

ARIZONA SCHOOL REPORT CARD 2002-03

Achievement Profile¹:

Ventana Academic Charter School

- Excelling
- Improving
- Maintaining Performance
- Underperforming
- Extremely Small School

Ventana Academic Charter School
6424 E. Cave Creek Road, Cave Creek, AZ 85331
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1589, Cave Creek, AZ 85327-1589

Director: Ms. Yvonne C. Watterson, M.A.Ed.
Schedule: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Web Address: www.ventanaschool.com
E-mail: ventana@qwest.net

Grades: K-8
2002 Enrollment: 84
Phone: (480) 488-9362
Fax: (480) 488-2079

∨ School Overview ∨

Mission

Ventana Academic School emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to learning where technology is integrated throughout the core elementary curriculum. Ventana students are empowered to become lifelong learners, creative leaders, and contributing, ethical citizens.

Organization and Philosophy

- w Multi-age Classrooms
- w Committed to Individual Student Success
- w Small Class Size
- w Interdisciplinary Curriculum

Instructional Programs

- w Integrated Technology Curriculum
- w Full-day Kindergarten
- w Individualized Instruction
- w Service Learning Program
- w Music/Chorus
- w Math Tutoring
- w Integrated Recycling Curriculum
- w Foreign Language: Spanish & Japanese

School/Academic Goals

- w Fully integrate technology standards in core curriculum. Each student will have regular access to updated technology.
- w Implement finance curriculum in middle school. Culminating activities include student-run school store, and Stock Market simulation.
- w Implement schoolwide recycling curriculum aligned to national and state standards.
- w Incorporate Professional Teaching Portfolios to determine instructional effectiveness and to reflect teaching as a scholarly activity.

Enrollment

October 1, 2001 School Year Student Enrollment:	129
Accepting New Students in 2002-03 Under Open Enrollment Law ² :	Yes
Number of Students Attending Under Open Enrollment in 2001-02:	84

¹ For an explanation of the Achievement Profiles, please visit <http://www.ade.az.gov/azlearns>.

² Under ARS§15-816, school district governing boards must implement open enrollment programs and establish policies covering admission criteria, application procedures and transportation provisions. For more information, contact the school district office.

∨ **School Site Council** ∨

Council Composition

- 1 School Administrator(s)
- 1 Non-certified Employee(s)
- 5 Teacher(s)
- 10 Parent(s)
- 2 Community Member(s)
- 0 Student(s)

Council Duties

- w School and Classroom Volunteer Program
- w Marketing & Fundraising
- w Extracurricular Activities
- w Community Involvement
- w Business/Community Relations
- w Enrollment

∨ **Staffing Information** ∨

School administration and instruction for school year 2002-03 are provided by:

Position	Number	Position	Number
Administrator	1.00	Teacher	9.00
Other Professional Staff	1.00	Teacher Aide	0.00

Educational Attainment by Years of Teaching Experience of Current Teaching Staff

Experience	Degree			
	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Other
3 or fewer years	4	1	0	1
4 to 6 years	0	0	0	1
7 to 9 years	1	0	0	0
10 or more years	2	0	0	0

∨ **Shared Responsibilities** ∨

School

Ventana values standards of academic excellence. Staff will report student achievement through conferences, phone calls, progress reports, AIMS, Stanford 9 results, and student portfolios; provide resources for parents to help their children succeed; provide instructional services to students in need of further assistance; provide a supportive environment for the development of the basic skills in all subject areas; provide instructional activities which may include after school tutoring.

Parents

Ventana parents communicate the importance of education to their children; support Ventana through attendance at teacher conferences and Ventana community functions; provide a quiet time and place for homework, monitor assignments, and monitor TV viewing; read with their children daily; ensure their children attend school every day on time; ensure that their children get adequate sleep, regular medical and dental attention, and proper nutrition; and notify the school of any special concerns.

∨ **Transportation Policy** ∨

Parents are responsible for transportation arrangements; Ventana's volunteers organize and implement carpooling program.

∨ Calendar Information ∨

Number of Instruction Days:	178	First Day of School:	8/13/02
Average Daily Instruction Time:	7 hrs. 0 min.	Last Day of School:	5/22/03

Operates on Traditional Schedule

Report Card Release Dates

10/11/02	12/19/02	3/7/03	5/21/03
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Additional Calendar/Report Card Information

In addition to mid-term progress reports and report cards, students compile working portfolios and present showcase portfolios of their work during Parent-Teacher conferences. Performance-based assessments are aligned to the Arizona Academic Standards. Students also complete Self Assessments at the end of each quarter. In addition to report cards, teachers complete a Work Ethics Checklist aligned to the Arizona Workplace Standards.

∨ Resources Available at School Site ∨

Nutrition Programs

Federal food programs available to eligible³ students:

Breakfast - No Lunch - No Summer Food - No

³ Schools participating in the federal nutrition programs provide meals to all children. Students may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Eligibility is based on the federal poverty guidelines.

