

STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY



2019 CHARTER SCHOOL REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO CHARTER CONTRACT APPLICATION

For the: **Somerset Academy of Las Vegas**

Date Submitted: August 16th, 2019

Current Charter Contract Start Date: July 1, 2016

Charter Contract Expiration Date: June 30, 2022

Key Contact: John Bentham

Key Contact title: Board Chairperson, Somerset Academy of Las Vegas, Board of Directors

Key Contact email and phone: john.bentham@somersetnv.org; 702-752-7000

Date of School Board approval of this application: August 8th, 2019

This Request For Amendment (RFA) is submitted to request a contract amendment regarding (place an "X" to the right of the specific RFA type(s) you are applying for):

1. [Add Distance Education](#) ____
2. [Add Dual-Credit Program](#) X
3. [Change Mission and/or Vision](#) ____
4. [Eliminate a Grade Level or Other Educational Services](#) ____
5. [EMOs: Entering, Amending, Renewing, Terminating Charter Contract with an EMO](#) ____
6. [Enrollment: Expand Enrollment in Existing Grade Level\(s\) and Facilities](#) ____
7. [Enrollment: Expand Enrollment in New Grade Levels](#) ____
8. [Facilities: Acquire or Construct a New or Additional Facility that will not affect approved enrollment](#) ____
9. [Facilities: Occupy New or Additional Facility](#) ____
10. [Facilities: Occupy a Temporary Facility](#) ____
11. [Facilities: Relocate or Consolidate Campuses](#) ____
12. [RFA: Transportation](#) ____
13. [Other changes](#) ____

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Section I: Introduction

The mission of the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) is to improve and influence public education in Nevada “by sponsoring public charter schools that prepare all students for college and career success and by modeling best practices in charter school sponsorship.” This mission includes assisting chartered public schools in making orderly enrollment, facility, financing and other changes to enable them to provide high-quality educational choices to students and their parents in Nevada.

As SPCSA public schools grow and progress they may wish to consider changes, additions or other improvements to their structure, facilities, legal relationships, school size or location(s). NRS 388A, NAC 388A and individual chartered public school contracts list various potential changes a school may consider making. These changes require that the school request and receive approval of the SPCSA Board to a Request For Amendment (RFA) before proceeding, except in the case of an emergency. The school must submit the RFA to the SPCSA describing the intended change and providing documentation to support approval of the requested change, to be confirmed by an amendment to the school’s charter contract signed by a representative of the board or the designee of the board.

These considered changes can be made through amendments to charter school contracts with the SPCSA, pursuant to NRS 388A.223 *et seq*, NAC 388A.305 *et seq*, and their respective Charter Contract. This Request For Amendment (RFA) application is provided by the SPCSA in fulfillment of its responsibility to develop a policy and procedure “for amending a written charter or charter contract and the criteria for determining whether a request for such an amendment will be approved....” NRS 388A.223. This RFA describes the “manner in which such procedures and criteria will differ if the sponsor determines that the amendment is material or strategically important.” NRS 388A.223.

This universal RFA application replaces all prior specific project RFA applications the SPCSA provided. It includes two sections. The first is a standard section which all RFA applicants must complete. It calls for general information about the school. The second section contains specific requests for supporting documentation to support the applicant’s request for specific contract amendments. Applicants need only submit one complete application for one or more amendments being recommended. That application should include supporting documentation for the general application section and specific supporting documentation for each specific amendment being requested.

Section II: Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for consideration of approval of a contract amendment a school must submit a complete and accurate RFA, in accordance with the requirements and directions stated herein prior to the deadlines stated herein.

To be eligible to submit an amendment, the school must be in good standing in all three domains of the Authority’s academic, financial, and organizational performance frameworks and it must not be considered a low-performing school or otherwise ineligible according to any definition set forth in law or regulation. “All schools begin outside of the intervention ladder and are considered to be in Good Standing.” Charter School Performance Framework¹. Schools with questions about their eligibility should contact SPCSA staff.

Ineligible schools may include, but are not limited to, those schools which operate an elementary, middle, or high school rated below the three star level; schools which operate an elementary, middle, or high school program that is a priority or focus school; schools which operate high schools with graduation rates below 60 percent; schools with

¹ <http://charterschools.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/CharterSchoolsnvgov/content/Grocers/Performance%20Framework.pdf>

compliance issues, including participation warnings or penalties on the Nevada School Performance Framework; and schools with financial framework deficiencies.

A school which does not have at least one independent financial audit and one year of academic performance data in the Nevada system of accountability is ineligible to apply for an expansion amendment unless the school was approved by the Authority as an EMO replication of a high performing charter school in another state or the operator applied as a CMO applicant and has replicated a high performing charter school model from another state. In such cases, the school will be required to submit updated academic, financial, and organizational performance data in all three domains from the replicated EMO school or CMO school network. In the event that the Authority mandates a system-wide assessment to supplement the statewide test and provide for additional data in the event of a testing irregularity or a change in state testing provider, schools should expect that data from that assessment will outweigh data provided from a school's internal assessment system.

All applications and the actions being requested for approval must be in compliance with NRS 388A, NAC 388A and all other relevant federal laws and regulations and SPCSA policy.

Schools with questions about eligibility should contact SPCSA staff for further clarification.

Section III: Amendment Types

NRS 388A, NAC 388A and individual chartered public school contracts list potential changes a school may consider making. The school must request and receive approval from the SPCSA Board of the Request For Amendment before the school may proceed with the intended change.

The following is a list of the RFA applications which are now being replaced by this universal RFA application. The approval for any material change considered for a school, including affecting facilities or operations, for which an express amendment was or was not earlier provided may now be handled through this single RFA application. Actions requiring an amendment to a charter school contract include those in the following list. Schools should contact the SPCSA if they are considering any change or addition to what was approved in their charter contract. For all RFAs, the General Section of this application must be completed according to the instructions herein. Specific RFA requirements for the below RFAs have specific requirements which must also be completed.

1. [Add Distance Education](#)
2. [Add Dual-Credit Program](#)
3. [Change Mission and/or Vision](#)
4. [Eliminate a grade level or other educational services](#)
5. [EMOs: Entering, amending, renewing, terminating Charter Contract with an EMO](#)
6. [Enrollment: Expand Enrollment in Existing Grade Level\(s\) and Facilities](#)
7. [Enrollment: Expand Enrollment in New Grade Levels](#)
8. [Facilities: Acquire or Construct a new or additional Facility that will not affect approved enrollment](#)
9. [Facilities: Occupy new or additional facility](#)
10. [Facilities: Occupy a Temporary Facility](#)
11. [Facilities: Relocate or Consolidate Campuses](#)
12. [RFA: Transportation](#)
13. [Other changes requiring or not requiring approved RFAs:](#)
 - a. As described in NAC 388A.335 regarding a request for **an amendment not otherwise described**
 - i. If the governing body of a charter school wishes to amend its written charter or charter contract, as applicable, in **a way that is not described** in NAC 388A.310 to 388A.335.
 - ii. **Material amendments** to the written charter or charter contract, as applicable. If the sponsor determines that the proposed amendment is material, the governing body must obtain approval from the sponsor before the amendment becomes effective.
 - iii. **Nonmaterial amendment** to the written charter or charter contract, as applicable. If the sponsor determines that the proposed amendment is not material, the governing body is not required to obtain approval from the sponsor before the amendment becomes effective.

- b. Other **non-amendment changes**. Pursuant to NAC 388A.340 the governing body of a charter school (1) shall notify the sponsor of the charter school not later than 10 days after the charter school makes any change to the mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, articles of incorporation or bylaws of the charter school.

Applicants seeking more than one amendment may now use this RFA template and provide supporting documentation as requested in the general and applicable specific sections below.

The General Requirements Sections of this application describe general supporting documentation required for RFAs.

The Special Sections describe specific supporting documentation required for specific RFAs requested to enable specific changes being pursued by the school board.

For applicants seeking to make changes for which amendments are not listed above, contact SPCSA staff regarding what, if any, documentation may be required.

Section IV: Processing Schedule

RFA applications are processed according to the following schedule. Boards/Schools must submit their completed amendment request into the Charter Amendment section of Epicenter by 5:00 pm PT within the deadline schedule provided below for the relevant Spring or Fall application cycle.

If a below date falls on a federal or state officially recognized holiday, the submittal will be due no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Time on the first working day following said holiday.

Section V: Deadlines

| | Spring Cycle | Fall Cycle |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Notice² of Intent to submit Request for Charter Amendment (RFA) | Due between March 1 - 15 | Due between September 1 - 15 |
| Request For Amendment (RFA) | Due between April 1 – 15 | Due between October 1 – 15 |
| Board Meeting for Possible Action | June board meeting | December board meeting |
| | | |

Charter school expansion (i.e., additional campuses and/or grade levels) requests **must be submitted** at least 9 months prior to the proposed implementation. For example, a school wishing to expand in the 2020-2021 school year must submit an amendment to Authority staff no later than the fall cycle of 2019.

Section VI: Application Process

1. The school board determines that an applicable change is or may be required. The board may direct a representative of the school to contact the SPCSA to explain the potential change and request guidance or may direct a representative to prepare and submit a Notice of Intent and RFA including supporting documentation according to the deadlines set forth above.
 - a. Pursuant to NAC 388A.305(1) the “governing body of a charter school shall hold a public meeting that complies with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS before the governing body submits to the sponsor of the charter school a written request for an amendment to its written charter or charter contract, as applicable, pursuant to NRS 388A.276. The governing body of a charter school may not request such an amendment unless a majority of members of the governing body vote to approve making the request.”

² Notice or Letter of Intent

2. Applicant submits a timely submitted notice.
3. SPCSA transmits a confirmation of receipt of the NOI and may contact the applicant with any questions or comments.
4. Applicant submits a timely submitted and Request for Amendment (RFA) including all applicable requested supporting documentation.
5. SPCSA transmits a confirmation of receipt of the RFA and may contact the applicant with any questions or comments.
6. SPCSA staff, and potentially external reviewers, begin the completeness check process. SPCSA Staff may contact the applicant for more information, for more clarity, or to let the applicant know their application is insufficiently complete and cannot be processed at this time without substantial improvements to completeness, clarification or other aspects.
7. Staff transmits to applicant confirmation of completeness or determination that the RFA application is substantially incomplete so that it will not be processed at this time.
8. Upon confirmation of completeness, SPCSA staff, and potentially external reviewers, begin the review process of the RFA. SPCSA Staff may contact the applicant for further clarification and with requests for additional information or to explain issues with the RFA.
9. Staff will discuss with applicant SPCSA staff's likely recommendation based on staff's review and analysis of the RFA submitted. Applicant may determine if it wishes to proceed.
10. Staff will schedule a Board meeting date during which to present applicant's RFA along with staff's recommendation.
11. If the Agency Board approves the RFA, then staff will
 - a. work with the applicant to make the amendment changes to the contract and to secure an updated, mutually executed contract, to enable the school to proceed to implement the terms of the amendment.
 - b. implement the process to monitor the fulfillment of any conditions of the amendment, pursuant to the amended contract.
12. In the alternative, pursuant to NAC 388A.305(2) and except "as otherwise provided in NAC 388A.310 to 388A.335, inclusive, if the governing body of a charter school requests an amendment to its written charter or charter contract, as applicable, pursuant to NRS 388A.276, the sponsor of the charter school may authorize its staff to approve the amendment as the sponsor deems appropriate." In such a case, staff will
 - a. work with applicant to make the amendment changes to the contract and secure an updated, mutually executed contract,
 - b. implement the process to monitor the fulfillment of any conditions of the amendment.

Applicants may contact the following SPCSA staff with any questions regarding this RFA Application.

1. Mike Dang, 702.486.8879, mdang@spcsa.nv.gov
2. Danny Peltier, 775-687-9178, dpeltier@spcsa.nv.gov
3. Mark Modrcin, 702-486-8271, mmodrcin@spcsa.nv.gov

Section VII: Application Instructions

Specifications

1. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the content is complete, detailed, and easily understood and followed by reviewers; external experts; and parents, families, and the general public.
2. Application responses made in this file should add no more than 50 pages to this approximately 40 page "core" application for a total of up to 90 pages—in addition to all required appendices/attachments.
3. RFA submittals must all be in an electronic format. The RFA "core" application must be in a searchable pdf format. (Do not print it to hard copy and scan it.) Site, architectural and similar plans which can only forward may be in the pdf format submitted to the applicant by their consultant or professional.
4. Leave the text of the questions in the document and add your responses following each question. This will facilitate reviews, document access (hyperlinked table of contents) and enable better public transparency.
5. Begin each major section (Executive Summary, Meeting the Need, Academic Plan, etc.) on a separate page.

6. All pages in the core application must remain consecutively numbered, as they are, in the footer and include the total number of pages, such as “Page 25 of 80.”
7. A RFA may not require all attachments described in this document. Place an “N/A” where appropriate—next to the respective “Attachment __.” Do not leave them blank.
8. The name of each attachment, e.g. “Attachment 1,” etc. must be placed in the header of the first page and header/footer of remaining pages to facilitate review and navigation. Bookmarking individual sections and attachments in Acrobat is strongly encouraged to enhance readability and facilitate a thorough review.
9. Attachments may have independent page numbering.
10. The table of contents must identify the page number of each major section of the narrative and each required attachment—or simply respond within the MS Word version of this Application with its Table of Contents.
11. You do not need to try to fix the Microsoft Word formatting in this application if the formatting doesn’t automatically generate the correct or best font or outline number/letter when you enter text. As long as you include your response in the proper section we will ignore a misplaced outline number/letter.
12. References and citations should be placed in the footer.
13. If a particular question does not apply to your team or application, simply respond with a statement explaining why the question is not applicable AND including the term “not applicable” or “N/A” within the sentence.
14. All questions, including those identified as “Not Applicable” and tables not utilized must be left in the document. Tables which are accompanied with directions permitting the school to modify the number of rows and to customize the designated content may be changed as indicated.
15. Any budget or numerically oriented sheets must be submitted in a working Microsoft Office Excel file in addition to a pdf attachment.
16. When submitting resumes and biographies of proposed new board members and staff, label each document with the individual’s affiliation with the proposed school (board member, principal, teacher, etc.) and combine the files into a single converted PDF document.
17. Review all elements of your request for completeness before submitting. Incomplete requests will not be accepted, and schools are not able to amend, revise, or supplement their request after it has been submitted unless the SPCSA, at its sole discretion, requests additional information or the SPCSA board votes to reject the request and the applicant chooses to resubmit a revised request at a later date.
18. Schools are strongly encouraged to maintain final Microsoft Word versions of all written materials. In the event that a school elects to resubmit a request with additional content and documentation, the school will be expected to use the Track Changes function to identify any additions or deletions to the application. Specific format requirements for such resubmissions will be furnished to applicants upon request.
19. Applicants are reminded that all requests for facilities or enrollment expansion amendments are public records and are posted on the SPCSA web site. Once a request is approved, it is expected that the complete charter application and the approved amendments will be posted on the school’s web site or will otherwise be made available via electronic means upon request from any member of the public. To ensure the broadest range of accessibility for public documents, the SPCSA strongly encourages applicants to consult the Accessibility Guidance offered by our peer authorizer, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/nmg/MakingAccessibleDocuments.pdf> and <http://www.doe.mass.edu/nmg/accessibility.html>.

