

Steve Sisolak
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

Rebecca Feiden
Executive Director



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

1749 North Stewart Street Suite 40
Carson City, Nevada 89706-2543
(775) 687-9174 · Fax (775) 687-9113

2080 East Flamingo Road Suite 230
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119-5164
(702) 486-8895 · Fax (702) 486-5543

ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Rebecca Feiden, Executive Director
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update and Recommendation Regarding COVID-19 Mitigations
Measures for SPCSA-sponsored schools for Summer 2021 Programming
DATE: May 21, 2021

BACKGROUND

In accordance with action taken by the Authority at the April 23, 2021 board meeting, SPCSA-sponsored schools are required to maintain a minimum of 3 feet social distancing for students and 6 feet social distancing for adults at within school buildings, on school grounds, and within school transportation vehicles. Except for large gatherings of 250 people or more which are subject to Local Plans developed by counties, schools may establish any capacity limits. Additionally, schools continue to determine sanitation protocols and make adjustments in line with updates to public health guidance.

Pursuant to Emergency Directive 045, face coverings requirements continue to be governed at the state level through Emergency Directives. Guidance issued by the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) on May 11, 2021 allows schools to relax requirements for face coverings for students that are nine years old and younger, but schools may maintain stricter standards. Additionally, NDE points to recent guidance from the CDC recommending that schools “continue to use the COVID-19 prevention strategies outlined in the current version of [CDC’s Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools](#) for at least the remainder of the 2020-2021 academic school year.” This guidance from the CDC recommends face coverings for all students and staff. Additionally, the CDC plans to release updated guidance in the coming weeks that can be used to plan for the 2021-2022 school year.

With the end of the 2020-2021 school year approaching, SPCSA staff surveyed sponsored schools to determine which schools plan to provide summer programming. Of the SPCSA's 67 charter school campuses, 46 indicated that they plan to provide some form of summer school programming. Of the schools planning to provide in-person or hybrid summer learning, all schools projected weekly student participation rates below 60% of their current year enrollment.

RECOMMENDATION

For summer school programming for the summer of 2021, staff recommends that the SPCSA continue the mitigation measures that are currently in place, namely the requirement for schools to maintain a minimum of 3 feet social distancing for students and 6 feet social distancing for adults, and allow schools that are located in counties with less restrictive social distancing requirements to seek an exemption from the Executive Director.

Staff plan to bring recommendations for mitigation measures for the beginning of the 2021-22 school year to the June 25, 2021 SPCSA board meeting. These will be informed by updated guidance that is expected from the CDC in the coming weeks.

Proposed Motion:

- Require a minimum of 3 feet social distancing for students and 6 feet social distancing for adults at SPCSA-sponsored schools, including within school buildings, on school grounds, and within school transportation vehicles for summer 2021 programming.
- Allow schools located in counties with less restrictive social distancing guidance to seek an exemption from the Executive Director.