Attention Nevada State Public Charter School Authority:

I am reaching out to you to encourage you to enforce that **ALL** schools including public charter schools across the Las Vegas Valley utilize a distance learning method at the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year.

As a high school English and World Languages teacher at a public charter school, I am concerned about the health and well being of teachers and staff at public charter schools around the Las Vegas valley. Many of the teachers at these schools feel the same way as the teachers at CCSD, but feel that their voices are not being heard. Teachers at these schools are concerned that not only our health and safety is at high risk, but also that of our students and other support staff. We love our jobs and we love our students, but many of us are afraid for our health and well-being if we return. If you do not request that all schools return online, many schools in the Las Vegas valley will still open and most likely cause a big rise in the COVID-19 numbers we see.

Currently, we do not have enough information about COVID-19 to understand what lasting effects it will have on the thousands of people exposed to it. No percentage of people should have to die or become critically ill if it can be avoided by closing school buildings. Many other countries have opened schools only to shut them down again because of a rise in COVID-19 cases. Please do not let Nevada be a cautionary tale when we could be taking the steps necessary to protect everyone. It is not safe to open schools, and to do so would be irresponsible.

Again, I ask that you please make the decision to mandate that ALL (public, charter, and private) schools utilize an online platform moving into the 2020/2021 school year. We are counting on you to make the safest decision for everyone.

Thank you for your understanding. I know this decision is not easy to make and many will be affected no matter what path is chosen, however, I encourage you to take the path that will ensure the health, safety and well-being of **ALL** Las Vegas school teachers, staff, and students.

Best,

Ms. Alvizo 12th grade English Teacher Advanced Placement Teacher French/Spanish Teacher SLAM! Nevada