Applicants MUST submit amendment requests electronically in Epicenter, the statewide document management center for school submissions to the State Public Charter School Authority. All documents, other than budget documents and data submissions better suited to Excel, must be submitted as PDF documents. All PDF documents, other than those individual pages containing signatures or facilities documentation, must be submitted as converted (not scanned) documents.

Section VIII: Attachments for Applications

- 1) A letter (1-3 pages) approved and submitted by the governing body of the charter school clearly summarizing and explaining the RFA and the contract changes being requested, submitted with documentation (meeting minutes) showing the request was approved and submitted by the governing board of the charter school following a public meeting held pursuant to chapter 241 of NRS.
- 2) Letters of Community Support/Partnership
 - a) May be scanned to PDF.
- 3) School and network leadership team job descriptions
- 4) Resumes for proposed school leader
 - a) For RFAs where a new school leader would be installed
- 5) Student achievement data with NSPF rankings
 - a) For the greater of the prior three, two, or one year(s), if available.
- 6) Competencies used for school leader selection
 - a) For RFAs where a new school leader would be installed
- 7) Regional Director resume or job description
 - a) Where applicable
- 8) CMO/Local Network organizational charts
 - a) Where CMOs/EMOs are or will be involved
- 9) New Board Member Information Sheets
 - a) For any current board members new since the opening or the last prior RFA
- 10) Incubation Year Planning Table
 - a) For expansions into new facilities
- 11) EMO agreement documentation
 - a) If school will contract with a non-profit or for-profit EMO for additional services or
 - b) This expansion will result in additional payments to an existing EMO
 - c) OR an assurance that the school is not contracting with an EMO
- 12) Operational execution plan
- 13) Budget narrative
 - a) Include a description of planned/projected changes to enrollments with resulting budget impacts to revenues and expenses.
- 14) Financial Plan
 - a) Submit working Excel model showing budgeted new/marginal/additional revenue and expense changes contemplated from proposed changes as well as impacts on surplus/deficits and statement of position
 - b) Include copy of most recent annual budget submitted
- 15) Local Network Budget
 - a) Where applicable
- 16) For schools which replicate an EMO or CMO model from another state which do not yet have Nevada performance data:
 - a) School performance data sheet and data from network's internal assessments demonstrating that the Nevada school is performing at a level similar to schools in other geographies.
 - b) Historical financial documents for the entity including
 - i) audited financial records for the entity and,
 - ii) if any of the schools operated by the management organization are technically separate entities,
 - (1) audited financials for each such school as well as any other campus by campus financial evaluations conducted by charter school authorizers.
 - c) At least three years of school financial audits are required for any school operating for three years or longer. This may be provided in the format of your choosing.
- 17) School Data Worksheet

Section IX: Elements of Successful RFAs

Successful amendment requests demonstrate the following characteristics:

| Domain | Criteria |
|---|--|
| Organizational and Governance Accountability | Strong Governing Team that Significantly Exceeds Statutory Minimum Criteria with Proven Track Record of Transparently and Accountably Governing a Multi-Million Dollar Public Entity |
| Leadership | School and Network Leaders with Exemplary Track Record of Academic and Operating Results with Similar Model/Population Strong Operating Team with Proven Track Record of Transparently and Accountably Operating a Multi-Million Dollar Public Entity |
| Academic Accountability | Proven School Model With Proven Track Record of Producing 4/5 Star Results with Target Population |
| Fiscal Accountability | Strong School and Network Financial Model With Proven Track Record of Increasing Annual Fund Balances ³ Track Record of Clean Audits |
| Business Relationships | Transparent and Appropriate Client/Vendor Relationship with Any Identified Service Providers |

³ Such fund balance increases are intended to track free cash on hand, and should be exclusive of any capital refresh, expansion, or bond-mandated reserves budgeted for and maintained by the school.

Section X: General Requirements Section

A) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4 Pages or less per RFA

Provide a brief overview of your school, including:

1. Identification of the school, its location(s), enrollment(s)(most recent ADE quarter), brief history, brief description of its board members and key leadership team members.

Somerset Academy of Las Vegas opened its first campus in the fall of 2011 with its North Las Vegas campus. The school is modeled after the nationally recognized Somerset Academy of Florida, originally founded in 1997. Today, the Somerset Academy Charter School Instructional Model has been successfully replicated in several states across the country, serving all grades K-12.

Somerset Academy of Las Vegas today now includes a total of seven campuses across the Las Vegas Valley, serving approximately 9,700 students, and supported by 466 teachers. SOM serves its community by being a quality college preparation school that cultivates effective leaders, good character, and a desire to render service.

All of its seven campuses are governed by Somerset Academy of Las Vegas' seven member Board of Directors. This Governing Body comprises seven community members from the Las Vegas Metropolitan area who bring a variety of professional experience and expertise in governing and leading the school toward success. These members include: John Benthall (Board Chairperson), Sarah McClellan (Board Vice Chairperson), Carrie Boehlecke (Board Secretary), Travis Mizer (Treasurer), Will Harty, Cody Noble, and Gary McClain.

2. Statement and overview of the mission and vision

Mission:

We prepare students to excel in academics and attain knowledge through life-long learning by dedicating ourselves to providing equitable, high-quality education for all students. We promote a culture that maximizes student achievement and fosters the development of accountable 21st Century learners in a safe and enriching environment.

Vision:

A college prep school cultivating effective leaders, good character, and a desire to render service.

3. Specific statement of the request

The Board of Somerset Academy of Las Vegas, operating under a current contract with a start date of July 1, 2016 and a six-year expiration date of June 30, 2022 requests that the SPCSA approve this request to amend its charter school contract with the SPCSA regarding the following (check all that apply):

- ☒ 1. Dual-Credit Programs
- ☐ 2. EMOs: Amend charter contract with an EMO
- ☐ 3. Enrollment: Expand enrollment in existing grades and facilities
- ☐ 4. Enrollment: Expand enrollment in new grade levels
- ☐ 5. Enrollment: Eliminate a grade level or other educational services
- ☐ 6. Facilities: Acquire or construct a new or additional facility that will not affect approved enrollment
- ☐ 7. Facilities: Occupy additional sites
- ☐ 8. Facilities: Relocate or consolidate campuses
- ☐ 9. Facilities: Occupy a temporary facility

___ 10. Other (specify): _____

(See full list above of RFA amendment types)

Attach a copy of the document(s), including minutes, confirming approval of the RFA.

4. A summary explanation of the reasons that the charter school is seeking to the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.

Per Nevada Revised Statute 389.160, Somerset Academy of Las Vegas is seeking approval from the Nevada State Public Charter School Authority to implement a dual credit program for all eligible high school students enrolled in the Somerset Academy of Las Vegas network. Somerset Academy of Las Vegas (SOM) has established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) to offer these dual enrollment courses for its student body and believes that this program will further support the school's vision of being a quality "college prep school".

5. Description of proposed target model and target communities

No change.

6. Statement of outcomes you expect to achieve across the network of campuses

No change.

7. Key components of your educational model for the expanded school

Not applicable.

8. The values, approach, and leadership accomplishments of your school or network leader and leadership team

No change.

9. Key supporters, partners, or resources that will contribute to your expanded school's success.

Not applicable.

NOTE

1. **For all remaining General Requirements Sections:** Complete and submit all RFAs by answering remaining General Requirements Section questions.
2. **Indicate “No change” for any below requested response that has not changed from your charter school contract.**
3. **Indicate “N/A” for any below requested response in this General Requirements Section that is not applicable to your request. Applicants do not need to respond “N/A” to any Specific Requirements RFA section for which they are not applying.**

B) MEETING THE NEED

TARGETED PLAN

- (1) Identify the community you wish to serve as a result of the expansion or RFA and describe your interest in serving this specific community.

Not applicable.

- (2) Explain how your expansion model or RFA, and the commitment to serve this population, including the grade levels you have chosen, would meet the district and community needs and align with the mission of the SPCSA.

Not applicable.

GROWTH RATE AND RATIONALE

- (1) Describe the school’s six-year growth plan for developing new schools in Nevada and other states. Please describe the proposed scope of growth over the next 6 years, including both the schools that the campuses the school has already been approved to open, those it is currently applying to open and any additional campuses that it anticipates applying to open in the next six years (number of campuses, locations, proposed six-year enrollment projections, and grade configuration/type of schools).

Not applicable.

- a. Provide a rationale for the proposed six-year growth plan; for example, how the school determined the appropriate pace and scope of the proposed growth and why the school is well-positioned to implement the growth plan. If locating in a new community within your present county of location or a new county within Nevada, please explain the rationale for the geographic expansion. If planning to operate new campuses in other states, please explain the rationale for that expansion.

Not applicable.

- (2) Specifically identify the key risks associated with this growth plan and describe the steps the school is taking to mitigate these risks. Respondents should demonstrate a sophisticated and nuanced understanding of the challenges of replication in general and as they relate specifically to their school growth plans based on current and historic experience of charter school management organizations and similar types of multi-site social enterprises and non-profit and for-profit organizations. The response should detail specific risks and explain how the school will minimize the impact of each of these risks, and ideally provide contingency plans for them. Examples may include:

- a. Inability to secure facilities/facilities financing;
- b. Difficulty raising philanthropic funding;
- c. Insufficient talent pipeline/difficulty recruiting faculty;
- d. Insufficient leadership pipeline/difficulty recruiting school leaders;
- e. Misalignment between the founding school and leader and new campuses and leaders, and;
- f. Ambiguous student performance outcomes and the need to curtail expansion if performance drops.

Not applicable.

- (3) Discuss lessons learned during the school's past replication efforts and those of any replicated school or organization from another jurisdiction. For example: specifically identify each challenge encountered and how the school addressed them, as well as how the school would minimize such challenges for the proposed campuses.

Not applicable.

PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- (1) Describe the role to date of any parents, neighborhood, and/or community members involved in the proposed expansion of the school.

Not applicable.

- (2) Describe how you will engage parents, neighborhood, and community members from the time that the application is approved through the opening of the new campus(es) or grade levels. What specific strategies will be implemented to establish buy-in and to learn parent priorities and concerns during the transition process and post opening?

Not applicable.

- (3) Describe how you will engage parents in the life of the expanded school (in addition to any proposed governance roles). Explain the plan for building family-school partnerships that strengthen support for learning and encourage parental involvement. Describe any commitments or volunteer activities the school will seek from, offer to, or require of parents.

Not applicable.

- (4) Discuss the community resources that will be available to students and parents at the expanded school. Describe any new strategic partnerships the expanded school will have with community organizations, businesses, or other educational institutions that are part of the school's core mission, vision, and program other than dual-credit partners discussed in subsequent sections. Specify the nature, purposes, terms, and scope of services of any such partnerships, including any fee-based or in-kind commitments from community organizations or individuals that will enrich student-learning opportunities. Include, as an **Attachment** __, existing evidence of support from new community partners such as letters of intent/commitment, memoranda of understanding, and/or contracts.

Not applicable.

- (5) Describe the school's ties to and/or knowledge of the target community. How has the school learned from and engaged with this community to date? What initiatives and/or strategies will you implement to learn from and engage the neighborhood, community, and broader city/county?

Not applicable.

- (6) Identify any organizations, agencies, or consultants that are partners in planning and expanding the school, along with a brief description of their current and planned role and any resources they have contributed or plan to contribute to the school's development. If the school is new to this county, describe how your previous work has prepared you to establish relationships and supports in this new community.

Not applicable.

C) ACADEMIC PLAN

MISSION & VISION

The mission of your school should describe the purpose of your school, including the students and community to be served and the values to which you will adhere while achieving that purpose. The vision of your school should describe what success looks like for students, for the school as a whole, and for any other entities that are critical to your mission. The mission and vision statement should align with the purposes of the Nevada charter school law and the mission of the State Public Charter School Authority and serves as the foundation for the entire proposal.

Explain whether the proposed mission and vision for the school/network is different from the existing school's mission and vision and how they differ. Describe the reasoning behind any modifications.

Explain whether the mission and vision outlined will replace the current mission and vision of the charter holder, or if the school proposes to complement a broader organizational mission and vision with campus or grade-level specific variants. How will the entity as a whole ensure consistency and coherence of its mission and vision?

No change.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

The framework proposed for instructional design must both reflect the needs of the anticipated population and ensure all students will meet or exceed the expectations of the Nevada Academic Content Standards.

(1) Historical Performance

- (a) **Performance Data:** schools are only eligible to complete the amendment request and business plan if the existing schools meet the Authority's eligibility criteria; these criteria reflect a proven academic track record of success with Nevada students and our operating expectations or similar performance in another state.
- (i) A school is welcome to provide any additional historical academic performance metrics that fall outside of the operator's contractual performance plan (e.g. average student growth on an adaptive test such as ACT Aspire, NWEA MAP, SCANTRON, Renaissance Learning's STAR, etc.). If provided, describe student performance on these metrics.
- (ii) ***Please only provide data in vendor-produced score reports and note that the Authority may require additional time and resources to review and vet such data.***

| 2017-18 SBAC Achievement & Statewide Accountability Results | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Somerset Campus | Level | Campus Accountability Rating | Grades Served | Math % Proficiency | Reading % Proficiency | Science % Proficiency |
| Lone Mountain | Elementary | 5 star | K-5th | 59.2 | 59.9 | 38 |
| | Middle | 3 star | 6th-8th | 40.9 | 59.4 | 66.4 |
| Losee | Elementary | 3 star | K-5th | 46.2 | 49.7 | 35 |
| | Middle | NR | 6th-8th | 24.4 | 46.8 | 39.7 |
| | HS | 2 Star | 9th-12th | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| NLV | Elementary | 3 star | K-5th | 35.8 | 42.6 | 26.1 |
| | Middle | 4 star | 6th-8th | 30.4 | 43.6 | 40.8 |
| Sky Pointe | Elementary | 3 star | K-5th | 68.7 | 65.2 | 43.1 |
| | Middle | 3 star | 6th-8th | 36.3 | 58.7 | 53.7 |
| | HS | 4 star | 9th-12th | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Stephanie | Elementary | 5 star | K-5th | 61.9 | 64.6 | 41.8 |
| | Middle | 4 star | 6th-8th | 51.9 | 63.8 | 66.7 |

- (b) **Interventions:** Please explain any past performance that has not met the organization's expectations. How was the underperformance diagnosed, how were appropriate intervention(s) determined, and how are they being implemented? What are the key areas in which existing schools/campuses need to improve, and what are the priorities to drive further success?

Not applicable.