Special Facilities

W State-of-the-Art Technology Lab	W Student-managed School Store
W Weekly Access to Foothills Library	

Extracurricular Activities

W Before/After School Homework Club	W Student Council
W MIDI Music Program	W Journalism/School Newspaper
W Recycling	W Math Olympiads
W Kids Voting	W Junior Achievement

School/Community Resources

W Afterschool Program	W Community Volunteer Program
W Volunteer Arts Program	

∨ Indicators of Success ∨

Information provided on this page is based on historical data, primarily from the previous school year, 2001-02.

2001-02 School Achievements/Accomplishments

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>W 7th and 8th graders prepared for and attended Astrocamp. The camp provides hands-on science curriculum, giving students real-life space experiences. The program was sponsored by Foothills Community Foundation, a local philanthropic organization.</p> <p>W Ventana participated in an International Internship Program which brought a Japanese intern to our school. All K-8 students were exposed to Japanese culture, specifically dance, calligraphy, language, costume, and origami.</p> | <p>W Jr. High students participated in Business/Finance program aligned to Arizona Workplace and Mathematics Standards. Program culminated in a successful student-run store which also afforded students the opportunity to actively fund-raise for Ventana.</p> <p>W Tax Credit Fund created afterschool MIDI program. Children from K-8 learned how to play piano and participated in school performances.</p> |
|--|---|

Student Information: 2001-02 Student Activity Rates

	School	Arizona		
		K-6	7-8	9-12
Attendance Rate	94.0 %	95.0 %	94.0 %	94.0 %
Transfers Out ⁴	16.8 %	19.6 %	19.5 %	20.5 %
Transfers In ⁵ : Within District	0.0 %	2.7 %	2.2 %	2.0 %
Transfers In ⁵ : Out-of-District	4.0 %	9.7 %	9.6 %	9.5 %
Promotion Rate ⁶	99.2 %	98.4 %	97.8 %	94.8 %
Retention Rate ⁷	0.8 %	1.5 %	2.1 %	5.2 %
Dropout Rate ⁸	NA			9.5 %
Status Unknown ⁹	NA			6.0 %

Students reported as "dropouts" who may have returned to school for the following academic year are not accounted for in this report.

⁴ Transfers Out: Percentage of accountable students withdrawing to continue studies in another school or to be taught at home for the 2001-02 school year.

⁵ Transfers In: Within District: Percentage of accountable students entering school who were previously enrolled in another Arizona public school within the school district during the 2001-02 school year. Out-of-District: Percentage of accountable students entering school who were previously enrolled in another school district during the 2001-02 school year.

⁶ Promotion Rate: Percentage of students promoted to the next grade or who met graduation requirements and received a traditional diploma at the end of the 2001-02 school year. Percentage includes students who left school at age 22 or who had completed school and received a non-traditional diploma.

⁷ Retention Rate: Percentage of students retained at the end of the 2001-02 school year.

⁸ Dropout Rate: Percentage of students counted as withdrawn due to chronic illness, expulsion or dropping out during the 2000-01 school year, to include activity during the summer of 2001. This rate includes students who were withdrawn after 10 consecutive days of unexcused absences or were coded by the school as "status unknown." The Promotion Rate, Retention Rate, Dropout Rate and Status Unknown Rate may not add to 100% due to the inclusion of summer activity in the Dropout Rate and the Status Unknown Rate but not in the Promotion Rate and Retention Rate. Data for 2001-02 is not yet available.

⁹ Status Unknown: Percentage of students unaccounted for by any method during the 2001-02 school year. Status unknown students are not necessarily dropouts.

∨ School Honors ∨

Awards or special recognition honors received by the school, staff or students:

Award/Honor	Year
Winner: US Savings Bond Poster Contest	2001
Winner: Off the Wall Quilt Contest	2000

∨ Academic Achievement Indicators ∨

Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) is designed to measure student achievement of the Arizona Academic Standards. Effective with the high school Class of 2006 (eighth graders in 2001-02), students must "Meet the Standard" or "Exceed the Standard" on all portions of AIMS or pass an AIMS Equivalent Demonstration (subject to approval by the state Board of Education) in order to be eligible for a high school diploma. High school students who did not attain "Meets the Standard" or "Exceeds the Standard" in reading, writing and mathematics will have additional opportunities to retake the test in their junior and senior years. Students in grades 3, 5, and 8 also take AIMS.

