

From: [Danielle Cherry](#)
To: [SPCSA Public Comment](#)
Subject: Fwd:
Date: Friday, August 14, 2020 8:54:54 AM

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From: **Danielle Cherry** <danielle.cherry@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Aug 13, 2020 at 9:02 PM

Subject:

To: <mmackedon@oasisacademyfallon.us>, <randy.kirner@gmail.com>, <MoultonSPCSA@gmail.com>, <randolphspcsa@gmail.com>, <malloryspcsa@gmail.com>, <tholmessutton.spcsa@gmail.com>, <SoiferNV@gmail.com>, <tsrosales2020@outlook.com>, <lfarrisnspcsa@gmail.com>

Dear Board Members of the Public Charter School Authority,

I would first like to thank you for your service in these unprecedented times. I realize that a lot of time, thought and perspectives went into the plan that is being proposed today. One perspective that was not included were those of Washoe County charter schools. We just learned of this proposed plan this morning.

As a founding board member of Doral Academy of Northern Nevada, I have seen our school overcome many challenges. I want you to know that this directive may be one our school would not overcome. The lack of stability in running our in-person vs. virtual models on a week by week basis is unsustainable at best, and would cripple our ability to provide our comprehensive hybrid plan that our families have been counting on for months.

We have already lost over 100 students in announcing that we would be on a hybrid system vs. a full-in person model that WCSD is adopting. This directive would force us to go full virtual in perpetuity, while schools across the street are allowed to fully reopen. Not only will families and students leave, our most vulnerable students that need the stability of in-person instruction will be the first to leave.

In guidance from this very authority, we implemented the State's first weighted lottery to diversify our student population and increase access for students on the free and reduced lunch program. Those will be the first families we lose. Those are the families that have no flexibility in their work schedules, and the students that depend on us the most.

Financially, this has the ability to cripple our school. There is the potential for hundreds of our students to leave in favor of in-person instruction that the district is offering. This would happen a week before we are scheduled to open, driving our school into chaos.

Our hybrid model plan was well thought out and based on input from the director of Northern Nevada's only children's hospital, as well as several physicians on the ground here. We are following all directives provided by the State, and the Governor. The Washoe County Health Dept. has said our plan is one of the most comprehensive and well thought out plans they have received. Our teachers, staff, & families feel safe and confident under our plan.

We are asking that the plan being presented will be adopted as a recommendation to charter schools, as opposed to a mandate. This will allow us the flexibility to adapt the proposed plan into our current plan, and the time to implement this model. We have been preparing and planning to open under our hybrid model, that was approved over a month ago. Please do not pull the rug out from under us and the hundreds of families that we serve a week before school is scheduled to begin.

Sincerely,

Danielle Cherry
Board Member of Doral Academy of Northern Nevada