(2) Academic Vision and Theory of Change

- (a) **Model Non-Negotiables:** What are the key non-negotiables (i.e. the key school design components, policies, practices, etc. that underlie school culture and academic outcomes) of your school model? Please include details about the critical elements that are constant across the organization's schools and those that may vary. Discuss any campus-level autonomies in implementing the educational plan.

No change.

(3) Performance Management

- a) **Measuring Progress:** Describe the school's approach to performance management across the network and with individual campuses, including the systems used to measure and evaluate both academic and non-academic performance of each site and of the network as a whole.
- What performance management systems, processes, and benchmarks will the school use to formally assess this progress?
 - Explain how the school addresses underperformance and describe the corrective action plan procedures.
- b) **Closure:** Describe the conditions that would cause the school to petition the Authority close a consistently low performing campus. Be specific about threshold metrics the school would use to inform its decision.
- c) **College Readiness (HS Only):** Describe the mechanisms that the school employs to accurately, reliably, and consistently track college acceptance, enrollment, and persistence rates. If historical data is available on college acceptance, enrollment, and/or persistence rates, please include it. Cite the percent of total alumni for which the school has data on each metric. If data is not available, please include plans to create mechanisms to accurately, reliably, and consistently track student acceptance, enrollment, and persistence rates.
- d) **Readiness to Replicate:** What academic, financial, and operational metrics does the school and its Board use to determine readiness for replication?
- e) **Compliance:** Describe the proposed academic program and how it complies with the requirements of NRS 388A.366(1)(f) and NRS 389.018. Please complete the scope and sequence/standards alignment template (Excel document at http://CharterSchools.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/CharterSchoolsnvgov/content/Grocers/Alignment_Template.xlsx) for each class scheduled to be provided by the school for each grade level to be served following this proposed expansion. For example, a school that currently serves students in K, 1, and 2 which seeks to add grades 3 and 4 would provide the scope and sequence/standards alignment for each class/subject area in the grades currently served along with the scope and sequence/alignment for each of the proposed new grades.
- f) **Instructional Strategies:** Describe the instructional strategies that you will implement to support the education plan and why they are well suited for the anticipated student population—including a detailed discussion of these strategies for both the expanded grades and for all existing grades. For each grade level to be served by the charter school following the expansion, identify and describe in detail the data, methods, and systems teachers will use to provide differentiated instruction to students. Please note that SPCSA schools typically start with students performing across a broad spectrum from years below grade level to advanced learners. Include the professional development teachers will receive to ensure high levels of implementation.
- g) **Remediating Academic Underperformance:** Describe the school's approach to help remediate students' academic underperformance both for both the expanded grades and for all existing grades. Detail the identification strategy, interventions, and remediation to be implemented. Cite the research/rationale for the chosen methods. How will you measure the success of your academic remediation efforts (in year 1 of the expansion, year 3, year 5, and beyond)? How will you communicate the need for remediation to parents? How will staffing be structured to ensure that gifted students are adequately supported?

- h) **Identifying Needs:** Describe how you will identify the needs of all students in both the expanded grades and for all existing grades. Identify the research-based programs, strategies and supports you will utilize to provide a broad continuum of services, ensure students' access to the general education curriculum in the least restrictive environment, and fulfill NV's required Response to Intervention model.
- i) **Intellectually Gifted Students:** Explain how the school will identify and differentiate to meet the needs of intellectually gifted students in both the expanded grades and for all existing grades in a way that extends their learning and offers them unique, tailored opportunities. Please note that Nevada law classifies intellectually gifted students as eligible for specific support services. How will staffing be structured to ensure that gifted students are adequately supported?
- j) **Enrichment Opportunities:** Describe the enrichment opportunities that will be available to students performing at or above grade level in both the expanded grades and for all existing grades as part of the school's comprehensive strategy to ensure that all pupils are making accelerated academic progress.
- k) **Matriculation:** Explain how students will matriculate through the school (i.e., promotion/retention policies) and how stakeholders will be informed of these standards.

No change.

SCHOOL STRUCTURE: CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE

- a) Discuss the annual academic schedule for the school, including the calendar for the proposed new grades. Explain how the calendar reflects the needs of the student population and the educational model.

No change.

- b) Describe the structure of the school day and week for both the proposed new grades and for existing grades. Include the number of instructional minutes/hours in a day for core subjects such as language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Note the length of the school day, including start and dismissal times. Explain why the school's daily and weekly schedule will be optimal for the school model and for student learning. Provide the minimum number of hours/minutes per day and week that the school will devote to academic instruction in each grade.

No change.

- c) Describe your goal for student attendance and explain how you will ensure high rates of student attendance. Who will be responsible for collecting and monitoring attendance data? What supports will be in place to reduce truancy and chronic absenteeism?

No change.

DISTANCE EDUCATION

(Distance Education Expansion Amendments)

A charter school that wishes to provide distance education (online, virtual, cyber, etc.) courses and/or programs (NRS 388.820-388.874 and NAC 388.800-388.860) must submit a distance education application to the Nevada Department of Education prior to or in conjunction with its amendment request to the SPCSA.

For applicants who do not propose to offer a program of distance education or who already have approval to operate such a program, please provide a brief statement explaining that the questions in this section are not applicable.

- (1) Describe the system of course credits that the school will use.
- (2) Describe how the school will monitor and verify the participation in and completion of courses by pupils.
- (3) Describe how the school will ensure students participate in assessments and submit coursework.
- (4) Describe how the school will conduct parent-teacher conferences.
- (5) Describe how the school will administer all tests, examinations or assessments required by state or federal law or integral to the performance goals of the charter school in a proctored setting.

Not applicable.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS

(All Operators Currently Operating or Proposing to Operate Pre-K)

A charter school that wishes to provide pre-kindergarten services to students who will later enroll in its K-12 programs must apply separately to the Nevada Department of Education to offer education below the kindergarten level following charter approval. Approval to offer pre-kindergarten cannot be guaranteed. Consequently, revenues and expenditures related to pre-kindergarten should not be included in the initial charter application budget. Please note that state-funded pre-kindergarten programs are not directed through the state Distributive Schools Account for K-12 education. In addition to a limited amount of state pre-kindergarten funding available through the Department of Education, the SPCSA is also a sub-recipient of a federal grant to expand early childhood services in certain high-need communities through programs approved by NDE. Applicants are encouraged to review resources available at http://www.doe.nv.gov/Early_Learning_Development/. For applicants who do not propose to offer pre-kindergarten, please provide a brief statement explaining that the questions in this section are not applicable.

- (1) Identify whether the school plans to offer pre-kindergarten in the first year of operation at the new campus or in any subsequent year of the charter term.
- (2) Identify whether the school will offer fee-based pre-kindergarten services. If the school does plan to offer fee-based pre-kindergarten, explain how the school will ensure that parents will be informed both initially and on an ongoing basis that both state and federal law preclude a K-12 charter school from giving admissions preference to students to whom it has previously charged tuition.
- (3) Describe the school's plans for ensuring that the pre-kindergarten program aligns with the mission, vision, and program of the school's other grades and meets all other state requirements.
- (4) Explain how the school's proposed pre-kindergarten program may meet the federal pre-kindergarten expansion grant criteria.

Not applicable.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND POSTSECONDARY READINESS

(New High School Amendments Only)

High schools approved by the SPCSA will be expected to meet or exceed Nevada graduation requirements. For operators who do not propose to operate a high school program during the initial charter term or who already have approval to operate a high school, please provide a brief statement explaining that the questions in this section are not applicable.

- (1) Explain how the school will meet state requirements. Describe how students will earn credit hours, how grade-point averages will be calculated, what information will be on transcripts, and what elective courses will be offered. If graduation requirements for the school will exceed those required by the State of Nevada, explain the additional requirements.
- (2) Explain how the graduation requirements will ensure student readiness for college or other postsecondary opportunities (e.g., trade school, military service, or entering the workforce).
- (3) Explain what systems and structures the school will implement for students at risk for dropping out and/or not meeting the proposed graduation requirements, including plans to address students who are overage for grade, those needing to access credit recovery options, and those performing significantly below grade level.

No change.

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

Pursuant to State and federal law, SPCSA schools are required to serve the needs of all students in special populations. Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, the State of Nevada will switch to a weighted formula for special education. For the first time, this will provide for equitable special education funding across all Nevada public schools. Over time, this will necessitate current SPCSA-sponsored charter schools moving from a defined continuum of service to a broader continuum of services. All operators submitting amendment requests to the SPCSA after the conclusion of the 2015 Legislative Session should plan on offering students a broad continuum of services.

The SPCSA operates under the following principles with regards to special populations of students:

SPCSA schools serve all eligible students. SPCSA schools do not deny the enrollment of any student based on needs or disability.

1. SPCSA schools are to ensure streamlined access for all students requiring special programs.
2. SPCSA schools develop programs to support the needs of their students.
3. SPCSA schools do not counsel or kick any students out.
4. SPCSA schools utilize best practices to expose students to the most inclusive environments appropriate.

5. If needed, an SPCSA school is responsible for developing more restrictive placements to meet the needs of the highest needs students, including but not limited to clustered placements in consortium with other charter schools.
6. SPCSA schools are responsible for providing high functioning, trained special education teams, which focus on student advocacy and high expectations. IEP teams (including school's leadership) make placement decisions at IEP meetings. Decisions are made based on evidence/data to support what is best for the student.

No change.

Special Education

- (1) Track Record: Please explain the extent to which the board and leadership team (instructional leader, etc.) has experience working to achieve high academic outcomes of students with disabilities, including students with mild, moderate, and severe disabilities.
- (2) Identification: Describe in detail the school's Child Find process. How will the school identify students in need of additional supports or services?
 - a) (*Elementary Schools Only*) How will the school accurately identify students prior to and following enrollment (e.g., those who require pre-school special education and related services) and in the early grades (PreK, K, 1, or 2) for appropriate services?
 - b) (*Middle and High Schools*) How will the school identify and serve students who require special education services and develop transition plans?
- (3) (*All Schools*) How will the school handle over-identification of students as having a disability that qualifies them for special education services? What will be the process to transition a student out of special education who has been incorrectly identified as having a disability in the past?
 - a) Continuum of Services: How will the school provide a broad continuum of instructional options and behavioral supports and interventions for students with a range of disabilities? Specifically describe how students with severe intellectual, learning, and/or emotional disabilities will be served. Provide a chart which graphically illustrates the continuum of services which identifies, by disability and level of severity, the means by which students with disabilities will be able to receive an appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment (note—this graphic may be created using a commercial program like Microsoft Visio or a free or low-cost internet-based solution such as Lucidchart). Identify the resources, personnel (including administrative responsibilities), and direct and related services the school is likely to provide both within general education classrooms and in other settings (e.g., collaborative team teaching (CTT), Special Education Teacher Support Services (SETSS), speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, counseling, etc.) as well as the services or settings that will be provided through a consortium or other collaborative initiative with other charter schools or through a third party contract.
- (4) Enrollment: Describe the school's strategy and plan to recruit, enroll, and retain students with disabilities. How will the school proactively address parent and community perceptions around the availability and appropriateness of the charter school to the needs of students with disabilities?
- (5) General Education Collaboration/Access: How will special education and related service personnel collaborate with general education teachers (e.g., team teaching, team planning, etc.) to ensure that all students are able to access a rigorous general academic curriculum?

No change.

Staffing: How will you ensure qualified staffing to meet the needs of students with disabilities across a broad continuum? Note: Federal and Nevada law requires licensure for the special education teachers, related service personnel, and psychologists at all charter schools, including those which are permitted to waive other licensure requirements due to their academic track record.

- (1) Staff Development: How does the school plan to train general education teachers to modify the curriculum and instruction to address the unique needs of students with disabilities across a broad continuum?
- (2) Discipline: Explain how the school will protect the rights of students with disabilities in disciplinary actions and proceedings and exhaust all options in order to promote the continuation of educational services in the home school.
- (3) Monitoring: What are your plans for monitoring and evaluating both the progress and success of students who qualify for special education and related services across a broad continuum, and the extent to which your

special education program complies with relevant federal and state laws? How will curriculum and instructional decisions be tracked and monitored by IEP teams and school personnel?

- (4) Parental Involvement: What appropriate programs, activities, and procedures will be implemented for the participation of parents of students with a broad range of disabilities?
- (5) For Distance Education Schools: Describe how the school will provide appropriate services in the distance education learning environment to students with disabilities across a broad continuum. *If you are not proposing to operate a distance education or virtual school, please explain that this is not applicable.*

D) FINANCIAL PLAN

This section must be completed for all applications.

- (1) Describe the systems and processes by which the school will manage accounting, purchasing, payroll, and audits. Specify any administrative services expected to be contracted for the school and describe the criteria and procedures for the selection of contractors and the mechanism by which the board will monitor and hold the contractor responsible for providing such services.

No change.

- (2) **Attachment ____**. Present a budget narrative including a detailed description of assumptions and revenue estimates, including but not limited to the basis for revenue projections, staffing levels, and costs. The narrative should specifically address the degree to which the school budget will rely on variable income (e.g., grants, donations, fundraising, etc.). There is no page limit for the budget narrative. Include the following: A detailed discussion of Per-Pupil Revenue: Use the figures provided in developing your budget assumptions.
 - (a) Anticipated Funding Sources: Indicate the amount and sources of funds, property or other resources expected to be available through banks, lending institutions, corporations, foundations, grants, etc. Note which are secured and which are anticipated and include evidence of commitment for any funds on which the school's core operation depends in a clearly identified component of **Attachment ____**. Please ensure that your narrative specifically references what page this evidence can be found on in the attachment.
 - (b) Anticipated Expenditures: Detail the personnel and operating costs assumptions that support the financial plan, including references to quotes received and the source of any data provided by existing charter school operators in Nevada or other states.
 - (c) Discuss in detail the school's contingency plan to meet financial needs if anticipated revenues are not received or are lower than estimated, including both the scenarios identified in subsections e and f.
 - (d) Year 1 cash flow contingency in the event that state and local revenue projections are not met in advance of opening.
 - (e) Year 1 cash flow contingency in the event that outside philanthropic revenue projections are not met in advance of opening.

No change.

- (3) Submit a completed financial plan for the proposed school as an **Attachment ____** (the format of this is left to the applicant's discretion but must be clear and sufficiently detailed to permit Authority staff, external reviewers, and the general public to review of all elements of the school's business plan and gauge alignment and consistency with the academic program, operating plan, and budget narrative).

No change.

- (4) Submit, as an **Attachment ____**, a detailed budget for the operator at the network level (the format of this is left to the applicant's discretion but must be clear and sufficiently detailed to permit Authority staff, external reviewers, and the general public to review of all elements of the school's business plan and gauge alignment and consistency with the academic program, operating plan, and budget narrative).

No change.

- (5) Provide, as an **Attachment ____**, historical financial documents for any affiliated CMO from another state or any EMO providing services to the school, including audited financials for each school operated by the affiliate as

well as any other campus by campus financial evaluations conducted by charter school authorizers. At least three years of school financial audits are required for any school operating for three years or longer. Such financials must be provided as converted PDF documents to ensure accessibility.

