



Board of Supervisors Memorandum

May 20, 2014

Resolution No. 2014-_____

**Application for Charter Extension between Pima County and the Arizona State Board
for Charter Schools to Renew the
Pima County Charter to Operate Pima Vocational High School**

Background

Pima Vocational High School (PVHS, the School) is an Arizona Charter school created by the Board of Supervisors in September, 2000. The school is operated by the County Community Services, Employment Training Department (CSET) and administered by a Charter School Board appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The purpose of PVHS is to provide an intervention and education program for older, low income high school dropouts that helps them earn a high school diploma and obtain sustainable employment. PVHS was designed to supplement and expand CSET's existing youth employment and education programs and to minimize cost to the County by qualifying for and using Arizona Department of Education (ADOE) charter school funds. PVHS was granted an initial 15-year charter and in June will successfully complete its 14th year of operation.

The School is now applying for a new, 20-year charter. Resolution Number 2014-_____ approving the new charter application will be included for Board of Supervisors consideration on the May 20, 2014 agenda.

Performance

PVHS provides a path to sustainable employment for low-income youth ages 16 to 21 with multiple barriers to employment. These unemployed youth have often dropped out of several schools and are not receiving services from other schools or employment training programs. At enrollment, the typical participant is 17.5 years of age, unemployed, out of school, and not eligible for GED or training programs due to low academic performance (fifth grade in mathematics and sixth grade in reading). In 2013, the profile for PVHS participants was: low income 92 percent; parenting teens 29 percent; court-involved 28 percent and homeless 37 percent. This is a population that needs special assistance to complete school and become contributing citizens.

PVHS is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, which is the accrediting institution for all Arizona schools. The accreditation is for five years, and PVHS will reapply for renewed accreditation in 2015. The School serves 250 students

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annually among three school sites located in the Pima-Tucson Enterprise Zone corridor. It enrolls youth from all five supervisorial districts; and in June will have graduated a total of 495 students. The program offers youth short-term, part-time internships while they are in school, which helps youth connect classroom learning to the real employment world. Statistics for the 2011 through 2013 graduating classes show a 90 percent post-secondary success rate: 36 percent in full-time employment, 32 percent in part-time positions at 80 local employers, 15 percent enrolled in post-secondary college and 7 percent in job training programs.

Funding

The primary funding sources for PVHS for the last eight years are shown in Table 1 below. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, 82 percent of the support for the program was from non-County funds. Over the last seven years, the program has generated over \$7.6 million in state and federal funding to assist high-risk, Pima County youth with education and employment.

Table 1: PVHS Revenues, FY 2007 through FY 2014.

FY	State Aid and Grants Revenue*	General Fund (GF)	FY Total	Additional GF for summer Interns ***	Percent of State Funding Total
2014**	970,206	231,016	1,201,222	25,425	81
2013	1,171,701	258,851	1,430,552	35,579	82
2012	903,181	210,453	1,113,634	-	81
2011	975,579	211,914	1,187,493	-	82
2010	1,268,598	222,007	1,490,605	-	85
2009	1,082,791	205,341	1,288,132	-	84
2008	1,123,509	315,002	1,438,511	-	78
2007	1,106,919	316,931	1,423,850	-	78

**Represents a 20-percent reduction in base support from State aid from 2008 to the present, supplemented by increased student attendance rate payments, General Fund support, grants and reductions in expenses.*

*** Based on projected amounts for FY 2014. Approximately \$67,000 of General Funds are used to pay student wages for internships during the school year.*

**** Prior to 2013, these funds were paid directly from CSET's summer youth budget.*

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Current Need

Nationally and locally, the high cost of youth dropping out of school and failing to obtain sustainable jobs continues to weigh on both public and private entities. Young high school dropouts continue to impact the juvenile justice system, the unemployment rate, homeless families, and the pool of unskilled workers in Pima County. Attempts to develop successful programs that provide a pathway to career and employment are few and often do not provide desired outcomes.

