



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board

FROM: Rebecca Feiden, Executive Director
Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 6d: Mater Academy of Northern Nevada Charter Contract Amendment
Request: Modification of the Enrollment Cap for Current and Future Academic Years

DATE: DECEMBER 13, 2019

Summary of Request:

Mater Academy of Northern Nevada (MANN) is seeking approval from the Nevada State Public Charter School Authority to amend its current charter to modify the current enrollment cap for the 2019 – 2020 school year, as well as the enrollment caps for the 2020 – 2021 and 2021 – 2022 school years.

Recommendation: Approve

Background:

MANN is a Kindergarten through 7th grade public charter school located at 2680 East, Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, 89512. The school serves approximately 339 students.

MANN received a 3-star School Rating for the Elementary School and a 5-star School Rating for its Middle School during the 2018-19 School Year according to the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF).

Specifically, the school seeks to modify enrollment caps to the following:

- 356 students for the current academic year (2019 – 2020)
- 425 students during the 2020-21 school year.
- 460 students during the 2021-22 school year

As outlined, SPCSA staff recommends approval of this amendment.

Below is a chart that shows the current enrollment caps and the proposed caps to be in effect should the amendment be approved:

School Year	Current Enrollment Cap	Proposed Enrollment Cap	Net Annual Difference
2019 – 2020	505	356	-149
2020 – 2021	655	425	-230
2021 – 2022	715	460	-255

According to the amendment application, MANN’s target community is the Reno-Sparks urban area. MANN’s interest in serving this specific community is to address the low-performing, double digit achievement gaps existing between the general and ELL student populations. At this time, MANN is requesting this amendment as the school’s growth trajectory has shifted since being granted a charter. Under the proposed amendment, future enrollment caps would more closely align with the number of students the school plans to serve this year and in the subsequent academic years. Additionally, the school wants to ensure that they remain in compliance with the provisions of their current charter contract.

As mentioned previously, MANN increased 48 points to achieve its 3-star Elementary school rating, and this increase provides SPCSA staff confidence in recommending approval for this enrollment growth. MANN recently received a 3-star School Rating for the Elementary School and a 5-star School Rating for its Middle School, both during the 2018-19 School Year according to the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF). According to the amendment, MANN Elementary School was one of the fastest improving schools in the state according to the NSPF rating system. It increased its index score by 48 points in one year and returned to good standing by the SPCSA. MANN Middle School received a 5-star school in the 2018-2019 school year. It earned an index score of 85.6 and has been recognized as a Shining Star school.

Legal Authority and Requirements Related to Amendment Requests:

Pursuant to [NRS 388A.276](#) and [NRS 388A.279](#), the Authority may, at a duly noticed public meeting, approve, approve with conditions, or deny a request to amend a charter contract.

MANN has been classified as a 3-star school in both elementary and middle school in its most recent NSPF rating. The school serves a diverse population and these amendments will ensure that the school remains in compliance while experiencing modest, strategic growth.

Staff’s Proposed Motion: approve the modified enrollment caps, without conditions, for Mater Academy of Northern Nevada for the 2019 – 2020, 2020 - 2021 and 2021 – 2022 school years.

This would reduce the school’s enrollment cap for these three academic years so that they align with the adjusted growth trajectory of the school since initial approval.

School Profile

Total Current Enrollment Across All Campuses:

III. Enrollment by Grade Level			
Year:	17-18	18-19	19-20
Grade			
Pre-K	-	-	-
K	39	50	49
1	30	43	52
2	26	42	41
3	26	31	52
4	30	39	44
5	18	36	40
6	-	28	40
7	-	-	40
8	-	-	-
Total	169	269	339

School Performance (NSPF Star) Ratings:

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Stars (ES)	1	3	-	-	-	-
Stars (MS)	N/A	5	-	-	-	-

School Demographics:

Year	Ethnicity							Special Population		
	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	FRL	IEP	ELL
17-18	1.2%	8.9%	18.9%	65.1%	0.6%	4.1%	1.2%	76.3%	7.7%	34.3%
18-19	0.7%	10.0%	16.4%	66.2%	0.7%	3.3%	2.6%	81.4%	10.4%	18.6%
19-20	0.9%	9.4%	14.5%	68.4%	2.1%	3.8%	0.9%	100%	10.9%	37.5%
20-21										
21-22										
22-23										

A – Asian

B – Black

C – Caucasian/White

H – Hispanic

I – American Indian/Alaskan Native

M – Mixed, two or more races

P – Pacific Islander

FRL – Student(s) qualified for the Free or Reduced-Price Lunch program

IEP – Individualized Education Plan – Students with a disability/special education plan

ELL – English Language Learner