AIMS Results ¹, 2001-02

		Number Tested	MS	FFB	A	M	E
Grade 3	Reading	School 17	534	6%	18%	47%	29%
	State	58840	524	9%	17%	45%	29%
Writing	School	17	551	0%	18%	65%	18%
	State	57282	541	10%	12%	63%	16%
Mathematics	School	18	499	11%	44%	33%	11%
	State	59030	517	11%	27%	35%	27%

Legend

MS	- The Mean Scale Score (average) on a 200-800 scale. A student must have achieved a scale score of 500 to meet the standard. Scale scores are not comparable among content areas.
FFB	- Percent of students who Fell Far Below the standard
A	- Percent of students who Approached the standard
M	- Percent of students who Met the standard
E	- Percent of students who Exceeded the standard

Grade 5

Reading	School	17	508	6%	24%	59%	12%
	State	61305	505	21%	20%	43%	15%
Writing	School	15	517	0%	27%	60%	13%
	State	59599	512	17%	26%	42%	16%
Mathematics	School	17	505	0%	53%	35%	12%
	State	61760	494	14%	40%	12%	34%

Grade 8

Reading	School	**	**	**	**	**	**
	State	57484	504	24%	20%	40%	16%
Writing	School	**	**	**	**	**	**
	State	55420	493	15%	42%	41%	2%
Mathematics	School	**	**	**	**	**	**
	State	57734	459	39%	40%	14%	7%

¹Results reflect student performance on the English form of AIMS.

²Class of 2003 is the cohort of students who began 9th grade during the 1999-2000 school year.

Items of data containing information about fewer than ten students have been replaced with () to protect student privacy.

--Some columns contain dashes (--) to indicate "not applicable" or "no data available."

∨ Mathematics Education and AIMS ∨

On April 24, 2000, the state Board of Education amended the high school graduation requirements to include the following: "Effective with the graduating class of 2004, the two required math credits shall be taken consecutively beginning with the ninth grade and course content shall reflect Academic Standards preparation for proficiency at the high school level." Parents should verify with the school that their ninth grade students are enrolled in one or more mathematics courses that provide instruction in the state Board-adopted mathematics standards that lead to proficiency in high school. Students who begin the ninth grade during the 2001-02 school year should be enrolled in a mathematics sequence that is aligned to the state's mathematics standards and includes instruction in the concepts and performance objectives that will be assessed by AIMS. The Board's amendment to the high school graduation requirements should not be interpreted to mean that all ninth grade students must be enrolled in any *particular* course. **The Board's intent is to assure that all ninth grade students are enrolled in courses that prepare students for success on AIMS.**

∨ Academic Achievement Indicators ∨

Since 1997, students have been tested in reading, language and mathematics using the *Stanford Achievement Test, Ninth Edition*, a standardized, nationally norm-referenced test. Since 1999, all students in grades 2 through 9 have been tested using the Stanford 9, though other grades have been tested in the past (grades 10-12 in 1997 and 1998, grades 10-11 in 1999 and 2000, and grade 1 reading in 2001).

The percentage (%) of eligible students tested and the school's percentile ranks are presented below. State average percentile ranks (AZ) are provided for comparison. Note that the average percentile ranks for the nation are 50 for all content areas in all grades.

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), no individually identifiable references to students may be made. Therefore, items of data containing information about fewer than ten students have been replaced with (**) to protect student privacy. Some columns contain dashes (--) to indicate "not applicable" or "no data available."

Stanford 9 Percentile Rank Scores

Grade	Content Area	1997-1998			1998-1999			1999-2000			2000-2001			2001-2002		
		%	Score	AZ												
1	Reading	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	100	57	60	--	--	--
2	Reading	--	--	--	100	57	50	95	50	52	100	45	53	83	65	57
	Language	--	--	--	100	41	40	100	31	43	100	35	44	83	53	48
	Mathematics	--	--	--	100	63	51	100	27	55	100	54	57	83	35	61
3	Reading	100	54	47	70	53	47	100	40	48	100	47	50	100	51	50
	Language	100	44	49	70	60	51	100	43	54	100	56	56	100	60	57
	Mathematics	100	29	46	75	53	49	100	27	52	100	37	54	100	44	56
4	Reading	81	70	53	92	64	54	100	27	54	71	74	55	100	59	55
	Language	81	54	47	92	52	49	100	26	48	85	65	50	100	55	50
	Mathematics	81	57	51	100	35	54	100	30	55	85	58	57	94	62	58
5	Reading	88	56	51	100	63	51	90	60	51	100	61	51	100	71	53
	Language	88	35	42	100	34	44	90	34	45	100	64	45	100	48	47
	Mathematics	88	46	51	100	48	54	90	33	55	100	69	57	100	54	59
6	Reading	100	69	53	100	68	54	100	**	53	100	--	54	100	71	56
	Language	100	46	41	100	54	44	100	**	44	100	--	45	100	61	47
	Mathematics	100	60	57	100	70	59	100	**	60	100	--	63	100	73	65
7	Reading	86	63	52	100	**	53	91	**	52	100	--	53	86	61	55
	Language	86	42	52	100	**	54	91	**	54	100	--	55	86	71	58
	Mathematics	86	47	53	100	**	55	91	**	56	100	--	58	86	69	60
8	Reading	100	**	54	100	51	54	100	52	53	83	60	55	57	**	56
	Language	100	**	46	100	39	49	100	39	49	83	51	50	57	**	52
	Mathematics	100	**	52	100	51	54	100	38	56	83	56	58	57	**	59