PVHS works closely with and accepts many referrals from the Pima County Juvenile Court system. The Juvenile Court Education Coordinator, as well as Superior Court Presiding Judge Sally Simmons, has recommended PVHS as a model for other educational programs in transitioning youth. Between 2005 and 2011, an average 8,100 juveniles annually were referred to Pima County Juvenile Court. For many of these youth, successful transition back into school following court involvement is difficult. PVHS' daily cost per student is only 10 percent of the cost of detention in the juvenile facility. The school offers a positive and cost effective alternative to juvenile detention.

Governance and Administration

Pima County is the charter holder for PVHS. Administratively, the School is part of CSET. The program follows all Pima County procurement, personnel, and fiscal policies and practices all ADOE charter school laws and regulations. PVHS and our Finance Department maintain an accounting system that meets ADOE standards. The financial system is audited annually by the office of the Arizona Auditor General.

Policy and oversight of the School are provided by a seven-member school policy board. All Board appointees and PVHS staff must comply with all ADOE background checks, credit checks and fingerprint requirements. Current members of the PVHS Board are:

1. Albert Garcia, Chair. Retired Regional Wastewater Training director; foster father to special needs Native American older youth; advisor to Marana school District on special needs children.
2. Thad Dugan. TUSD school administrator; expertise in TUSD alternative programs for at risk students and program evaluation.
3. Mary Fellows. Pima Community College employee; expertise in budget and financial analysis.

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4. Sharon Christy. Pima County Procurement Department; expertise in procurement policy/expenditures; parent of alternative school participants.
5. Dalila Perez. Pima County CSET employee – expertise in technology; experienced mentor to PVHS interns in the workplace.
6. Jim Mize. Retired Raytheon human relations and public relations manager; currently Pima County One Stop Employer Relations Manager.
7. Michele Heimpel (ex-officio, nonvoting). PVHS Program Manager; expertise in school management, charter and alternative school programs, and instructional supervision.

Charter Renewal

A.R.S. 15-183 governs the chartering and renewal of charters for charter schools. Section 15-183-I authorizes renewal application to be filed 15 months prior to expiration of the charter (May 22, 2014) and defines the requirements for renewal, which are:

- A. Meeting or making sufficient progress toward the academic performance expectations set forth in the performance framework.
- B. Meeting the operational performance expectations set forth in the performance framework or any improvement plans.
- C. Completing the obligations of the original contract.
- D. Complying with A.R.S. §15-183 or any provision of law from which the charter school is not exempt.

PVHS is fully accredited and in good standing both academically and financially and meets all of these requirements.

Benefits of a Charter for Pima County

The charter with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools (transferred from the ADOE) provides the dynamic pooling of resources and expertise for the success of a very vulnerable teen dropout population who have few alternative options to forge a job and career path. The charter enables the County to access state and federal funds, which provide an approximately 4 to 1 match to County General Funds to support an intensive two-year program that results in enrolling dropout youth in school and a pathway out of poverty. Students complete extensive employment training, a viable career plan, and requirements for a full high school diploma from a fully accredited secondary school.

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Homeless, parenting, court-involved, and abandoned youth receive case management aimed at self-sufficiency in problem solving. Excellent instruction, vocational experience, employment assistance, and access to Pima County OneStop resources assist youth to stay in school through graduation. With improved academic and employment skills, they obtain full- or part-time employment and/or continue employment training opportunities.

Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors pass and adopt Resolution No. 2014-____ approving the Pima Vocational High School Charter renewal application and authorizing staff to submit the application to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools.

Respectfully submitted,



C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/mjk – May 8, 2014

Attachments

c: Hank Atha, Deputy County Administrator for Community and Economic Development
Art Eckstrom, Director, Community Services, Employment and Training
Michele Heimpel, Program Coordinator, Pima Vocational High School



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 10, 2013

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator *CHH*

Re: **Pima Vocational High School**

I recently communicated with the Board of Supervisors regarding the County General Fund allocation to Pima Vocational High School (PVHS), a County charter school. I also outlined the alternative cost of not providing such a charter high school based on actual experiences of our juvenile and adult detention facilities.

I am now providing data on the post-graduation placement of PVHS students. The data represents three classes: 2011, 2012 and 2013. Prior to attending and graduating from PVHS, 97 percent of these individuals were unemployed and out of school at the time of enrollment.

