher, administrator, and parent. The decision will be based on an array of assessments to include benchmark data, RTI data, classroom work and assessments, observations, student portfolios, state AIMS assessments, and other relevant information such as teacher or administrator recommendations. Students identified for retention will be placed in a summer RTI program for skill deficit remediation. If adequate progress is made during the summer session, the decision for retention may be reversed by the teacher, administrator, and parent.

The intervention/remediation program at The Paideia Academy complies with A. R.S. 15-701, which outlines intervention and remedial strategies developed by the state board of education for pupils who are not promoted from the third grade.

Amendment Request to add sixth grade

Paideia Academies, Inc

Paideia Academy of South Mountain

CTDS Number: 078206000

Authorized Representative: Robert C. Winsor II (Brian)

Title/Relationship to Applicant: Founder and Executive Director

Address: 7777 S. 15th Terrace, Phoenix AZ 85042

Phone Number: 602-343-3040

Email: drbrian@paideiaacademies.com

Timeline for Implementation

June 2013 – purchase curriculum and materials to support two 6th grade classrooms

June 2013 – purchase furniture and supplies to support two 6th grade classrooms

June 2013 – recruit and hire two highly qualified 6th grade teachers

June through August 2013 – Transfer continuing 5th grade students who have met the 80% criteria for promotion to 6th grade within SchoolMaster

June 2013 – recruit and enroll new students to 6th grade

July 2013 – train teachers in Paideia curriculum (Singapore Math, Spalding Writing Road to Reading, Junior Great Books Shared Inquiry, FOSS Science, Engineering is Elementary), methods (Didactic instruction, Intellectual Coaching and Coached Projects, Paideia Seminar, LiD Projects), and school procedures.

August 2013 – begin school for 6th grade