No change.

- (6) Complete the audit data worksheet in **Attachment** _____. In the info tab, please identify any schools or campuses listed under the student achievement tab for which, pursuant that relevant state's charter law, financial data is consolidated for reporting and auditing purposes in the independent audits provided in **Attachment** _____.

No change.

- (7) Provide a six-year development plan that addresses the annual and cumulative fundraising need at the network and school levels including a description of the staff devoted to development. The plan should include a history of the school's fundraising outcomes and identify funds that have already been committed toward fundraising goals. The plan should also identify the role of the members of the board, particularly as relates to give/get requirements, and should demonstrate alignment with the expectations for board members discussed elsewhere in the amendment request. If funds are raised at a partner organization level, describe the methodology to be used in allocating funds to the school and the proposed campuses. If the school has not raised any funds to support its programming to date and the budget does not include any fundraising activity, please explain that this question is not applicable to your school.

No change.

- (8) Describe the campus, school, and any management organization distinct responsibilities in the financial management and oversight of the proposed campuses, including, but not limited to, their respective roles in overseeing or implementing internal controls and in making financial management decisions including budget development. Detail the process and frequency by which key financial information is communicated to and reviewed by the various organizations and different levels of leadership and governance.

No change.

E) OPERATIONS PLAN

- ◆ **Indicate “No Change” to the sections or subsections below, where applicable. Otherwise, all applications require completion of this section.**

1. Historical performance
 - (a) Performance Data: schools are only eligible to complete the amendment request and business plan if the existing schools meet the Authority's eligibility criteria; these criteria reflect a proven academic track record of success with Nevada students and our operating expectations or similar performance in another state. Please provide a narrative demonstrating that the school meets the organizational criteria for approval.
 - (b) Interventions: Please explain any past organizational/compliance performance that has not met expectations. How did the governing body diagnose the under-performance, how were appropriate intervention(s) determined by the governing body, how are they being implemented by staff, and how is the governing body monitoring implementation of the interventions on a monthly basis?
 - (c) What are the key areas in which the existing school or schools/campuses need to improve, as determined by the governing body, and what are the priorities to drive further success?

No change.

2. Organization governance structure & board development:

- (a) Describe how the organization's governance structure will adapt to oversee and support the 6-year growth plan and addition of new school(s). Include any impact on: (1) the composition of the Board, the Board's roles and responsibilities, and the Board's development priorities and (2) the Board's relationship to individual campuses
- (b) Describe the diverse skillsets that currently exist on the Board and note any additional type of expertise that the Board may seek to help support the growth plan.
- (c) Identify any Board development requirements relative to the organization's governance needs at each stage of growth.
- (d) Describe how the Board identifies and addresses conflicts of interest. Attach a code of ethics that includes a formal conflict of interest policy and specifies the procedures for implementing the policy.

No change.

3. Organization charts and decision-making authority:

- (a) Provide the following organizational charts:
 - (i) Current
 - (ii) Vision for school in three years (clearly identify both campuses requested in this amendment request as well as any additional campuses that the operator anticipates applying to open within three years)
 - (iii) Vision for school in six years (clearly identify both campuses requested in this amendment request as well as any additional campuses that the operator anticipates applying to open within six years)

The organization charts should represent all national and state operations and clearly delineate the roles and responsibilities of – and lines of authority and reporting among – the governing board, staff, any related bodies (e.g., advisory bodies or parent/teacher councils), and any external organizations that will play a role in managing the schools. If the school intends to contract with an education management organization or other management provider, clearly show the provider's role in the organizational structure of the school, explaining how the relationship between the governing board and school administration will be managed. Please *include* all shared/central office positions and positions provided by *the Management Organization (CMO or EMO) in the organizational chart, if applicable.*

No change.

4. Describe the proposed organizational model; include the following information:

- a) Job descriptions for each leadership or shared/central office role identified in the organizational chart (provide as an **Attachment**___)
- b) Resumes of all current leadership (provide as an **Attachment**___).
- c) Previous student achievement data for the proposed instructional leaders at each proposed campus (if available) (provide as part of **Attachment**___)

No change.

5. Describe the leadership team's individual and collective qualifications for implementing the multi-site school design and business and operating plan successfully, including capacity in areas such as:

- (a) School leadership;
- (b) School business operations and finance;
- (c) Governance management and support to the Board;
- (d) Curriculum, instruction, and assessment;
- (e) At-risk students and students with special needs;
- (f) Performance management; and
- (g) Parent and community engagement.

No change.

6. Explain who is responsible for school leader coaching and training and what those processes will look like in action. Please include any existing competencies used for school leader selection and evaluation, if available (provide as an **Attachment**___).

No change.

7. Explain your school leader's role in the successful recruitment, hiring, development and retention of a highly effective staff.

No change.

8. Explain your campus instructional leader's role in providing instructional guidance and school culture guidance. How will the leadership team work in support of the campus instructional leader's guidance?

No change

9. What systems are in place in your leadership team structure to ensure redundancies in knowledge and skill?

No change.

2. LEADERSHIP FOR EXPANSION

- Describe the operator's current or planned process for recruiting and training potential network leaders. Explain how you have developed or plan to establish a pipeline of potential leaders for the network as a whole. If known, identify candidates already in the pipeline for future positions.
- Identify the proposed regional director candidate, if applicable, and explain why this individual is qualified to lead the expansion of the organization (provide a resume as an **Attachment** ____). Summarize the proposed leader's academic and organizational leadership record. Provide specific evidence that demonstrates capacity to design, launch, and manage a high-performing charter school network.
- If a regional director candidate has not yet been identified, provide the job description (as an **Attachment** ____) or qualifications and discuss the timeline, criteria, and recruiting and selection process for hiring the regional director. Note: It is strongly encouraged that schools proposing to open new campuses in the 2018-19 school year, identify the regional leader (*Regional Director, Executive Director, etc.*) in the proposal. The SPCSA reserves the right to require schools which do not have network leadership and support position candidates identified to defer opening new campuses until the 2018-19 school year and to add additional criteria to the pre-opening requirements for such campuses.

Not applicable.

3. STAFFING

- Complete and submit a working copy of the RFA Staffing & Enrollment Worksheets Excel file.** indicating projected staffing needs for the proposed campuses over the next six years. Schools should also complete the second table outlining projected staffing needs for the entire network over the next six years. Include full-time staff and contract support that serve the network 50% or more. Change or add functions and titles and add or delete rows as needed to reflect organizational plans.

No change.

Sample Excerpt—Complete using Excel file

| Year | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Management Organization Positions | | | | | | |
| [Specify] | | | | | | |
| [Specify] | | | | | | |
| [Specify] | | | | | | |
| [Specify] | | | | | | |
| [Specify] | | | | | | |
| [Specify] | | | | | | |
| [Specify] | | | | | | |
| [Specify] | | | | | | |

4. HUMAN CAPITAL STRATEGY

Describe your strategy, plans, and timeline for recruiting and hiring teachers for a multi-site charter school. Explain

key selection criteria and any special considerations relevant to your school design. *Note: schools with strong track records of academic success, as determined by the Department of Education, are eligible to waive teacher licensure requirements for all teachers except for special education and ELL professionals as long as they meet all other federal and state requirements. Maintaining such a waiver is contingent on the school continuing to achieve at the 3 Star level or higher (or equivalent) on the statewide system of accountability. Please refer to Section 46 of SB509 (2015 session) for additional information.*

- a) **Recruitment:** Identify whether recruitment will be managed at the campus or network level. Identify key partnerships and/or sources the operator will rely upon of teachers and leaders. Identify the process the operator will rely upon to identify and develop high-quality leaders and high-quality teachers.
- b) **Leadership Pipeline: Discuss the specific measures and timelines the organization will employ to identify and develop organizational and school leaders. For example, explain:**
 - 1) How the school plans to identify leadership internally and externally;
 - 2) Who will be responsible for hiring leaders;
 - 3) Formal and informal systems that will prepare leaders for their responsibilities;
 - 4) The school's philosophy regarding internal promotions;
 - 5) The timing for identifying leaders in relation to the launch of a new campus; and,
 - 6) Internal or external leadership training programs.
- c) **Professional Development:** Identify the school's plan to meet professional development needs. Include whether professional development will be managed at the school or network level and how new campuses will be added to existing professional development. Also identify the method the school will use to determine the effectiveness of professional development.
- d) **Performance Evaluations and Retention:** Identify the school's approach to staff performance evaluations. Identify how frequently the organization plans to: evaluate teachers, campus administrators, and network leaders and staff, who will evaluate whom, and how the organization plans to retain high-performing teachers and administrators?
- e) **Compensation:** Explain the board's compensation strategy and salary ranges for network and school level staff. Discuss how the compensation structure enables the organization to attract and retain high quality staff and describe any incentive structures such as bonuses or merit pay. Compare the proposed salary ranges to those in other organizations, charter schools and local districts, as applicable.

No change.

5. SCALE STRATEGY

- a) Describe the steps that you will take to scale your model to new sites, including the people involved and the resources contributed both by the founding campus and the new campuses.
- b) If the school is affiliated with a CMO or EMO that operates schools in other states, compare your efforts to scale operations to Nevada to past scale efforts in other states.
- c) Describe your plan for embedding the fundamental features of the model that you described in the transformational change section in each new campus that you plan to open.
- d) Explain any shared or centralized support services the management organization will provide to campuses in Nevada.
- e) Describe the structure, specific services to be provided, the cost of those services, how costs will be allocated among campuses, and specific service goals of the network. Please also include how the school will measure successful delivery of these services. In the case of a charter management organization proposing to contract with an education management organization, service goals should be outlined in the term sheet and draft contract provided later in **Attachment** _____. Note that Nevada law allows charter schools to contract for the management or operation of the school with either a for-profit or non-profit education management organization.
- f) Using the table below, summarize the division school- and organization-level decision-making responsibilities as they relate to key functions, including curriculum, professional development, culture, staffing, etc. This division of responsibilities will be evaluated both in the context of Nevada law and regulation and best organizational and authorizing practices nationally.

No change.

| Function | Mgmt Org Decision-Making | Network Leader Decision-Making | Board Decision- Making | Campus Leader Decision-Making |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Performance Goals | | | | |
| Curriculum | | | | |
| Professional Development | | | | |
| Data Mgmt & Interim Assessments | | | | |
| Promotion Criteria | | | | |
| Culture | | | | |
| Budgeting, Finance, and Accounting | | | | |
| Student Recruitment | | | | |
| School Staff Recruitment & Hiring | | | | |
| HR Services (payroll, benefits, etc.) | | | | |
| Development/ Fundraising | | | | |
| Community Relations | | | | |
| IT | | | | |
| Facilities Mgmt | | | | |
| Vendor Management / Procurement | | | | |
| Student Support Services | | | | |
| Other operational services, if applicable | | | | |

6. STUDENT RECRUITMENT AND ENROLLMENT

Like all public schools, public charter schools must be open to any such child, regardless of that child's race, gender, citizenship, or need for accommodations or special education services. Thus, recruitment and enrollment practices should demonstrate a commitment to providing all students equal opportunity to attend the school, and help schools avoid even the appearance of creating barriers to entry for eligible students.

- a. Explain the plan for student recruitment and marketing for the new campuses that will provide equal access to interested students and families, including how the school will comply with the requirements of SB208 (2015

session). Specifically, describe the plan for outreach to: families in poverty; academically low-achieving students; students with disabilities; and other youth at risk of academic failure. For schools which are giving one or more statutorily permissible admissions preferences pursuant to NRS 386.580 or SB390 (2015 session), please indicate if you plan to focus your student recruitment efforts in specific communities or selected attendance areas.

- b. Provide a detailed discussion of the school's track record in recruiting and retaining students that reflect the ethnic, socio-economic, linguistic, and special needs diversity of the current charter school and each campus to at least the level reflected by the attendance zones where the charter school will operate facilities before approving the proposal. Please provide the school's past enrollment and retention performance for all years since the inception of the school broken out by race, ethnicity, language other than English, disability and 504 status, and eligibility for free and reduced priced lunch both as a school and in comparison, to the school's current zoned schools.
- c. Detail how the school's programmatic, recruitment, and enrollment strategies are designed to recruit, enroll, and retain a student population that is representative of the zoned schools which prospective students would otherwise attend in the community. Schools which do not currently represent their communities based on the data identified above and are not serving an at-risk population are expected to add several of the following programmatic, recruitment, and enrollment strategies to merit approval: (1) participation in state-funded pre-K programs (including federal pre-K) for low-income students; (2) substituting online and social media marketing which advantages affluent and well-connected populations with a community-based, grassroots campaign which targets high need populations in the community, including aggressive door-to-door outreach and publishing marketing materials in each language which is spoken by more than 5 percent of families within each attendance zone; (3) an explicit commitment to serving a broad continuum of students with disabilities and the expansion of programs, including cluster programs or consortia, to meet the needs of a broad spectrum of student needs; (4) a weighted lottery⁴ which provides additional opportunities for specific target populations to be admitted to the school in a manner consistent with state and federal law; and (5) other enrollment policies and strategies which have had a demonstrated track record of success in dramatically increasing the diversity of student populations in a high achieving charter school to at least the poverty, disability, and ELL profile of the zoned school.
- d. What is the enrollment calendar for both the first year of operation and subsequent years of operation? Please specify the dates on which the school will begin accepting applications and how long the enrollment window will last prior to conducting a lottery.
- e. What enrollment targets will you set and who will be responsible for monitoring progress towards these targets? What is your target re-enrollment rate for each year? How did you come to this determination? What are the minimum, planned, and maximum projected enrollment at each grade level? Outline specific targets in the table below.
- f. What systems will you put in place to ensure that staff members are knowledgeable about all legal enrollment requirements pertaining to special populations and the servicing of particular populations of students and can answer parent inquiries in a manner consistent with the letter and spirit of state and federal law?
- g. Describe the student recruitment plan once your school has opened. In what ways will it be different than your pre-opening year, in terms of the strategies, activities, events, persons responsible and milestones? How will the school backfill vacancies in existing grades?
- h. Complete the following tables for the proposed school to open in 2019-20. Schools applying for multiple campuses must complete enrollment summary tables for each school campus opening in fall 2019 and fall 2020.
 - 1) **Minimum Enrollment** (Must Correspond to Break Even Budget Scenario Assumptions discussed in budget narrative) *Complete using Excel file "RFA Staffing and Enrollment Worksheets."*

Sample Excerpt

| Grade Level | Number of Students | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2021-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
| Pre-K | | | | | | |
| K | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | |
| 2... | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | |

⁴ See <http://www.publiccharters.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/CCSP-Weighted-Lottery-Policy-factsheet-updated-GS-8-27-2015-2.pdf> for one possible approach in this evolving area of charter school policy.

| | | | | | | |
|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 11 | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | |

2) **Planned Enrollment** (Must Correspond to Budget Worksheet Assumptions) *Complete using Excel file “RFA Staffing and Enrollment Worksheets.”*

Sample Excerpt

| Grade Level | Number of Students | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2021-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
| Pre-K | | | | | | |
| K... | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | |

3) **Maximum Enrollment** (Note: Enrolling more than 10 percent of the planned enrollment described in subsection b will necessitate a charter amendment) *Complete using Excel file “RFA Staffing and Enrollment Worksheets.”*

Sample Excerpt

| Grade Level | Number of Students | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2021-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
| Pre-K | | | | | | |
| K | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | |

- Describe the rationale for the number of students and grade levels served in year one and the basis for the growth plan illustrated above. Note: particular weight will be given to rationales which prioritize academic achievement over financial returns.
- Schools proposing to open new elementary facilities with more than 400 students or more than 3 grade levels should identify and discuss the specific elements of the school model and organizational track record detailed throughout the request that demonstrate that the proposed expansion model is designed to compensate for the known organizational and academic challenges which accompany serving larger student bodies and multiple grade levels in a start-up environment.
- Schools proposing to add a new middle or high school facility with more than 200 newly enrolled students in sixth grade or above or more than 2 grades above fifth grade should identify and discuss the specific elements of the school model and organizational track record detailed throughout the request that demonstrate that the proposed expansion model is designed to compensate for the known organizational and academic challenges which accompany serving larger student bodies and multiple grade levels in a start-up environment.