The attached graph indicates that 89 percent of graduates were employed or taking part in additional technical training or post-secondary college education after they graduated. Those that reported no work or training were only 11 percent of the 156 graduates. Those that were employed were employed in nearly 80 different Tucson-based employers. The employment data was collected from exit reports at graduation, at one-year, during two-year post-graduation follow-ups, and from several other sources.

Also attached is a memorandum from the Pima County Juvenile Court Education Coordinator that attests to her positive evaluation of the PVHS role in assisting Juvenile Court referrals.

I believe this information demonstrates the value of PVHS and of the limited general funds the Board of Supervisors has provided to support this high school.

CHH/dph

Attachment

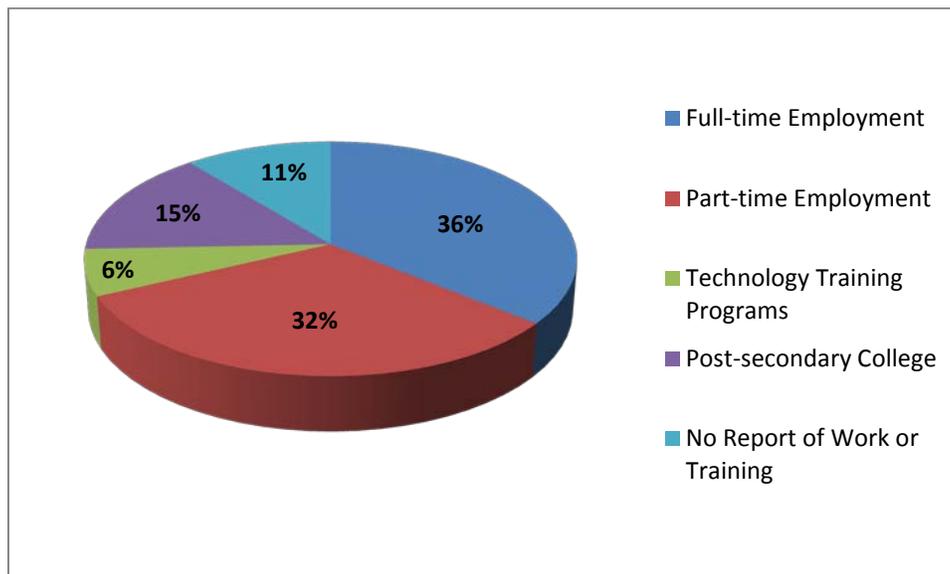
c: Hank Atha, Deputy County Administrator for Community and Economic Development
Gloria Proo, Program Manager, Community Services Employment and Training

Pima Vocational High School

Post-graduation Vocational Placements – Classes of 2011, 2012 and 2013

Placement	Number of Graduates	Percentage of Graduates	Comments
Full time employment	56	36	See attached list
Part-time employment	50	32	Some part-time employees are also attending college
Technical Training Programs	10	6	Includes Pima Medical Institute, Pima Community College Certificate. Programs, Commercial Driver's License Schools
Post-secondary College	23	15	Includes 20 at Pima Community College, 1 at Arizona State University, 1 at The University of Arizona, and 1 in Virginia
No Report of Work or Training	17	11	
Total	156	100	

97 percent of these graduates were unemployed and out of school upon enrollment in Pima Vocational High School.