∨ Measure of Academic Progress ∨

Arizona's Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) is an indicator of student academic growth from one year to the next. The results are based on the *Stanford Achievement Test, Ninth Edition* (Stanford 9), given in 2001 and 2002. MAP includes only those students who were tested both years in consecutive grade levels at the same school or who started the school year in the same school in which they were tested in 2002. A student achieves One Year's Growth (OYG) if he or she remains in the same Stanine⁹ or advances a Stanine from one year to the next. The percentage of students achieving OYG at the school is reported below.

⁹ Stanines are normalized standard scores that range from a low of 1 to a high of 9, with 5 designating average performance. National Stanines, like National Percentile Ranks, indicate a student's relative standing in the national norm group (Source: Harcourt Educational Measurement).

The MAP is an elementary school (Grades 2-8) indicator only.

	Reading	Math
	Percentage of Students Achieving One Year's Growth	Percentage of Students Achieving One Year's Growth
Grades 2-3	85	46
Grades 3-4	80	*
Grades 4-5	*	70
Grades 5-6	*	*
Grades 6-7	*	*
Grades 7-8	*	*

*Less than 10 students matched

**No information available

***Not applicable

∨ School Safety ∨

The purpose of this section is to provide parents information about what the school is doing to promote a safe and healthy learning environment.

School-level Efforts to Ensure a Safe and Healthy Learning Environment

Ventana is a small school in a rural town. Traffic for entry and dismissal is controlled at a roundabout off main Cave Creek road. Visitors must register in the office and wear a badge. No Trespassing signs are also posted. An Emergency Contingency Plan is in place covering fire, health/safety and severe weather issues. Children participate in monthly emergency drills, and community fire and police departments deliver presentations on site. Safety lessons are integrated within curriculum.

Total number of incidents that occurred on the school grounds that required the intervention of local, state or federal law enforcement (A.R.S. § 15-746.6).

0

School uniforms are not required at this school.

The Arizona Attorney General's Office has a hotline that allows students to report suspicious activities at schools and to get help with potentially violent situations, such as bullying, harassment, hate crimes, discrimination and gangs. The toll-free number, **1-877-900-1086**, is anonymous and available 24 hours a day.

∨ Per Pupil and School Expenditures for the 2000-2001 School Year ∨

Expenditure Category	*Per Pupil Expenditures by Category	School Expenditures by Category
Classroom Instruction	NDS	NDS
Classroom Supplies	NDS	NDS
Administration	NDS	NDS
Support Services-Students	NDS	NDS
Other Support Services and Operations	NDS	NDS
Total Expenditures- All Categories 2000-2001	NDS	NDS

These are maintenance and operation expenditures and do not include capital expenditures such as facilities construction and buses. Classroom Instruction includes activities dealing directly with the interaction between teachers and students. It also includes activities of aides or classroom assistants that are involved in the instructional process. Classroom Supplies includes costs for items that are consumed, worn out or have deteriorated through use; or items that lose their identity through fabrication or incorporation into different or more complex units or substance. Administration includes governing board services, executive administration services, lobbying, office of the principal services and other support services for school administration. Support Services-Students includes attendance and social work, guidance, health, psychological, speech pathology, audiology services and other support services for students. Other Support Services and Operations includes support services for instructional staff, business support services, operation and maintenance of plant services, student transportation services, central support services, other support services, food service operation and bookstore operations.

Total Expenditures may not be exact because of rounding.
 Information is self-reported by the district and is unaudited.
 * Based upon 2000-2001 Average Daily Membership (ADM).
 (School Expenditures divided by ADM)
 **Due to technical difficulties, data for multiple charter school sites is not available.

∨ Contacts ∨

	Name	Phone	Extension
School Site Council	Hope Harn	(480) 488-9362	
Transportation Policy	Shannon Porto	(480) 488-9362	
Community Resources	Hope Harn	(480) 465-8915	
School Nutrition Programs	NDS		
Parent Organization	Dita Couch	(480) 488-9362	
Student Health/Nurse	Shannon Porto	(480) 488-9362	

The Arizona School Report Card was prepared by the Arizona Department of Education using a standardized format to combine information provided by the local school with data compiled from state records. Each school has special strengths and needs, and all schools benefit from the active involvement of parents in their children's education. If you have questions about the report card or need more information, contact the school office. Arizona School Report Cards can be found for all schools at www.ade.az.gov/srcs/ on the Internet.

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