No change.

7. BOARD GOVERNANCE

Complete this section only to the extent it is different from what is shown in the application for the school. Otherwise, indicate “No change from original application or most recent amendment. See attached.”

- Explain the governance philosophy that will guide the board, including the nature and extent of involvement of key stakeholder groups.
- Describe the governance structure of the expanded school when the board is fully composed, including the primary roles of the governing board and how it will interact with the principal/head of school and any advisory bodies. Explain how this governance structure and composition will help ensure that a) the school will be an educational and operational success; b) the board will evaluate the success of the school and school leader; and c) there will be active and effective representation of key stakeholders, including parents.
- Please submit board member information for current and proposed new board members in the provided Board Member Template (provide as part of **Attachment** ____). Please note that at least 75% of new

board members for SY 2018-2019 must be identified at the time of the submission of the expansion request.

- d. Provide, as part of **Attachment** ____, a completed and signed Board Member Information Sheet for each proposed new Board member as well as the board member's resume and a thoughtful biographical summary outlining the particular qualifications of each board member as relates to both service on a public charter school board and to the specific needs of this particular charter school.
- e. Describe the board's ethical standards and procedures for identifying and addressing conflicts of interest. Will the board be making any changes to its Bylaws, Code of Ethics, and Conflict of Interest policy in light of the expansion or new statutory or regulatory requirements, including SB509?
- f. Identify any existing, proposed, or contemplated relationships that could pose actual or perceived conflicts if the expansion request is approved, including but not limited to any connections with landlords, developers, vendors, or others which will receive compensation or other consideration directly or indirectly from the school; discuss specific steps that the board will take to avoid any actual conflicts and to mitigate perceived conflicts, including the new requirements of a Code of Ethics in SB509 and the nepotism regulations applicable to charter schools.
- g. Describe the board's history since inception, including a discussion of turnover. How does the board proactively manage governance and succession? How does the board propose to significantly exceed the statutory minimum criteria for board qualifications in light of the complexity and risk associated with governing a large, multi-site charter school network? What elements, characteristics, and behaviors of specific, analogous high performing multi-site charter school networks, non-profit social enterprises, and for-profit organizations with similar levels of revenues or complexity has the governing body elected to emulate in its governance and in the operation of the school? Describe concrete and specific plans for increasing the capacity of the governing board. How will the board continue expand and develop over time?
- h. Describe the kinds of orientation or training new board members will receive and what kinds of ongoing development existing board members will receive. The plan for training and development should include a timetable, specific topics to be addressed, and requirements for participation.
- i. Describe the working relationship between the board and staff (academic, operations, and financial) and the working relationship between the board, staff, and any education management organization. Outline the regular reports that will be provided to the board, their frequency, and who will provide them. This may include financial, operational, and/or or academic reports.
- j. Describe any advisory bodies or councils to be formed, including the roles and duties of those bodies. Describe the planned composition; the strategy for achieving that composition; the role of parents, students, and teachers (if applicable); and the reporting structure as it relates to the school's governing body and leadership.
- k. Explain the process that the school will follow should a parent or student have an objection to a governing board policy or decision, administrative procedure, or practice at the school.
- l. What goals will be established for the board and how will board members be held accountable? Outline the key expectations for board members in the table below. What actions would trigger removal from the board and under what process?

No change.

| Goal | Purpose | Outcome Measure |
|------|---------|-----------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

8. INCUBATION YEAR DEVELOPMENT

- Provide a detailed start-up plan as well as specific organizational goals for the planning year (SY 2017-2018) to ensure that the school is ready for a successful launch in fall 2018. Using the template provided, outline key activities, responsible parties, and milestones and submit as an **Attachment** ____.
- Please describe the plans for leadership training and development of the selected school leader during the incubation year prior to school opening and how these plans support your year 0 goals. If partnering with an organization, please briefly describe the main components of the training program.
- Explain who will work on a full-time or nearly full-time basis immediately following assignment of a location to lead development of the school(s) and the plan to compensate these individuals.

No change.

9. SCHOOL MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS

Indicate “Not Applicable” if the school does not intend to amend an existing management contract or enter into a new management contract with a for-profit or non-profit education management organization (EMO).

- How and why was the EMO selected?
- Explain whether the management organization will provide services to the charter school as a whole or will it be assigned to provide specific services at an individual campus or campuses or a particular program (e.g. a portfolio management governance model).
- Describe the relationship between the school governing board and the service provider, specifying how the governing board will monitor and evaluate the performance of the service provider, the internal controls that will guide the relationship, and how the governing board will ensure fulfillment of performance expectations.
- Disclose fully and provide an explanation of any existing or potential conflicts of interest between the school governing board and proposed service provider or any affiliated business entities, including, without limitation, any past or current employment, business or familial relationship between any officer, employee, or agent of the proposed service provider and any prospective employee of the charter school, a member of the committee to form a charter school or the board of directors of the charter management organization, as applicable.
- Please provide the following in **Attachment** ____:
 - A term sheet setting forth the proposed duration of the contract; roles and responsibilities of the governing board, the school staff, and the service provider; scope of services and resources to be provided by the EMO; performance evaluation measures and mechanisms; detailed explanation of all fees and compensation to be paid to the provider; financial controls and oversight; methods of contract oversight and enforcement by the governing board and/or school staff; investment disclosure; and conditions for renewal and termination of the contract;
 - A draft of the proposed management contract which complies with NRS 386.562 and SB509 (2015 session) and all other applicable laws and regulations;
 - As an exhibit to the proposed management contract, a crosswalk of the academic, financial, and organizational goals of the charter school set forth in the SPCSA Charter School Performance Framework, including the school’s mission-specific goals, and a clear identification of each of the performance goals and expectations for the education management organization related to each charter school goal. This will serve as the board’s primary evaluative tool for the education management organization.
 - Documentation of the service provider’s for-profit or non-profit status and evidence that it is authorized to do business in Nevada.
 - Provide a brief overview of the EMO/CMO's history.
 - List any and all charter revocations or surrenders, bankruptcies, school closures, non-renewals, or shortened or conditional renewals for any of the schools managed by the organization and provide

explanations. For all such schools, please provide contact information, including name, business mailing address, business telephone number—including extension or direct line, and business email address, for the current leader of the school’s authorizing office and a summary of the correspondence or discussions between members of the governing body and this individual and other knowledgeable authorizer personnel contacted. Include a summary of all performance issues related to each revocation, surrender, bankruptcy, closure, non-renewal, or shorted or conditional renewal. Discuss the lessons learned by the governing body based on this ongoing due diligence and how this research has informed provisions that the governing body has required in the proposed management agreement.

7. Explain any performance deficits or compliance violations that have led to formal authorizer intervention with any school managed by the organization. Provide details as to how such deficiencies were resolved. For all such schools, please provide contact information, including name, business mailing address, business telephone number—including extension or direct line, and business email address, for the current leader of the school’s authorizing office and all other authorizer personnel contacted. Include a summary of the correspondence or discussions between members of the governing body and this individual and other knowledgeable authorizer staff regarding all performance issues related to each non-renewal, shortened or conditional renewal, or renegotiation or reduction in services. Discuss the lessons learned by the governing body based on this ongoing due diligence and how this research has informed provisions that the governing body has required in the proposed management agreement.
8. List any and all management contract non-renewals, shortened or conditional renewals, or renegotiations or reductions in services provided for any of the schools managed by the organization and provide explanations. For all such schools which are still in operation, please provide contact information, including name, legal home or business mailing address, home or business telephone number, and personal or business email address, for the current board chair office and all other board members and school personnel contacted. Include a summary of the correspondence or discussions between members of the governing body and this individual and other knowledgeable staff or board members regarding all performance issues related to each non-renewal, shortened or conditional renewal, or renegotiation or reduction in services. Discuss the lessons learned by the governing body based on this ongoing due diligence and how this research has informed provisions that the governing body has required in the proposed management agreement.

No change.

10. SERVICES

1. Provide **Attachment** describing how the school leadership team will support operational execution.
2. Provide narrative or evidence illustrating the staffing model, performance metrics, and the school’s plan for supporting all operational needs of the school, including but not limited to those listed below.
3. In this space and in the finances section, demonstrate how you will fund the provision of the services below which you are requesting approval to implement.
 - i. Transportation: Describe your plans for providing student transportation. If the school will not provide transportation, please identify how the school will ensure that this does serve as a barrier to enrollment or ongoing attendance.
 - ii. Food Service: Outline your plans for providing food service at the school, including whether and how you will be your own school food authority or will contract with another provider. If the school will not provide food service, please identify how the school will ensure that this does serve as a barrier to enrollment or ongoing attendance.
 - iii. Facilities maintenance (including janitorial and landscape maintenance)
 - iv. Safety and security (include any plans for onsite security personnel)
 - v. Other services
4. Technology: Outline the technology infrastructure and support mechanisms across your school, staff, and teachers. Your outline should include but not be limited to reliable and secure wide area networking, local area networking (e.g., wireless and cables), hardware (e.g., personal computing devices, servers, telephony, storage, routers, switches), technology policies and procedures, device management, and end user support, including the management of user rights and privileges.
5. Student Information Management: Timely communication of accurate student information is critical for payments to schools, compliance, and performance monitoring. Please describe how you will manage student information using the statewide Infinite Campus system, and how you will build capacity around the

use of the software in order to independently maintain the system. Detail the staff members who will enter data along with the project manager who will commit to trainings and regularly monitor student information for accuracy.

6. Data Security: SPCSA charter schools record, generate and consume data that falls under strict requirements for security, privacy, and retention (including FERPA and recent legislation related to the protection of personally identifiable information (PII)). Describe the systems and procedures you will implement in order to ensure you are compliant with these obligations.
7. Provide, as an Attachment____, a detailed operational execution plan which discusses the planning and provision of these and other essential operational services in greater detail.

No change.

11. ONGOING OPERATIONS

1. SPCSA schools coordinate emergency management with local authorities. Explain your process to create and maintain the school's Emergency Management Plan required by the State of Nevada. Include the types of security personnel, technology, equipment, and policies that the school will employ. Who will be primarily responsible for this plan? Does the school anticipate contracting with the local school district for school police services? How will the school communicate with and coordinate with lead law enforcement agencies and other public safety agencies?

No change.

2. Discuss the types of insurance coverage the school will secure as a result of the expanded scope of operation and the attendant risks, including a description of the levels of coverage. Types of insurance should include workers' compensation, liability insurance for staff and students, indemnity, directors and officers, automobile, and any others required by Nevada law or regulation. As the minimum coverage required by Nevada law and regulation is intended as a baseline requirement for schools which operate at a significantly smaller scale, schools requesting an amendment are expected to research the levels of and types of insurance coverage typically required of and obtained by multi-site charter school networks in other states, including but not limited to Arizona, California, Colorado, the District of Columbia, Massachusetts, and New York, and crosswalk those levels of coverage with those the school intends to obtain to ensure that the governing body and network leadership is fully cognizant of the complexity of risk management in a multi-site context.

No change.

SPECIFIC RFA SECTIONS

RFA: Academic Amendments

1. RFA: Add Distance Education

- a. Executive Summary
 - i. An overview of the mission and vision for the expanded school or network, noting any revisions to the approved mission and vision for the school relating to the addition of a distance education program.
 - ii. A list of the current school campuses
 - iii. Proposed model and target communities by zip code
 - iv. The outcomes you expect to achieve across the network of campuses with the addition of the distance education program.
 - v. The key components of your educational model and how the distance education program aligns with the educational model.
 - vi. Key supporters, partners, or resources that will contribute to the distance education program
- b. Targeted Plan
 - i. Identify the community you wish to serve as a result of the distance education program and describe your interest in serving this specific community.
 - ii. Explain how your distance education model, and the commitment to serve the population, including the grade levels you have chosen, would meet the district and community needs and align with the mission of the SPCSA.
- c. Distance Education Requirements

- i. Describe the system of course credits that the school will use.
 - ii. Describe how the school will monitor and verify the participation in and completion of courses by pupils.
 - iii. Describe how the school will ensure students participate in assessments and submit coursework.
 - iv. Describe how the school will conduct parent-teacher conferences.
 - v. Describe how the school will administer all tests, examinations or assessments required by state or federal law or integral to the performance goals of the charter school in a proctored setting.
- d. Special Education
 - i. For Distance Education Schools: Describe how the school will provide appropriate services in the distance education learning environment to students with disabilities across a broad continuum.
 - ii. What systems will you put in place to ensure that staff members are knowledgeable about all legal distance education requirements pertaining to special populations and the servicing of particular populations of students and can answer parent inquiries in a manner consistent with the letter and spirit of state and federal law?
- e. Scale Strategy
 - i. Describe the steps that you will take to scale your model to new sections, including the people involved and the resources contributed both by the founding campus and the new distance education program.
 - ii. If the school is affiliated with a CMO or EMO that operates distance education in other states, compare your efforts to scale distance education operations to Nevada to past scale distance education efforts in other states.
- f. Student Recruitment and Enrollment
 - i. Explain the plan for student recruitment and marketing for the new distance education program that will provide equal access to interested students and families, including how the school will comply with the requirements of SB208 (2015 session). Specifically, describe the plan for outreach to: families in poverty; academically low-achieving students; students with disabilities; and other youth at risk of academic failure.
 - ii. What is the enrollment calendar for both the first year of operation and subsequent years of operation? Please specify the dates on which the school will begin accepting distance education applications and how long the window will last prior to conducting a lottery.
 - iii. What distance education enrollment targets will you set and who will be responsible for monitoring progress towards these targets? What is your target re-enrollment rate for each year? How did you come to this determination?
- g. Services
 - i. Provide a description of how the school leadership team will support the distance education operational execution. Please provide narrative or evidence that illustrates the staffing model, performance metrics, and the school's plan for supporting all operational needs of the school, including but not limited to those listed below. In this space and in the finances section, demonstrate how you will fund the provision of these services.
 - ii. Technology: Outline the technology infrastructure and support mechanisms across your school, staff, and teachers—including new investments necessary to support this distance education expansion. Your outline should include but not be limited to reliable and secure wide area networking, local area networking (e.g., wireless and cables), hardware (e.g., personal computing devices, servers, telephony, storage, routers, switches), technology policies and procedures, device management, and end user support, including the management of user rights and privileges.
- h. Financial

Describe the costs associated with the inclusion of the Distance Education program including technology infrastructure and support mechanisms across your school, staff, and teachers—including new investments necessary to support this distance education expansion. Your outline should include but not be limited to reliable and secure wide area networking, local area networking (e.g., wireless and cables), hardware (e.g., personal computing devices, servers, telephony, storage, routers, switches), technology policies and procedures, device management, and end user support, including the management of user rights and privileges.

