



UTAH STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD

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DeLaina Tonks

Marlies Burns,
Executive Director

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Marlies Burns
Executive Director

DATE: October 8-9, 2015

ACTION: Amendment Request from Esperanza Elementary

Background:

Esperanza Elementary opened in fall 2014 serving 391 students in grades K-6. The school population continues to grow and has a wait list for every grade served. Esperanza Elementary requests to accelerate its approved growth model to serve 525 students beginning in 2016-2017 rather than waiting until 2018-2019, which is an acceleration of 50 students. The State Charter School Board has reviewed and approved the amendment to the school's charter agreement and forwards it to the State Board of Education for consideration.

Key Points:

Esperanza Elementary is located within Granite School District. The school has a wait list for every grade served.

The executive summary report is included and additional information submitted by the school can be found at

<http://schools.utah.gov/charterschools/State-Charter-School-Board/2015-Board-Meetings/August-2015.aspx>

Anticipated Action:

The Law and Licensing Committee will consider approving Esperanza Elementary governing board's request as outlined in the amendment documentation. If approved by the Committee, the Board will consider approving the request.

Contact: Marlies Burns, Executive Director, State Charter School Board,
801-538-7817
Angie Stallings, Associate Superintendent, 801-538-7550

AMENDMENT

Utah State Board of Education Charter School Board Executive Summary Report

The Utah State Charter School Board (SCSB) is charged with authorizing, monitoring, evaluating, and dismissing charters of public schools in Utah. Its work is under the direct supervision of the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) per Utah Code 53A-1a-501.5.

This summary report shall be completed by the SCSB and submitted to Brad C. Smith, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Utah State Office of Education, two weeks ahead of the regularly scheduled USBE meetings for approval and inclusion in the board's agenda materials. Only that which is in writing, and included in the agenda materials, as ratified for recommendation by the SCSB, shall be considered by the USBE in its final approval process. Attachments, by way of clarification, or elaboration, may be included.

1. Charter School Esperanza Elementary
2. Website www.esperanzaelementary.org
Board Chair: Janet Christensen Email luv2teachesl@gmail.com
School Administrator: Eulogio Alejandre Email eulogio.alejandre@esperanzaelementary.org
3. The Charter school is located in which school district? Granite
4. Requested amendment to charter (summary – full report can be found on State Charter School Board website at: <http://schools.utah.gov/charterschools/State-Charter-School-Board/2015-Board-Meetings/August-2015.aspx>)

Esperanza Elementary governing board requests approval to add 50 students beginning the 2016-2017 school year.

5. Charter school mission and purpose(s):

Mission Statement: All Esperanza Elementary stakeholders work as a team doing whatever it takes to provide the environment that fosters what each student needs to become biliterate and to acquire the skills and attributes needed to effectively serve in our global community.

Community Engagement: Esperanza Elementary ensures that this mission is accomplished through its unique program and school community. The ultimate success of students and the school is dependent upon all of the constituents – especially parents, staff and board – understanding the programs and community culture, and being engaged and involved. We have set a goal to support this plan.

6. Charter school student demographics (2014-2015 data):
 - 341 students in grades K - 6
 - 93.9% ethnic/racial minority
 - 72.9% students are economically disadvantaged

- 26.1% students are learning English
- 11.5% students with disabilities

Granite School District student demographics (2014-2015 data):

- 67,660 students in grades K – 12
- 46.1% ethnic/racial minority
- 56.2% students are economically disadvantaged
- 15.3% students learning English
- 10.9% students with disabilities

7. What is the position of the local district regarding the amendment request? Who was the contact at the local district? (Attachment of letters, if necessary)

The school submitted the entire amendment request to Superintendent Martin W. Bates, Granite School District, on August 28, 2015. No concerns from the districts have been received to date.

8. Please provide a summary of the Utah State Charter School Board discussion pertaining to this amendment request, including points it would like the Utah State Board of Education to consider when making the decision to approve the amendment.

The State Charter School Board reviewed and discussed the governing board's request to add 50 students this year (2015-2016), but did not approve that request. Instead, it approved an acceleration of the students already approved for future years beginning with 2016-2017.

9. Votes of the SCSB in approving the charter school application:

(Listing of charter board members' vote)

DeLaina Tonks, Tim Beagley
 Kristin Elinkowski, Bruce Davis
 Howard Headlee, Robert Enger,
Dean Brockbank

Recommended full approval

Not present for vote