

Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

SPCSA Academic Performance Framework -Updates

June 27, 2022



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OUTLINE



- Purpose of SPCSA Academic Performance Framework
- History of SPCSA Academic Performance Framework
- Ratings in the SPCSA Academic Performance Framework
- Proposed Changes to the SPCSA Academic Performance Framework
- Timeline to Implement Proposed Changes

Purpose of SPCSA Academic Framework

- Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) requires charter school sponsors like the SPCSA to include an academic performance framework in charter contracts.¹
- Performance frameworks are used by charter school authorizers across the nation to:
 - Provide charter school boards/leaders and the public with clear expectations, fact-based oversight, and timely feedback—all while ensuring charter autonomy.
 - Provide additional information and data point(s) that inform authorizing decisions.
- Helps meet goals outlined in the SPCSA 2019-24 Strategic Plan:
 - Provide families with access to high-quality schools.
 - Ensure every SPCSA student succeeds including those from historically underserved student groups.
 - Increase the diversity of students served by SPCSA schools.

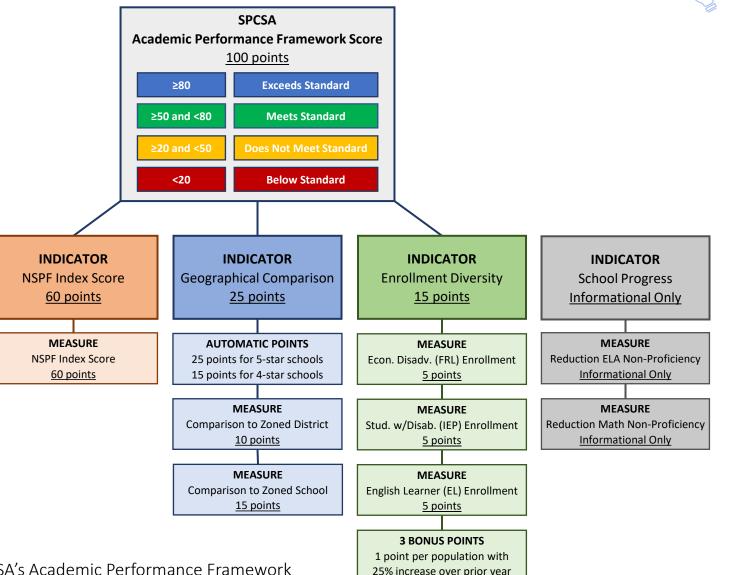
Brief History of SPCSA Academic Framework

- Designed with significant stakeholder input, including SPCSA charter school leaders, members of the NDE Accountability team, and the Authority (SPCSA Board), including multiple:
 - Listening sessions;
 - Academic Framework Working Group meetings; and
 - Updates to the Authority on progress.
- Approved by the Authority on June 28, 2019.
- First iteration for the 2018-19 school year was informational only and released to school leaders in March 2020.
- Due to COVID-19 and the resulting lack of Nevada school NSPF star ratings, schools received informational-only Framework ratings in 2019-20 or 2020-21. As such, results were not presented to the Authority.

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Ratings in the SPCSA Academic Framework

- The Framework has various measures categorized under indicators.
- Schools earn points based on their performance in the measures.
- Points for measures are totaled under indicators, and indicator points are summed to a score from 1 to 100.
- The point total is then tied to one of four performance level ratings:
 - Exceeds Standard
 - Meets Standard
 - Does Not Meet Standard
 - Below Standard