2. RFA: Add Dual-Credit Program

Charter schools which would like to provide a program where a student may earn college credit for courses taken in high school must request this amendment by responding to the general sections of this RFA and the following specific program questions.

- a. Describe the proposed duration of the relationship between the charter school and the college or university and the conditions for renewal and termination of the relationship.

The duration of the relationship between Somerset Academy of Las Vegas (SA) and the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) will begin on July 1, 2019 with an expiration ending on May 31, 2024. CSN and SA may agree through a written confirmation executed by their respective authorized representatives to extend the relationship for five (5) additional years through May 31, 2029. Either CSN or SA may terminate the relationship without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party, and any SA student will be able to complete the course(s) he/she is enrolled in pursuant to the established agreement at the time of the written notice.

- b. Identify roles and responsibilities of the governing body of the charter school, the employees of the charter school and the college or university.

The role of SA's governing body is to ensure its schools adhere to the agreements entered into between them and CSN. For the purposes of this amendment, SA employees will provide instruction aligned to CSN's Jumpstart Program for the first year of the agreement. For each year following, CSN staff will provide the instruction to SA students. CSN staff will also provide an orientation to SA students as well as assign students an academic advisor or success coach. SA students can receive counseling services to the same extent as regular CSN students.

- c. Discuss the scope of the services and resources that will be provided by the college or university.

CSN will provide to SA students access to counseling services to the same extent as regular CSN students. Additionally, each SA student will be assigned an academic advisor/success coach.

- d. Explain the manner and amount that the college or university will be compensated for providing such services and resources, including, without limitation, any tuition and fees that pupils at the charter school will pay to the college or university.

SA is responsible to pay for all fees applicable to SA students enrolled at CSN. CSN will charge via CSN invoice within thirty (30) days of the start of the courses and SA will remit payment of fees within thirty (30) days receipt of CSN's invoice, for each student enrolled in CSN courses. SA may pursue grants and other funding opportunities to help support its students in the Jumpstart or dual enrollment programs. CSN acknowledges that SA students will pay all tuition and fees, not covered by grants.

- e. Describe the manner in which the college or university will ensure that the charter school can effectively monitor pupil enrollment and attendance and the acquisition of college credits.

CSN requires all dually enrolled students to attend an orientation prior to the start of their classes where policies and practices are reviewed with participants. Both CSN and SA will be responsible to initiate and maintain respective student attendance and grades for the courses in which they are enrolled. CSN will comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). SA students must sign a FERPA document before CSN will release any academic records to SA schools. Upon successful completion of any course in which a SA student is enrolled, CSN will award corresponding credits listed in the CSN course catalog at CSN and credit for a course at SA. A Somerset Academy staff member charged with maintaining student records will ensure the appropriate credit(s) are entered onto student transcripts. Communication between CSN and SA will be ongoing throughout the various sports seasons in order to monitor student attendance and academic achievement in accordance with Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association's eligibility requirements.

- f. Identify any employees of the college or university who will serve on the governing body of the charter school.

No employee of CSN currently serves on the SA governing body.

Provide as an **Attachment 2**, a draft memorandum of understanding between the charter school and the college or university through which the credits will be earned and a term sheet confirming the commitment of both entities to the specific terms outlined in this charter application. If the school is not planning to provide a dual-credit program, please upload an attestation explaining that this request is inapplicable.

3. RFA: Change Mission and/or Vision

For an RFA to accomplish this objective:

- a. Complete and submit your RFA with the General application sections above completed.
- b. The notice of intent and the RFA must include an explanation of the reasons that the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.
- c. Indicate “N/A” for any below requested response that is not applicable to your request.

4. RFA: Eliminate a grade level or other educational services

For an RFA to accomplish this objective, pursuant to NAC 388A.325:

- a) Complete and submit your RFA with the General Requirements sections above completed.
- b) The notice of intent and the RFA must include an explanation of the reasons that the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.

5. RFA: EMOs/CMOs: Entering, amending, renewing, terminating charter contract with EMO/CMO

a) School Management Contracts

1. RFAs for “entering into, amending, renewing or terminating a contract with an educational management organization” are processed pursuant to NAC 388A.575
2. Contracts with EMOs are regulated in part pursuant to NAC 388A.580.
3. Limitations on the provision of teachers and other personnel by EMOs is regulated pursuant to NAC 388A.585.
4. Please provide the EMO’s Tax Identification Number (EIN), Organizational Location Address, and Organizational Mailing Address.
5. How and why was the EMO selected?
6. If this amendment would result in the approval of an EMO other than that approved in the initial charter application, please explain in detail the rationale for the change.
7. Explain whether the management organization will provide services to the charter school as a whole or will it be assigned to provide specific services at an individual campus or campuses or a particular program (e.g. a portfolio management governance model).
8. Describe the relationship between the school governing board and the service provider, specifying how the governing board will monitor and evaluate the performance of the service provider, the internal controls (including any compensatory controls) that will guide the relationship, and how the governing board will ensure fulfillment of performance expectations.
9. Disclose fully and provide an explanation of any existing or potential conflicts of interest between the school governing board and proposed service provider or any affiliated business entities, including, without limitation, any past or current employment, business or familial relationship between any officer, employee, or agent of the proposed service provider and any other current or prospective vendor or contractor (including the landlord), prospective employee of the charter school, a member of the committee to form a charter school or the board of directors of the charter management organization, as applicable.
10. Provide a brief overview of the organization's history.
11. List any and all charter revocations or surrenders, bankruptcies, school closures, non-renewals, or shortened or conditional renewals for any of the schools managed by the organization and provide explanations. For all such schools, please provide contact information, including name, business mailing address, business telephone number—including extension or direct line, and business email address, for the current leader of the school’s authorizing office and a summary of the correspondence or discussions between members of the governing body and this individual and other knowledgeable authorizer personnel contacted. Include a summary of all performance issues related to each revocation, surrender, bankruptcy, closure, non-renewal, or shorted or conditional renewal. Discuss the lessons learned by the governing body based on this ongoing due diligence and how this research has informed provisions that the governing body has required in the proposed management agreement.
12. Explain any performance deficits or compliance violations that have led to formal authorizer intervention with any school managed by the organization. Provide details as to how such deficiencies were resolved.

For all such schools, please provide contact information, including name, business mailing address, business telephone number—including extension or direct line, and business email address, for the current leader of the school’s authorizing office and all other authorizer personnel contacted. Include a summary of the correspondence or discussions between members of the governing body and this individual and other knowledgeable authorizer staff regarding all performance issues related to each non-renewal, shortened or conditional renewal, or renegotiation or reduction in services. Discuss the lessons learned by the governing body based on this ongoing due diligence and how this research has informed provisions that the governing body has required in the proposed management agreement.

13. List any and all management contract non-renewals, shortened or conditional renewals, or renegotiations or reductions in services provided for any of the schools managed by the organization and provide explanations. For all such schools which are still in operation, please provide contact information, including name, legal home or business mailing address, home or business telephone number, and personal or business email address, for the current board chair office and all other board members and school personnel contacted. Include a summary of the correspondence or discussions between members of the governing body and this individual and other knowledgeable staff or board members regarding all performance issues related to each non-renewal, shortened or conditional renewal, or renegotiation or reduction in services. Discuss the lessons learned by the governing body based on this ongoing due diligence and how this research has informed provisions that the governing body has required in the proposed management agreement.

b) Financial Plan

1. Describe the systems and processes by which the school will manage accounting, purchasing, payroll, and audits. Specify any administrative services expected to be contracted for the school and describe the criteria and procedures for the selection of contractors and the mechanism by which the board will monitor and hold the contractor responsible for providing such services.
2. Present a budget narrative including a detailed description of assumptions and revenue estimates, including but not limited to the basis for revenue projections, staffing levels, and costs. The narrative should specifically address the degree to which the school budget will rely on variable income (e.g., grants, donations, fundraising, etc.).
3. Provide a six-year development plan that addresses the annual and cumulative fundraising need at the network and school levels including a description of the staff devoted to development. The plan should include a history of the school’s fundraising outcomes and identify funds that have already been committed toward fundraising goals. The plan should also identify the role of the members of the board, particularly as relates to give/get requirements, and should demonstrate alignment with the expectations for board members discussed elsewhere in the amendment request. If funds are raised at a partner organization level, describe the methodology to be used in allocating funds to the school and the proposed campuses. If the school has not raised any funds to support its programming to date and the budget does not include any fundraising activity, please explain that this question is not applicable to your school.
4. Describe the campus’, school’s, and any management organization’s distinct responsibilities in the financial management and oversight of the proposed campuses, including, but not limited to, their respective roles in overseeing or implementing internal controls and in making financial management decisions including budget development. Detail the process and frequency by which key financial information is communicated to and reviewed by the various organizations and different levels of leadership and governance.
5. Submit a completed financial plan for the proposed school as an **Attachment**___ (the format of this is left to the applicant’s discretion but must be clear and sufficiently detailed to permit Authority staff, external reviewers, and the general public to review of all elements of the school’s business plan and gauge alignment and consistency with the academic program, operating plan, and budget narrative).
6. Submit, as an **Attachment**___, a detailed budget for the operator at the network level (the format of this is left to the applicant’s discretion but must be clear and sufficiently detailed to permit Authority staff, external reviewers, and the general public to review of all elements of the school’s business plan and gauge alignment and consistency with the academic program, operating plan, and budget narrative).
7. Provide, as an **Attachment**___, historical financial documents for any affiliated CMO from another state or any EMO providing services to the school, including audited financials for each school operated by the affiliate as well as any other campus by campus financial evaluations conducted by charter school

authorizers. At least three years of school financial audits are required for any school operating for three years or longer. Such financials must be provided as converted PDF documents to ensure accessibility.

8. Complete the audit data worksheet in **Attachment ____**. In the info tab, please identify any schools or campuses listed under the student achievement tab for which, pursuant that relevant state’s charter law, financial data is consolidated for reporting and auditing purposes in the independent audits provided in **Attachment ____**.

Attachments Necessary for EMO Amendment

- 1) A letter of transmittal signed by the Board chair formally requesting the amendment and identifying each of the elements to be submitted in support of the request.
- 2) Agenda for Board Meeting Where Board Voted to Request an Amendment to Contract with an Educational Management Organization, Renew a Contract with an Educational Management Organization, Terminate a Contract or Discontinue Negotiations with an Educational Management Organization, and/or Amend a Contract with an Educational Management Organization.
- 3) Draft or Approved Minutes for Board Meeting Where Board Voted to Request an Amendment to Contract Educational Management Organization, Renew a Contract with an Educational Management Organization, Terminate a Contract or Discontinue Negotiations with an Educational Management Organization, and/or Amend a Contract with an Educational Management Organization.
- 4) Final Term Sheet
- 5) Final, negotiated and executed contract between charter school and educational management organization which complies with NRS 388A, NAC 388A and all other applicable laws and regulations.
- 6) A term sheet signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Service Provider setting forth the proposed duration of the contract; roles and responsibilities of the governing board, the school staff, and the service provider; scope of services and resources to be provided by the EMO; performance evaluation measures and mechanisms; detailed explanation of all fees and compensation to be paid to the provider; financial controls and oversight; methods of contract oversight and enforcement by the governing board and/or school staff; investment disclosure; and conditions for renewal and termination of the contract;
- 7) Crosswalk of academic, organizational, and financial framework deliverables under the charter contract which will be delegated to or supported in whole or in part by the Educational Management Organization.
- 8) Documentation of Service Provider’s non-profit or for-profit status
- 9) Documentation of Service Provider’s authorization to do business in Nevada (e.g. current business license)
- 10) Letter from Board chair requesting Good Cause Exemption.
- 11) Agenda for Board Meeting Where Board Voted to Request Good Cause Exemption.
- 12) Draft or Approved Minutes for Board Meeting Where Board Voted to Request Good Cause Exemption.
- 13) Budget Narrative
- 14) School Budget
- 15) Network Budget
- 16) Historical Audits
- 17) Audit Data Worksheet
 - (a) Academic Performance Worksheet
 - (b) Good Cause Exemption Letter
 - (c) A final crosswalk of the academic, financial, and organizational goals of the charter school set forth in the SPCSA Charter School Performance Framework, including the school’s mission-specific goals, and a clear identification of each of the performance goals and expectations for the education management organization related to each charter school goal. This will serve as the board’s primary evaluative tool for the education management organization.

6. RFA: Enrollment: Expand Enrollment In Existing Grade Level(s) And Facilities

The purpose of this Expansion Amendment Request is to assess the potential of existing charter school boards to produce high-quality student outcomes and function as highly effective, accountable, and transparent providers of public education as they add new students and demonstrate the capability and maturity to achieve at consistently high levels in all domains while continuing to scale their impact in their communities and in other communities across the state.

What is your current enrollment for the prior years in your current contract?

| | | | | | | |
|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Year | | | | | | |
| Enrollment | | | | | | |

What is your projected enrollment for the years for which you are requesting an expansion?

| | | | | | | |
|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Year | | | | | | |
| Enrollment | | | | | | |

7. RFA: Enrollment: Expand Enrollment in New Grade Level(s)

For an RFA to accomplish this objective:

- Complete and submit your RFA with the General application sections above completed.
- The notice of intent and the RFA must include an explanation of the reasons that the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.

The purpose of this Expansion Amendment Request is to assess the potential of existing charter school boards to produce high-quality student outcomes and function as highly effective, accountable, and transparent providers of public education as they add new students and demonstrate the capability and maturity to achieve at consistently high levels in all domains while continuing to scale their impact in their communities and in other communities across the state.

The expansion request is evaluated based on the strength of the plan in each of those domains, while applicants are evaluated based on their capacity to execute the program they've proposed both based on the coherence, thoroughness, and thoughtfulness of each element of the application and on the data gathered during both the (discretionary) capacity interview process and background research and due diligence on both proposed members of the expanded governing board and proposed staff members. Successful requests will share many of the same characteristics.

