

STATE OF NEVADA

BRIAN SANDOVAL  
*Governor*

PATRICK GAVIN  
*Executive Director*



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

1749 North Stewart Street Suite 40  
Carson City, Nevada 89706-2543  
(775) 687 - 9174 • Fax: (775) 687 - 9113

---

---

**BRIEFING MEMORANDUM**

---

---

**TO:** SPCSA Board  
**FROM:** Patrick Gavin  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item 5—Discovery Recommendation  
**DATE:** April 28, 2017

---

**Background:**

At the January 27, 2017 meeting of the State Public Charter School Authority Board, the Authority Board received information regarding the 2015-2016 performance of Discovery Charter School. The Authority Board then directed staff to issue a written Notice pursuant to [NRS 388A.330\(1\)\(f\)](#) (“Notice of Intent”) based on the identification by the Department of Education of being in the bottom five percent of all elementary and middle schools during the 2015-2016 accountability year.. The Notice of Intent was issued pursuant to NRS 388A.330(2) on February 10, 2017.

- 1) The deficiencies or reason upon which the action of the Authority was based was the identification by the Department of Education of being in the bottom five percent of all elementary or middle schools during the 2015-2016 accountability year as required by NRS 388A.330(1)(f). Discovery’s performance in 2015-16 was determined to be in the lowest five percent of elementary or middle schools statewide.
- 2) Pursuant to NRS 388A.330(2)(b), the school was given at least 30 days within which to correct the deficiencies. The first day of this period was February 13, 2017. The date by which the school must have completed all efforts to correct these deficiencies was March, 24, 2017.
- 3) The school submitted the attached materials as evidence that it had corrected the deficiencies, uploading that information into Epicenter.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the Authority accept the school’s proposal to reconstitute the school. If the Authority votes to authorize reconstitution under a new governing body, the Executive Director will issue a [Request for Proposals](#) (RFP) to invite either a new grassroots committee or the governing body of an existing school or charter management organization to assume the governance of the

school effective on or before July 1, 2017. The RFP will require the new governing body, if selected, to retain a third party evaluator approved by the Authority to evaluate the academic program and suggest academic, organizational, and financial plan changes, which may include but are not limited to enhancements to the existing project-based learning program or the submission of a charter amendment to make more material changes to the academic program. In the event that a new, qualified governing body cannot be identified by June 16, 2017, the Executive Director would request that the Authority rescind its reconstitution order and approve the revocation of the written charter and the closure of the charter school at its June 23, 2017 meeting.