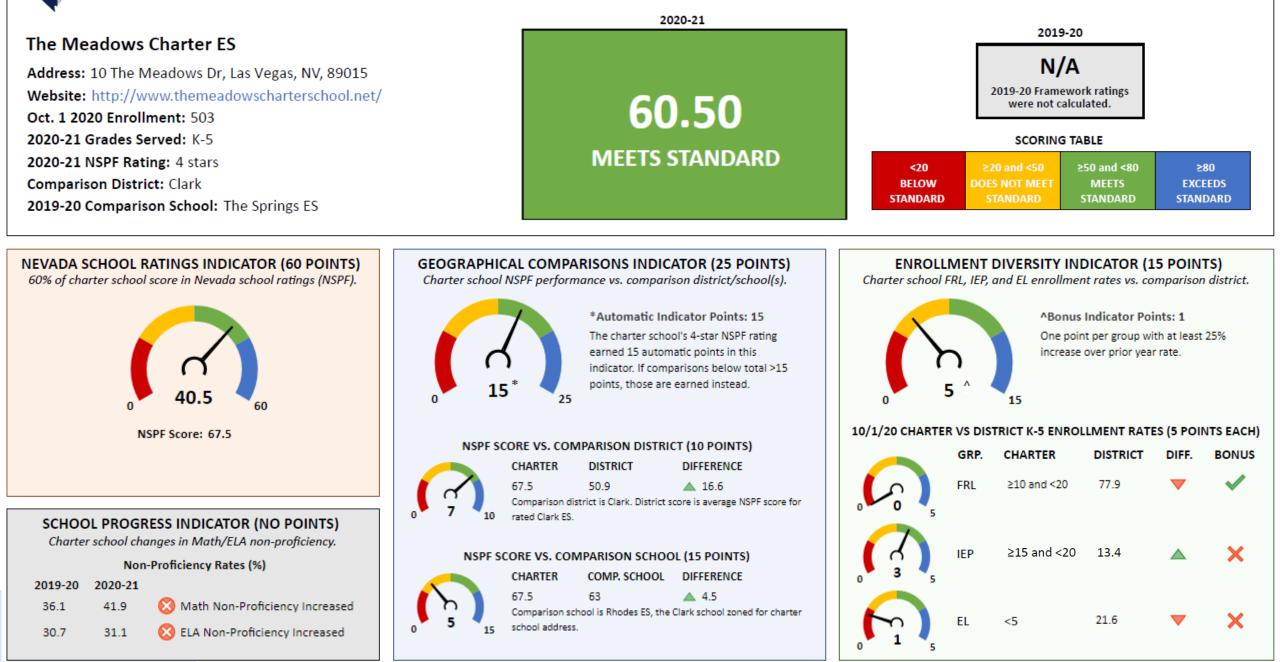


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2020-21 School Year: Academic Performance Framework

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In the Academic Performance Framework, schools earn points for performance, which are totaled to a final score and performance level. See the Framework Technical Guide for details.



Proposed Changes to Academic Framework

- Proposed Change #1: SPCSA Academic Framework performance level rating requirements.
 - Currently, to receive an Academic Framework performance level rating, a school must receive an NSPF star rating.
 - Due to COVID-19, NSPF ratings have not been published since the 2018-19 SY. This year, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) is publishing NSPF index scores without the corresponding star ratings.
 - This recent and continued lack of NSPF and SPCSA Academic Framework ratings have limited the ability of the SPCSA to report out academic results and have a complete understanding of the academic performance of SPCSAauthorized schools.
 - Therefore, SPCSA staff proposes to revise the SPCSA Academic Framework regarding its rating requirements:
 - <u>SPCSA staff proposes that an Academic Framework performance level rating may be issued by the Authority to a school when the school either (1) receives an NSPF star rating or (2) in years where the NDE releases NSPF index scores without corresponding star ratings, receives an NSPF index score that otherwise meets NSPF requirements to receive an NSPF star rating¹.
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 - These changes are intended to enable the SPCSA to fulfill its obligation and responsibility to provide Academic Performance Framework results for SPCSA-sponsored schools.

¹To be rated under the NSPF, an elementary or middle school must have 10 student records in each of the pooled proficiency and four growth measures (Math/ELA MGP and AGP). A high school must have 10 student records in each of the Math proficiency, ELA proficiency, and the 4-year graduation rate measures.

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Proposed Changes to Academic Framework

- Proposed Change #2: FRL Enrollment Rate measure and CEP threshold.
 - Under the Free and Reduced-Price (FRL) Student Enrollment Rate measure, FRL enrollment rates are compared between an SPCSA school and its local zoned district.
 - Districts/schools with high FRL enrollment (≥40%) may participate in the USDA Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), which simplifies the meal reimbursement process. As a result, CEP districts/schools are reported at 100% FRL (though they are likely not), and the FRL rate difference between an SPCSA school and comparison district may be overinflated.
 - Therefore, <u>SPCSA staff proposes to use a 64% FRL rate cap¹ when an SPCSA school or zoned district</u> participates in CEP.
 - This will support more accurate FRL rate comparisons between SPCSA schools and zoned districts.

¹CEP districts/schools must have ≥40% of students directly certified for FRL without the use of household applications, i.e., via programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). To reimburse districts/schools for meals, the US Department of Agriculture uses a 1.6 multiplier to estimate the percent of FRL-eligible students that would be comparable to the FRL percentage at a non-CEP district/school. Therefore, SPCSA staff established a placeholder of 64% by multiplying the minimum percentage of students who would have to be directly certified (40%) by the USDA multiplier (1.6).

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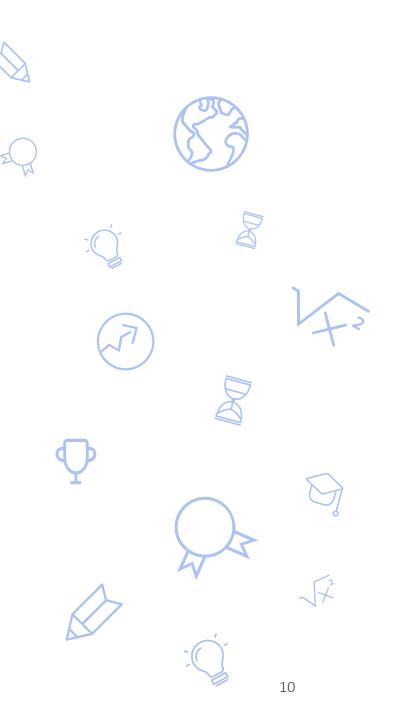
Timeline to Implement Proposed Changes

- The proposed changes noted in this presentation are outlined in the SPCSA Academic Framework Technical Guide document attachment.
- If these proposed changes are approved by the Authority:
 - The updated Technical Guide will be shared with SPCSA schools and posted to the SPCSA website.
 - SPCSA staff will apply these approved changes when using the NDE's mid-September 2022 release of 2021-22 school year NSPF index scores to calculate 2021-22 school year Academic Performance Framework performance level ratings.
 - In early November, Academic Framework ratings will be released to schools and posted on the SPCSA website.



Thank you!

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