This amendment request form pre-supposes that the school plans to utilize the existing facility.

If the current facility requires no construction or renovation to accommodate the addition of these new grades, then provide a brief narrative at each attachment attesting to that fact. Each attestation must be signed by the chair of the governing body and the school leader, must be notarized, and must be remediated to be accessible pursuant to Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.

If the existing campus or campus(es) requires any construction or renovation after the date of submission of this request and prior to the commencement of instruction, then answer the applicable specific facility related section questions.

Facility RFAs

8. RFA: Acquire or construct a facility that will not affect approved enrollment (NAC 388A.320)

- Complete the general sections above and the general and specific facility sections below
- If there is no change to any part of the below specific section or specific sub-sections from your current contract...state "No change to section" in a row inserted below the heading of the applicable section.
- The notice of intent and the RFA must include an explanation of the reasons that the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.
- Provide a narrative explaining the proposed use of any savings generated through lower facilities occupancy costs.

9. RFA: Occupy New or Additional Sites (NAC 388A.315)

- Complete the general sections above and the general and specific facility sections below
- If there is no change to any part of the below specific section or specific sub-sections from your current contract...state "No change to section" in a row inserted below the heading of the applicable section.
- The notice of intent and the RFA must include an explanation of the reasons that the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.

10. RFA: Occupy a Temporary Facility

- Complete the general sections above and the general and specific facility sections below
- If there is no change to any part of the below specific section or specific sub-sections from your current contract...state "No change to section" in a row inserted below the heading of the applicable section.
- The notice of intent and the RFA must include an explanation of the reasons that the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.

11. RFA: Relocate or Consolidate Campuses

- Complete the general sections above and the general and specific facility sections below
- If there is no change to any part of the below specific section or specific sub-sections from your current contract...state "No change to section" in a row inserted below the heading of the applicable section.
- The notice of intent and the RFA must include an explanation of the reasons that the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.

General Facility RFA requirements

1. Describe the school's capacity and experience in facilities acquisition and development, including managing build-out and/or renovations, as applicable. Provide a description and analysis of any construction or development delays which have impacted a school or campus calendar and schedule in the past and a discussion of any organizational or operational adjustments that have been made to prevent recurrence in the future.
2. Identify the entity responsible for acquiring and maintaining school facilities and describe that entity's relationship to both the school and any management organization. If costs related to the facility will be borne by the proposed school's education management organization or a related party such as a foundation, it should identify the level of capital support the organization (or related party) is willing to provide to the school.
3. If a proposed facility **has been** identified and **requires no construction or renovation** prior to the commencement of instruction, please provide:
 - a) The physical address of the facility and supporting documentation verifying the location, including the Assessor's Parcel Number and a copy of the Assessor's Parcel Map for the proposed facility.
 - b) A copy of the current deed on the property (if the school owns the facility) or a copy of the proposed lease or rental agreement noting any additional square footage to be leased.
 - c) A copy of the proposed purchase and sale agreement or a copy of the proposed lease or rental agreement.
 - d) A copy of the floor plan of the facility, including a notation of the size of the facility which is set forth in square feet AND an assurance the school will submit final documentation in compliance with NAC 386.3265.
 - e) The name, address, and full contact information of the current owner of the facility and any proposed landlord and a disclosure of any relationship between the current owner or landlord and the school, including but not limited to any relative of a board member or employee within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity and any connection with an educational management organization, foundation, or other entity which does business with or is otherwise affiliated with the school as an **Attachment** ____.
 - f) A copy of the Certificate of Occupancy at **Attachment** ____.
 - g) Documentation demonstrating that the proposed facility meets all applicable building codes, codes for the prevention of fire, and codes pertaining to safety, health and sanitation as an **Attachment** ____.
 - h) Documentation demonstrating the governing Body has communicated with the Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry regarding compliance with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) in compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____.
4. If a proposed facility has **not** been identified or the proposed facility **requires any construction or renovation** prior to the commencement of instruction, please provide:
 - a) Either a discussion of the desired community of location and the rationale for selecting that community **AND** an assurance that the school will submit the documentation required in 1(a) for review and approval prior to acquisition of any facility in compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____ OR the physical address of the proposed facility which requires construction or renovation and supporting documentation verifying the location, including the Assessor's Parcel Number and a copy of the Assessor's Parcel Map for the proposed facility as an **Attachment** ____.
 - b) Either a narrative explaining the rationale for the budgeted cost of acquisition of an owned or leased facility **AND** an assurance that the school will submit such documentation for review and approval prior to acquisition of any facility in compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____ OR, if a facility has been identified which requires construction or renovation, a copy of the proposed purchase and sale agreement or a copy of the proposed lease or rental agreement as an **Attachment** ____.
 - c) Either a discussion of the general specifications to be utilized during the facility search, including approximate square footage **AND** an assurance that the school will submit such documentation for review and approval prior to acquisition of any facility in compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____ OR, if a facility location has been identified but requires construction or renovation, a copy of the proposed floor plan of the facility, including a notation of the size of the facility which is set forth in square feet **AND** an assurance that the school will submit final documentation in compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____.
 - d) Either a description of the process and resources the school will use to identify a facility **AND** an assurance that the school will submit such information for review and approval prior to acquisition of any facility in compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____ OR, If a facility has been identified but requires construction or renovation, the name, address, and full contact information of the current owner of the facility and any proposed landlord and a disclosure of any relationship between the current owner or landlord and the school, including but not limited to any relative of a board member or employee within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity and any connection with an educational management organization, foundation, or other entity which does business with or is otherwise affiliated with the school as an **Attachment** ____.
 - e) A detailed construction project plan and timeline, including a Gannt chart, identifying all facility development

activities necessary to obtain a full certificate of occupancy prior to the first day of school AND documentation of the inspection and approval processes and timelines for the state, municipal, or county agencies which will issue the Certificate of Occupancy, including a discussion of whether such agencies issue temporary or conditional approvals and a copy of the standard form documentation that the sponsor can consult in such circumstances to confirm compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____.

- f) A detailed construction project plan and timeline, including a Gantt chart, identifying all facility development activities necessary to obtain all such code approvals prior to the first day of school AND documentation of the inspection and approval processes and timelines for the state, municipal, or county agencies which will conduct all code inspections, including a discussion of whether such agencies issue temporary or conditional approvals and a copy of the standard form documentation that the sponsor can consult in such circumstances to confirm compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____.
 - g) Documentation demonstrating the governing Body has communicated with the Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry regarding compliance with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) in compliance with NAC 386.3265 as an **Attachment** ____.
5. For schools which are seeking to occupy multiple facilities over several years, please list the number of facilities you project operating in each of the next six years and identify all potential target jurisdictions at the county and municipal levels, including any unincorporated areas.
- a) Describe the strategy and process for identifying and securing multiple facilities, including any brokers or consultants you are employing to navigate the real estate market, plans for renovations, timelines, bond or third-party financing, etc.
 - b) Charter school facilities must comply with health and safety requirements and all other mandates prescribed in statute and regulation. In addition, charter schools must be prepared to follow applicable county and municipal review procedures which vary significantly between jurisdictions. Schools are expected demonstrate that they have thoroughly researched the different local requirements and adjust their permitting, construction, and inspection timelines accordingly. Discuss the research and planning that has occurred to date for each of the targeted jurisdictions, including both municipalities and unincorporated areas. Provide documentation of the current inspection and approval processes and timelines for the state, municipal, or county agencies within your proposed jurisdictions which will issue each Certificate of Occupancy, including a discussion of whether such agencies issue temporary or conditional approvals and a copy of the standard form documentation that the sponsor can consult in such circumstances to confirm compliance with NAC 386.3265 as part of an **Attachment** ____.
6. Please include the organization's plans to finance these facilities, including:
- a) Indicate whether the school intends to finance these facilities through the Department of Business and Industry (B&I) or another bond conduit. If the school is not using the B&I conduit, please identify the proposed issuer of the bonds. Please provide a rationale for the selection of this issuer, and a comparative analysis with any other issuers considered by the school.
 - b) Total project cost for each facility
 - c) Financing and financing assumptions
 - d) Total facility costs that the financial model can handle – debt service + lease + maintenance + utilities + etc. for each facility and for the network as a whole.

Facility RFA Attachments required

- 1. A letter of transmittal signed by the Board chair formally requesting the amendment and identifying each of the elements to be submitted in support of the request.
- 2. Agenda for Board Meeting Where Board Voted to Request an Amendment to Add Additional Grades, Expand Enrollment, or Occupy a New or Additional Facility
- 3. Draft or Approved Minutes for Board Meeting Where Board Voted to Request an Amendment to Add Additional Grades, Expand Enrollment, or Occupy a New or Additional Facility
- 4. If a facility has been identified, the physical address of the facility and supporting documentation verifying the location, including the Assessor's Parcel Number and a copy of the Assessor's Parcel Map for the proposed facility OR, if a facility has not been identified, a discussion of the desired community of location and the

rationale for selecting that community AND an assurance that the school will submit such documentation for review and approval prior to acquisition of any facility in compliance with NAC 386.3265

5. If a facility has been identified, a copy of the proposed purchase and sale agreement or a copy of the proposed lease or rental agreement OR a narrative explaining the rationale for the budgeted cost of acquisition of an owned or leased facility AND an assurance that the school will submit such documentation for review and approval prior to acquisition of any facility in compliance with NAC 386.3265
6. If a facility has been identified, a copy of the floor plan of the facility, including a notation of the size of the facility which is set forth in square feet OR, if a facility has not been identified, a discussion of the general specifications to be utilized during the facility search, including approximate square footage AND an assurance that the school will submit such documentation for review and approval prior to acquisition of any facility in compliance with NAC 386.3265
7. If a facility has been identified, the name, address, and full contact information of the current owner of the facility and any proposed landlord and a disclosure of any relationship between the current owner or landlord and the school, including but not limited to any relative of a board member or employee within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity and any connection with an educational management organization, foundation, or other entity which does business with or is otherwise affiliated with the school OR a description of the process and resources the school will use to identify a facility AND an assurance that the school will submit such information for review and approval prior to acquisition of any facility in compliance with NAC 386.3265
8. Full Certificate of Occupancy OR a detailed construction project plan and timeline, including a Gantt chart, identifying all facility development activities necessary to obtain a full certificate of occupancy prior to the first day of school AND documentation of the inspection and approval processes and timelines for the state, municipal, or county agencies which will issue the Certificate of Occupancy, including a discussion of whether such agencies issue temporary or conditional approvals and a copy of the standard form documentation that the sponsor can consult in such circumstances to confirm compliance with NAC 386.3265
9. Documentation demonstrating that the proposed facility meets all applicable building codes, codes for the prevention of fire, and codes pertaining to safety, health and sanitation OR a detailed construction project plan and timeline, including a Gantt chart, identifying all facility development activities necessary to obtain all such code approvals prior to the first day of school AND documentation of the inspection and approval processes and timelines for the state, municipal, or county agencies which will conduct all code inspections, including a discussion of whether such agencies issue temporary or conditional approvals and a copy of the standard form documentation that the sponsor can consult in such circumstances to confirm compliance with NAC 386.3265.
10. Documentation demonstrating the governing Body has communicated with the Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry regarding compliance with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) in compliance with NAC 386.3265

12. RFA: Transportation

1. See (NAC 388A.330(4))
2. Describe the school's plan for transportation. Be sure to include:
 - o The number of students to receive transportation, including their grades
 - o The hours transportation is to be provided
 - o The physical location(s) proposed as pick-up and drop-off locations
 - o The entity/vendor providing transportation
3. Provide a statement of assurance confirming that Somerset has met all vehicle regulations for the state.
4. Describe how the school and/or transportation vendor will comply with NRS 386.815 regarding operating a school bus for extended periods of time (as necessary).
5. Describe how the school and/or transportation vendor will comply with NRS 386.820, specifically:
 - o The proposed schedule for practicing student evacuation
 - o A description of the bus safety program
6. Confirm that the driver(s) of the school bus will meet the minimum qualifications as described in NRS 386.825. Furthermore, please describe how the school will maintain all required employer documentation per NDE regulatory guidance for school bus operations.
7. Confirm that the school meets the safety standards and requirements as outlined in NRS 386.830 – NRS 386.840 as well as any additional local and federal requirements.

13.RFA: Other Changes

1. For certain other RFA requests

- a. See NAC 388A.330
- b. The governing body must submit a written request to the sponsor of the charter school for a determination of whether a proposed amendment is material or nonmaterial if the charter school wishes to amend its written charter or charter contract in a way that is not described in NAC 388A.310 to 388A.335, inclusive.

2. For all other RFA requests not otherwise described

- a. See NAC 388A.335
- b. Complete all applicable sections above, general and specific
- c. **For material amendments** to the written charter or charter contract, as applicable. If the sponsor determines that the proposed amendment is material, the governing body must obtain approval from the sponsor before the amendment becomes effective.
- d. The notice of intent and the RFA must include an explanation of the reasons along with any requested supporting documentation that the charter school is seeking to make this specific requested change.

3. Nonmaterial amendments

- a. NAC 388A.335(2)
- b. For all other RFA requests not otherwise described in NAC 388A.335
- c. If the sponsor determines that the proposed amendment is not material, the governing body is not required to obtain approval from the sponsor before the amendment becomes effective.

MINUTES
of the meeting of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS of SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS
August 8, 2019

The Board of Directors of Somerset Academy of Nevada held a public meeting on August 8, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at 385 W. Centennial Parkway, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89084.

1. Call to order and Roll Call

Board Chair John Bentham called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with a quorum present. In attendance were Board members Cody Noble, John Bentham, Gary McClain, and Travis Mizer.

Board Members Sarah McClellan and Will Harty were not present at this meeting.

Also present were Principals Ruby Norland, Elaine Kelley, Lee Esplin, Christina Threeton, Kate Lackey, and Jessica Scobell. Josh Wells, with Brantley Security Systems, and Academica representatives Ryan Reeves, Marc Clayton, and Crystal Thiriot were also in attendance.

2. Public Comment and Discussion

Trae Mizer and Quincie Mizer thanked all the Somerset principals and teachers.

3. Consent Agenda

- a) Minutes from the June 4, 2019, June 14, 2019, and June 28 2019 Boar Meetings
- b) Approval of Recommendations from the Finance Committee:
 - 1. School Financial Performance
 - 2. Approval of Installation of Carpeting at the Somerset Stephanie Campus
 - 3. Approval of Revisions to the Somerset Financial Policies and Procedures Manual
 - 4. Approval for Somerset Principals to Apply for Grants Deemed Necessary
 - 5. Approval of Retention Bonuses
 - 6. Approval of Revised Tuition Reimbursement Policy to Include TESL and GATE Endorsements

Member McClain moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Member Noble seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

4. Discussion and Possible Approval of Dual Enrollment Program Application

Principal Lee Esplin addressed the Board and stated that with the approval of the dual enrollment program students would be able to graduate with an associate's degree. Discussion ensued regarding the financial implications of the program. Member Bentham asked for clarification between dual enrollment and the CTE program which was approved at a previous meeting. Principal Esplin stated that the CTE

program would take place on the campus; however, the students participating in the dual enrollment program would attend courses at CSN, which would open up additional seats at the Somerset campuses. Mr. Ryan Reeves addressed the Board and stated that the Board could make a single motion for agenda items 4 and 5.

