Futuro Public Comment – in Favor – SPCSA Recommendation 8/14/20

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Good morning. My name is Ignacio Prado and I am the Executive Director of Futuro Academy Charter school, a public charter school in the State Public Charter School Authority. Our school is entering it's fourth year currently serving grades K-4 for 444 students and their families. We are a Community Eligibility Provision school providing 100% of our students free lunch and breakfast, with an identification rate of 52.33% based on Direct Certification, and 5 in 10 of our students is an English Language Learner.

We know that extended closures will further dampen progress for many of our students, and inevitably upset some of our stakeholders. However, I ask you support the recommendation of the SPCSA director today primarily for these reasons:

- 1. Futuro Academy, in running a limited summer program comporting with NDE guidance noted that in a 3-week space of registering students and the program beginning, 24% of the students failed a screen due to exposure to COVID-19 positive case. At that rate, a 50% capacity model would likely collapse and cause erratic school closures repeatedly given SNHD directives regarding contact tracing and quarantine within the first trimester.
- 2. When we polled our families in mid-July, our families' attitudes shifted significantly, with a majority supporting either an indefinite delay of limited in person instruction or a delay with monthly evaluation.
- 3. Since July 9, 2020, after the release of the Governor's initial elevated risk criteria, Futuro has tracked weekly SNHD data for similar metrics, and on July 22^{nd} decided to index virtual instruction to those public health outcomes. The significant testing backlog has made such monitoring impossible, as a 3 week delay can at times causes case numbers to rise by orders of magnitude, as evidenced below for the 7/17/20 monitoring data.

NV HHS - Last determination 7/10/20 - Clark "Elevated Disease Transmission"						LEAD INDICATOR 3	
NV Standard	2 of 3		NV CRITERIA		LEAD INDICATOR 1	LEAD INDICATOR 2	
		TESTING (7 day)	CASE RATE - RAW (7 day)	OR CASE RATE POSITIVITY (7 day)	HOSPITALIZATION (3 day)	TEST WAIT TIME	
	ELEVATED (Y/N)	TESTING < 150 per 100k	CASE RATE > 100	25> and positivity >7%	+10% in 7 day rate?	72 hour target	SOURCE(S)
CLARK - 7/9/20	Υ	297.7	336	10.0%	-30%	Not available	NVHHS
TREND	NA	NA	N/A	N/A	N/A	NA	
CLARK - 7/17/20	Υ	No info, Met on 7/9/20	260/1067*	16.7%/17.7%*	-33%	Not available	SNHD
TREND	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Positive	NA	
CLARK - 7/24/20	Υ	No info, Met on 7/9/20	283	15.3%	-13%	Not available	SNHD
TREND	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Positive	NA	
CLARK - 7/31/20	Υ	No info, Met on 7/9/20	592.4	16.6%	-19%	Not available	SNHD
TREND	N/A	N/A	N/A		Positive	NA	
CLARK - 8/7/20	Υ	No info, Met on 7/9/20	424.7	Delayed, not available as of 8/11/20	-38%	Not available	SNHD
TREND	N/A	N/A	N/A		Positive	NA	

*Testing backlog heavily disrupting data and trend analysis. Data gathered on 7/24/20 reflected 260 case 7 day average for 7/17/20, but when checked on 8/7/20 it was changed to 1067, similarly positivity rose from 16.7% to 17.7%

It is my belief that at this time, no school in the immediate areas of Clark County, or any schools within elevated risk counties, would be able to maintain the recommendations for contact tracing or screening given the prevalence of infections, and the unreliable testing and data reporting infrastructure if enrolling significant numbers of students in person. Even in the event of the worst outcomes of an infectious outbreak occurring, unpredictable closures and further creation of outbreak clusters will only extend the current state of emergency and create collateral consequences for our elevated risk regions.