



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board

FROM: Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing
Mike Dang, Management Analyst

SUBJECT: American Leadership Academy – Summerlin Request to Amend the Name of the Charter School

DATE: January 18, 2019

Summary of Request:

ALA-Summerlin seeks an amendment to change the name of the school to Signature Preparatory. According to their application, this name will give the Nevada campus a distinct level of autonomy from those campuses already operating in Arizona. A name change was necessary since the charter school was conditionally approved as ALA-Summerlin by the Authority in December 2017, but relocated to Henderson, NV after this approval.

The school is approved to open in 2019 – 2020 with 990 students in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade. The school will enroll 120 students in grades K through 5th and will enroll 90 students in each of the middle school grades. In each subsequent year, the applicant projects it will serve 120 students in each grade, for a total student population of 1,080 K – 8 students. A chart containing this information can be found on the last page of this memo. The school projects to have a student body that aligns closely with the demographics of the surrounding schools in Clark County.

As discussed below, SPCSA staff recommends that the Authority approve the request of ALA – Summerlin to change their name to Signature Preparatory.

Background Information

American Leadership Academy – Summerlin (ALA-Summerlin) was conditionally approved by the Authority to open a charter school at the December 8, 2017 Authority Board meeting. The governing board of ALA-Summerlin decided to pursue a 2019 – 2020 opening for their campus shortly after this conditional approval. The applicant fulfilled these conditions to staff’s satisfaction during the fall of 2018 and reported on their progress during the November 2, 2018 Authority Board

meeting. During the completion of the attached conditions, ALA-Summerlin elected to move their campus from Summerlin, NV to Henderson, NV. This requires an amendment so as to formally modify the current approval of the Authority.

Signature Preparatory is the proposed new name of the school. This name was chosen due to “Signature” often being referred to as the best of a collection. This name change also provides the school autonomy from the 10,000 students of American Leadership Academies in Arizona.

The name change will not result in any other changes in the charter application approved by the Authority in 2017, or in the previously submitted conditions reviewed by staff the last several months. There will be no curricular or programmatic changes. The mission, vision and values will continue to remain the same, and Charter One will remain as the EMO for Signature Preparatory.

Lastly, outside of any costs associated with setting up legal documents to form the entity and basic marketing changes to the logo and website, the school does not anticipate that this amendment will have any financial impact on the school.

Legal Authority and Requirements Related to Amendment Requests

[NAC 388A.330](#) requires the governing body of a public charter school to obtain approval from the sponsor of the school for any of the following amendments to the charter contract:

- Changing the name or location of the charter school
- Changing the mission or goals of the charter school that were described in the application to form the charter school

Staff Recommendation

For all of these reasons, SPCSA staff is recommending that the Authority approve the request of ALA – Summerlin to change its name to Signature Preparatory.

Approved ALA-Summerlin Grade Structure and Projected Enrollment

	<u>2019 – 20</u>	<u>2020 – 21</u>	<u>2021 – 22</u>	<u>2022 – 23</u>	<u>2023 – 24</u>	<u>2024 - 25</u>
<u>K</u>	120	120	120	120	120	120
<u>1st</u>	120	120	120	120	120	120
<u>2nd</u>	120	120	120	120	120	120
<u>3rd</u>	120	120	120	120	120	120
<u>4th</u>	120	120	120	120	120	120
<u>5th</u>	120	120	120	120	120	120
<u>6th</u>	90	120	120	120	120	120
<u>7th</u>	90	120	120	120	120	120
<u>8th</u>	90	120	120	120	120	120
<u>TOTAL</u>	990	1080	1080	1080	1080	1080