Pima Vocational High School

List of Pima County Employers Where Graduates are Employed Full or Part-Time

Sushi Garden	Lucky Wishbone	Walmart
Del Taco	Rod Robertson Enterprises	Sushi Hama
5 Star Quality Care	Cool Auto Inc.	SQP Construction
Anderson Financial Network	Arizona Consumer Direct	Panda Express
Casino del Sol	Precision Shooting Equipment	Manor Midvale
APAC	Denny's	KLAIM Insurance Broker
Elliot McGuire Development	Tucson Residential Foundation	Fry's
Tucson Professional Landscaping	Mentor Management	Chopstix Asian Diner
Paradise Bakery	Safeway Stores	Chipotle Mexican Grill
Childrens Learning Adventure	Ventana Landscaping	
US Airways	Thornsdale Octopus Carwash	
Tucson Clean & Beautiful	Goodwill Industries	
Paul Johnson Drywall	Pace Electrical	
Papaya Clothing	Casino del Sol	
Original Hamburger Stand	ARC Santa Catalina	
Olive Garden/Red Lobster	Foxmoor	
Native New Yorker	Rillito Nursery	
My Little Angels Daycare	Advanced Web Media	
My Little Angels Daycare	Up In Smoke	
Little Caesar	AVG Enterprises	
Kentucky Fried Chicken	Arbors	
Hyponex Corp.	Arby's	
Harkins Administrative Services	Classic Management	
General Dynamic Information	Hungry Howie's	
Gadabout Hair Salon	Family Dollar	
ESG Arizona	Southern Arizona Panting	
Eegee's	McDonald's	
Dollar Tree Inc.	Kenney Enterprises	
Crossroads Adult Care	Viva Burrito	
Carl's Jr.	LQK Enterprises	
Canyon Valley Memory Care	Guillermo's Double L	
C3/ Customer Contact Channels	El Guero Canelo	
Buffalo Wild Wings	Crothall Laundry Serices	
Amber Lights Retirement	Panda Express	
ABM Janitorial Services	Anderson Financial Network	
Waffle House	Chicago Music Store	
Watermark Services	Circle K Corp	

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

Pima County Juvenile Court

2225 EAST AJO WAY

TUCSON, ARIZONA 85713-6295

(520) 740-2068

FAX (520) 243-2222

Stephen M. Rubin
Juvenile Court Administrator

Dodie Ledbetter
Juvenile Court Deputy Administrator

July 10, 2013

To: Hank Atha

Deputy County Administrator

From: Cathleen Fitzgerald

Education Programs Coordinator

Pima County Juvenile Court

Re: **Pima Vocational High School**

As an Education Consultant at Pima County Juvenile Court that helps court involved youth, I have worked with Pima Vocational High School for the last 5 years. I believe that PVHS provides a needed option for youth in Pima County. The Juvenile Court believes that youth need to be in school and we try to help them focus on their future goals. We see many youth that are older and not on track to graduate or who have just not attended school for over a year. Many have dropped out because they have not experienced success in school and PVHS provides an alternative individualized academic option that can work for students at whatever grade level they are currently functioning. Their admissions process is clearly defined and with a new session starting every six weeks it is available for our youth who are often in transition. At the same time they are obtaining a secondary education they are also receiving vocational training. I know when I refer a youth to PVHS that they will be given the opportunity to explore and learn about different employment paths, establish a career plan and at the same time work towards their high school diploma. Another strong component for youth is the case management that PVHS provides. I recently spoke to a youth in detention that attended PVHS and couldn't wait to get back to school. He said that he loved PVHS and when I asked why he said it was because they help you!

CORE VALUES

Justice for All – Community Safety – Accountability – Competency Development - Staff Development and Participation
Pursuit of Excellence – Collaboration with Stakeholders

**PIMA COUNTY COMMUNITY
SERVICES EMPLOYMENT &
TRAINING DEPARTMENT**

Memo

To: C.H. Huckelberry, County Administrator
From: Gloria Proo
Pima Vocational High School
Date: 06/13/13
Re: Pima Vocational high School Funding Sources

Pima Vocational High School is a program of Pima County Community Services Employment and Training which provides a path to sustainable employment for youth ages 16 to 21 with multiple barriers to employability. These youth are not receiving services from other schools or employment training programs including JTED.

The typical participant is 17.5 years of age, unemployed, out-of-school for 6 months or more, not eligible for GED or training programs due to low academic performance of 5th grade in mathematics and 6th grade in reading. This year the program served 254 students among the three school sites representing all 5 supervisorial districts.