Member McClain moved to approve to amend the charter to allow the dual enrollment program and the MOU with CSN. Member Noble seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

5. Discussion and Approval of MOU with CSN

This item was discussed and approved in conjunction with item 4.

6. Discussion and Possible Approval of High School Parking Policy

Principal Esplin stated that the parking policy would identify parking as a privilege; adding that students would be required to submit an application along with an agreement signed by the student and the parent. He stated that the proposed fee structure would be \$35 per semester or \$50 per year, with the option to decorate the assigned spot for an additional fee of \$175. Principal Esplin further explained that students would need to submit a copy of their insurance, registration, and driver's license. Member Noble asked why the student was limited to only driving one car. Following discussion Principal Esplin stated that students would be able to purchase additional parking stickers for each family vehicle for a small fee; however, they would need to park only in the assigned spot.

Discussion ensued regarding the fee structure and accommodations for students unable to pay the fee. Mr. Reeves stated that the Department of Education required that charter schools not pass any policy unless, as part of that policy, it contained a provision for the waiver of all fees for any pupil who would qualify to participate in the program for free and reduced price meals, regardless of whether the charter school participated in the free and reduced priced meals program. He suggested that the Board approve the policy with the addition of that information.

Member Mizer moved to approve the high school parking policy as presented with the inclusion of the provision for waiver of fees as required. Member McClain seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

7. Discussion and Possible Approval of Installation of Cameras in Somerset Administration Offices and Camera Installation Vendor Based on the Following Bids:

- a. Intellatek**
- b. Brantley Security Services**

Ms. Crystal Thiriot addressed the Board and stated that the Board had requested bids for cameras in the administration offices for each of the schools; adding that the initial request was for nine months of storage. Ms. Thiriot stated that when the nine month bids were presented to the Finance Committee they

had requested bids for 30, 60, and 90 days of storage; adding that the adjusted bids were included in the support materials. Member Mizer asked if the principals would like audio included on the cameras, to which the principals replied in the negative.

Member Noble asked for an explanation regarding the request for the revised storage capacity. Member Mizer stated that the 9-month storage was a significant cost; adding that the new proposals for 30, 60, and 90 days were less than half the cost. Member Mizer further stated that the Finance Committee had discussed the options and had determined that 60 or 90 days should be sufficient storage. Member Bentham asked if the storage capacity could be increased in the future if the Board determined it was necessary, to which Ms. Thiriot replied in the affirmative.

Member Bentham asked about the maintenance and warranty for the system. Mr. Josh Wells, with Brantley Security Systems, addressed the Board and stated that there was not any ongoing maintenance or fees; adding that the cameras would have a three-year warranty. Member McClain asked if all Somerset campuses had cameras supplied by the same vendor and if there would be access or dashboard issues if a campus had cameras from two vendors. Ms. Thiriot stated that, due to the limited number of people who would need access to the administrative office cameras, it would not be unreasonable if a campus needed two dashboards.

Member Bentham asked the principals for a preference on storage capacity. Principal Elaine Kelley stated the longer the better on storage. Principal Esplin stated that, as protection against potential false claims, he would prefer as long as possible. Principal Kelley asked about the difference between the two bids. Member Mizer stated that during the Finance Committee presentation the only differences were in the capability of adding audio to the Intellatek cameras and a small difference in megapixels. Discussion ensued regarding the time frame for installation.

Member Mizer moved to approve Brantley Security Systems to install the cameras with the 90-day storage for \$48,585. Member McClain seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

8. Discussion and Possible Action to Revise the Finance Committee Charter and Membership

Ms. Thiriot stated that, with the change in structure at Somerset Academy, a change in the Finance Committee membership was necessary; adding that the membership could include a principal or an assistant principal. Member Mizer stated that, because the principals already have a lot of responsibilities, he recommended including an assistant principal or other administrator. Discussion ensued regarding the membership of the Finance Committee.

Member Noble moved to approve a change of the membership of the Finance Committee to include two Board members, with the Treasurer as Chair of the Committee, with a third Committee member who is an administrator, and that the Committee may also appoint a fourth member who has expertise in finance. Member McClain seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

9. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Somerset Academy of Las Vegas' System-Wide Administrative Support Position Job Description

Principal Kelley stated that the Somerset administrative structure had changed to a principal led structure with a supporting position; adding that the principals had worked together to create a job description for the support position. Principal Kelley stated that the position would be posted and interviews would take place in August and September, allowing the principals to present their candidate to the Board before October.

Member Noble voiced concern regarding the support position individual being the face of the Somerset system as described by public relations aspect; adding that he had hoped for an individual that would serve as more of a support for the Board. Principal Kelley stated that the public relations aspect was intended to help the principals promote the system. Principal Kelley further stated that the individual would attend principal cohort meetings and relay information and concerns between the Board and the principals; adding that the description was a fluid document and could change as needs were identified. Member Noble stated that, although he supports the job description, he is concerned that the Board will no longer have a main point of contact to answer questions regarding agenda items. Discussion ensued regarding communication concerns. Principal Kelley stated that the principals would welcome questions from Board members.

Member Noble moved to approve the job description of administrative coordinator, as presented. Member McClain seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

10. Academica Announcements and Notifications

Ms. Thiriot referred the Board to the support materials and reviewed the grant funds received from 2017 through 2019.

11. Member Comment

Member Mizer stated that Academica had committed to give the principals budget updates and asked the principals to contact him with any concerns or questions regarding their budgets.

Member Bentham thanked the principals and assistant principals for attending and all of their work. Member McClain added his thanks. Member Noble stated that he was excited for future of Somerset Academy.

12. Public Comment and Discussion

Principal Kate Lackey addressed the Board to make them aware of a tragedy that had affected one of the Skye Canyon families.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Approved on: _____

**Secretary of the Board of Directors
Somerset Academy of Las Vegas**

DRAFT

DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

**This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into by and between
THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION,**

A political subdivision of the State of Nevada, on behalf of

THE COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

And

SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS

Somerset Academy of Las Vegas (SA) and College of Southern Nevada (CSN) referred to individually as a
“party” or collectively as the “parties.”

WHEREAS, SA is a Nevada charter high school offering unique secondary educational opportunities to its students; and

WHEREAS, the Parties are willing to facilitate for selected SA students a limited opportunity for enrollment in higher education courses at CSN; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Handbook, Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 8 provides for, in relevant part:

Early Admissions and Enrollment Policy for Secondary Students

1. High school juniors and seniors may be admitted and may enroll in a NSHE college or university, subject to the approval of appropriate institutional officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

I. Term and Purpose

CSN through its Academic Affairs department will oversee the administration, instruction and educational requirements for the Certificate of Achievement and Associate Degree programs offered to SA students pursuant to this MOU. Any SA student, who graduates with a Certificate of Achievement or an Associate degree, may participate in the formal ceremonies of CSN, as applicable.

The term of the MOU shall be July 1, 2019, through May 31, 2024. By May 1, 2024, the Parties may agree through a written confirmation executed by their respective authorized representatives to extend the Term for five (5) additional years through May 31, 2029. Notwithstanding the foregoing, either party may terminate this MOU without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party, and any SA student will be able to complete the course(s) they are enrolled in pursuant to this MOU at the time of the written notice.

II. Admission and Enrollment at CSN Pursuant to this MOU Student Selection & Admissions

The selection of the SA junior or senior grade students that will be able to enroll in CSN dual enrollment study courses, including the Jumpstart Program, pursuant to the terms of this MOU is exclusively reserved to SA. Both parties will coordinate to verify that selected students qualify for admission and enrollment pursuant to the terms of this MOU and applicable NSHE standards. Each first-time SA junior

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or senior grade level student must complete the CSN on-line admission form. The completeness and accuracy of the admissions form is the responsibility of the student.

New Student Orientation

Each first-time SA student must participate in a mandatory in-person, three (3) hour Student Orientation. The orientation must be complete before scheduling an appointment with a CSN academic advisor or registering for classes.

Placement Evaluations

Every SA student must prepare for and complete the Math and English placement assessments. Information regarding these placement assessments can be found at www.csn.edu/testingcenter

Academic Advisor/Success Coach/Counseling

After completing the orientation and placement evaluations, each SA student must meet with a CSN academic advisor or success coach. SA students can receive counseling services to the same extent as regular CSN students.

Locations

CSN only offer academic courses and other coursework at established CSN campuses, CSN learning sites or at an SA campus through the Jumpstart Program.

Class Schedule

SA students will be required to attend the selected classes on the dates, days, and times that these classes are scheduled as per the official CSN academic calendar. No classes will be scheduled for SA students outside of the official CSN academic calendar. Jumpstart courses will be based on the SA academic calendar.

Limitation on Number of Credit Hours Each Semester

SA students enrolled pursuant to the terms of this MOU will be limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) credit hours each fall and spring semester at CSN. SA students may take up to nine credits during the summer term at CSN.

Selection of Courses

While there is no restriction on the type of course that a SA student may enroll in, each SA student's course selection must be approved by SA in consultation with the student, CSN's academic advisor/success coach and must be consistent with the results of any placement tests or prerequisites established by CSN. Any consultation will include discussion about the advisability for a particular student to enroll in an "on-line class" in contrast to a class taught at one of CSN's campuses or centers.

Course Textbooks

Required texts will be selected by CSN in accordance with the CSN approved adopted textbook list. SA or the SA student (at the discretion of SA) will be responsible for the purchase of required course textbooks and materials.

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Credits to be Awarded

Upon successfully completing a course in the dual enrollment program, the SA student will receive the corresponding credit amount listed in the CSN course catalog at CSN and credit for a course at SA.

Applicability and Transferability of College Credit

CSN courses are part of the NSHE common course numbering system and transfer among all NSHE institutions. All credits earned at CSN by a SA student must be applied toward a credentialed degree or certificate at CSN.

Academic Plans

Pursuant to NRS 388.205, SA will establish an academic plan for each SA student enrolled in the dual enrollment program.

Student Identification Number

SA will assign a unique identification number to each student in the dual enrollment program. CSN will retain the unique identification number provided by SA.

Student Records

Both parties will each be responsible to initiate and maintain their respective student records for the courses that they award credit. CSN will comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (the Buckley amendment) of 1974 (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99). A SA student must sign a FERPA document before CSN will release any academic records to the SA executive director or anyone other than the student.

Compliance with CSN's Policies

SA students enrolled in classes at CSN pursuant to this MOU are subject to all of CSN's policies.

Student Transportation

CSN will have no role in the transportation of SA students either to or from any CSN facility.

Continued Eligibility for Interscholastic Activities at SA

SA students in the dual enrollment program will be eligible to compete in SA sports teams and interscholastic activities provided that they maintain the required GPA and attendance standards set by SA.

III. Fees

SA is responsible to pay for all fees applicable to SA students enrolled at CSN. CSN will charge via CSN invoice within thirty (30) days of the start of the courses and SA will remit payment of fees within thirty (30) days receipt of CSN's invoice, for each student enrolled in CSN courses pursuant to section II above. SA may pursue grants and other funding opportunities to help support their students in the dual enrollment program. CSN acknowledges that SA students will pay all tuition and fees, not covered by grants, to SA.

DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

The Board of Regents of NSHE govern all CSN fees and may change during the time this MOU is in effect. Any changes in fees noticed by CSN, shall be remitted on a prospective basis by SA for newly enrolled students.

SA must verify all fees with CSN Director of Student Accounts and Cashiering Services by December 31st of a current school year to go into effect for the following school year. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, CSN will not allow any further SA student enrollment pursuant to this MOU if there is an outstanding CSN invoice that has not been paid. Refunds will be handled based upon the Board of Regents approved policy found in Chapter 7 of the Nevada System of Higher Education Procedures and Guidelines Manual. The following is a link to the manual:

[https://nshe.nevada.edu/tasks/sites/Nshe/assets/File/BoardOfRegents/Procedures/PGMCH07FEE
STUITION.pdf](https://nshe.nevada.edu/tasks/sites/Nshe/assets/File/BoardOfRegents/Procedures/PGMCH07FEE%20TUITION.pdf)

IV. Miscellaneous Provisions

Governing Law.

This MOU will be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of Nevada and the Nevada Board of Regents handbook.

Severability and Waiver.

The partial or complete invalidity of any one or more of the provisions of this MOU will not affect the validity or continuing force and effect of any other provision. The failure of a Party hereto to insist in any one or more instances upon the performance of any of the terms, covenants or conditions of this MOU or to exercise any right herein, will not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of such term, covenant, condition or right with respect to further performance.

Entire Agreement.

This MOU is intended solely for the benefit of the Parties hereto, represents the entire, integrated agreement between the Parties, and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, or agreements, written or oral.

Waiver or Modification Ineffective Unless in Writing.

No waiver, alteration, or modification of any provision of this MOU will be binding unless in writing and signed by duly authorized representatives of the Parties to the MOU.

Designated CSN Representatives.

CSN representatives and SA Administrators will collaborate on all articulation efforts and agreements for all SA students.

Written Notices.

Unless notified to the contrary, all notices required by this MOU will be sent to the Parties at the addresses set below;

For College of Southern Nevada:

For Somerset Academy of Las Vegas:

James McCoy
Associate Vice President Academic Affairs

John Bentham
Board Chair

DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

6375 W. Charleston Blvd. WC E310
Las Vegas, NV 89146
(702) 651-7357

6630 Surrey St.
Las Vegas, NV 89119
(702) 431-6260

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed by their duly authorized representatives and by so doing represent and warrant that they have full authority to enter same, as the day and date first above written.

Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the College of Southern Nevada

Recommended by:

James R. McCoy, Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs Approved by: Dated: _____

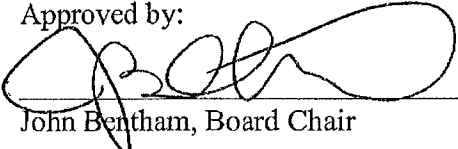
Clarissa Cota, Interim Vice President, Academic Affairs Approved as to Dated: _____

Legal Form and Sufficiency:

Hinckley, General Counsel Dated: _____ Richard

Somerset Academy of Las Vegas

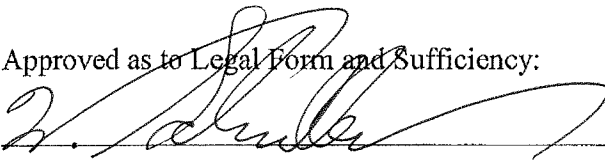
Approved by:



John Bentham, Board Chair

Dated August 8, 2019

Approved as to Legal Form and Sufficiency:



Dated: 8/14/19 General Counsel