Participants are:

Low Income: 92%

Parenting teens: 29%

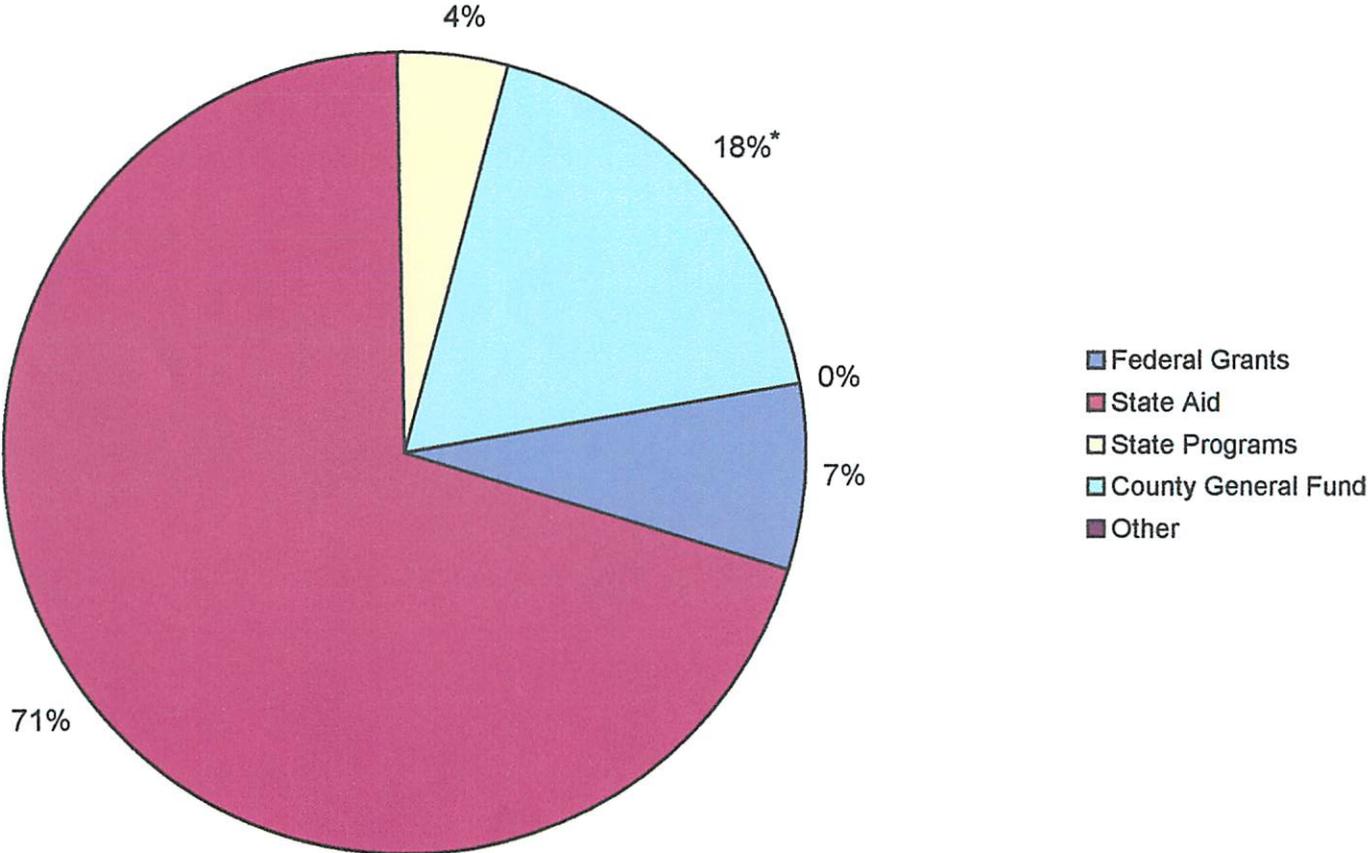
Court involved: 28%

Homeless: 37%

Four hundred forty-one (441) formerly out-of school youth have earned their full high school diploma from Pima Vocational High School and completed 96+ hours of employability skills training and work experience. 84% of graduates report full time employment and/or post-secondary study two years after completing the program.

In FY 2013, 82% of the revenue sources for this program are non-County funds. Over the last 8 years the program has generated over \$8,000,000 in state and federal funding to provide school-to-work services utilizing nationally recognized strategies to connect high-risk youth to education and employment.

Pima Vocational 2013 Revenue Sources



* Approximately 20% of general fund increase over 2012 is a re-allocation of funds from CSET general fund to PVHS for student intern on the job training.

Pima Vocational Funding Sources 2011-2013

