



# Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

2022 Charter Renewal Application  
Per [NRS 388A.285](#) and [NAC 388A.415](#)

# CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL APPLICATION AND GUIDELINES

Charter school authorizers are responsible for evaluating current charter schools' performance and achievement levels in the process of deciding whether to renew a school's charter. A strong renewal process is critical to protect charter school autonomy, students, and stakeholders and ensures schools are held to high standards.

In the following pages, we provide guidance around and outline the timeline for the renewal process with the hopes of making the process as seamless and smooth for schools and our Authorization team.

Please read through the renewal application and guideline carefully and reach out to **Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing** at **702.486.8271** or **mmodrcin@spsca.nv.gov** or **Rebecca Feiden, Executive Director** at **775.546.3021** or **Rebecca.Feiden@spsca.nv.gov** with any questions.

All of us at the Nevada State Public Charter School Authority are excited to work with each of you and support the work schools are doing on behalf of Nevada students.

## RENEWAL TIMELINE

Renewal Stage	Date (Fall)	Action
Optional Renewal Orientation	May	Schools up for renewal will be invited to join an orientation to answer general questions, address common concerns, and learn more about the renewal process.
Renewal Report from the SPCSA	No later than June 30, 2022	SPCSA staff will provide each school up for renewal a copy of a summarizing performance report for the current charter term.
Letter of Intent	- Guidance provided by July 31 - Due no later than Sept 1	Schools complete this critical first step and submit a notice of intent to apply for charter renewal.
Release of renewal application and decision criteria	- Released no later than July 31 - Due by October 15 @ 5 p.m.	Schools complete the formal renewal application process, submitting required documents and evidence to support a renewal.
Staff Review of Renewal Application	Mid-October through mid-November	Staff reviews schools' applications and supporting documents, including previously conducted site evaluations, to provide an informed, evidence-based recommendation to SPCSA Board.
Staff Recommendation to the Authority <sup>1</sup>	Delivered at an Authority Board Meeting within 60 days of renewal submission or by a mutually agreed upon date	Staff submits recommendation to SPCSA Board based on thorough review. The Authority will discuss and make a decision about schools' renewal in an open meeting.

## REQUIRED SUBMISSIONS

The completed renewal application and all required documents must be submitted as a Word document and a signed PDF into the Charter Renewal Application section in Epicenter by 5 pm PT on the due date. Note that changes contemplated within this section of the renewal application may constitute an amendment under NAC 388A.330. SPCSA staff and the Authority will work with individual schools to accommodate these amendment requests should circumstances warrant.

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<sup>1</sup> There are additional steps and provisions within [NAC 388A.415](#) should the Executive Director of the SPCSA recommend non-renewal, or if the Authority chooses to non-renew or deny a renewal application for a school.

## 1. Executive Summary [Limited to 5 pages]

Provide a written Executive Summary that includes the following:

- Mission Statement for next charter term. *Note that a change may require separate Authority approval.*
- Key Design Elements of your school
  - What do you do plan to do and why?
- Proposed changes for the next charter term and rationale
  - Speak to programs, structure, and principles<sup>2</sup>
- Discovery Charter School's mission is to promote a safe, nurturing environment which fosters student success through community involvement, progressive educational practices, and innovative use of technology. In addition, we believe all students should discover, all are welcome and all will grow to succeed.
- Discovery Charter School would like to make the following proposed changes for the next charter term. The charter has remained the same for 12 years and is asking for adjustment to accommodate not only a growing campus, but an expanding city of Las Vegas. Without approval to grow, the school remains at a standstill for staff development, student development and opportunities for all stakeholders. Discovery Charter School is simultaneously seeking a charter renewal and an amendment for a seat increase and a relocation of the 89121 campus. The ambition is noted by stakeholders.
- Discovery Charter School has two campuses, one is located on the west side and one is located on the east side. The west side campus is named Hillpointe and the east side campus is Sandhill. The current enrollment is 499 and the current ADE is 491. Discovery Charter School was issued a charter in 2011 and was founded by concerned parents on the principles of project-based learning, team centered learning, cross generation classrooms, and topical study. The school has operated as a micro school since inception and has gained momentum in the last three years. The school experienced a set back in leadership and went into receivership from 2017-2019. In the past three years, Discovery Charter School has overcome major obstacles to include complete turnover in administration, exiting receivership, \$310,000 in debt and paid in full over a 10 month period and a 20% increase in enrollment. The reinstated board has remained cohesive, supportive and has the growth of the school in mind. The school has benefitted from over a million-dollar private grant over the course of three years that has enabled qualified staffing, teacher incentives, updated technology, and a renovated middle school building. The Hillpointe campus is now bonded and owned by Discovery Charter School. Sandhill has been operating in Mt. Olive Lutheran church for the past 4 years.
- The seven member board consists of President Flynn Stern and Assistant Principal at Pinecrest Academy. Vice President, Bryan Weeks financial adviser. Treasurer Chris Crooks, commercial real estate broker. Member Bonnie Flynn Assistant Principal at Pinecrest Academy. Member Emil Pehlivani, attorney and Hillpointe parent. Member Martha Sandoval, Sandhill parent and Jackie Salas, Sandhill parent. Other key leadership team members consist of Principal Tricia Wilbourne and Assistant Principal Denise Koch and Part Time administrators Teresa Holden and John Sullivan.
- The amendment includes a 99 seat increase at the Hillpointe campus and the construction of a building to accommodate an overcrowded campus. The 99-seat increase will allow for revenue to support a fully vetted, permitted, HOA approved, newly constructed building. The pre-construction planning and development phase is complete. Currently, the Hillpointe

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<sup>2</sup> Proposed changes may require separate approval by the Authority as required by statute, regulation or the charter contract.

campus operates 3 instructional classrooms outside as every classroom is occupied during instructional hours. The cafeteria is outside and the after-school program averages 60 students per day and operates outside for the majority of the time due to afterschool programs Monday-Thursday.

- The biggest challenge is the special education program which has more than doubled from the past school year. The current special education classroom is a makeshift of a hallway, closet, and office space. In order to protect student privacy, windows have been covered and wall dividers are being utilized. It is less than ideal for a growing population. There is no additional conference, office or storage area for additional services such as counseling, planning, or privacy.
- The campus occupies 3 acres and currently only has 16,000 square footage of space to include 10 classrooms, administration, and a special education classroom. Much of the land is dormant and has ample space for a building. Traffic plans have been approved with the city and little disturbance will be made to surrounding neighborhoods.
- Discovery Charter School is seeking an amendment to relocate the Sandhill campus from 3975 S Sandhill Rd to 4801 S Sandhill Rd. This is 1.4 miles from the current location and is the former Nevada Virtual Academy. This relocation would not affect grade levels or increase in enrollment unless the increase in enrollment is approved in this amendment. The current campus is located in Mt Olive Lutheran Church and is not conducive to growth, cleanliness, or curb appeal. The current lease expires June 30, 2023 and occupancy in 4801 S Sandhill would begin in time for school opening Fall 2023.
- Discovery Charter School is asking for a 21 seat increase to the Sandhill location. The new location can serve more students in larger classrooms Sandhill is currently capped at 120 students and would like to increase to 141. It has been difficult to recruit in the current location even after outreach, tours, and marketing. The feedback from prospective stakeholders is the state of the current location conflicting with a church space and aesthetics not up to standards for their child.

## **2. Renewal Application**

### **A. Application Form**

Complete the provided template application (pg. 7 of this form) for the following:

- Academic Performance
- Operational Overview
- Financial Performance
- Organizational Performance
- Next Charter Term

### **B. Written Narrative [Limited to 5 pages]**

Provide any written narrative that addresses the enrollment, retention, attendance, discipline, faculty/staff retention, and other relevant information to support the data provided in the Application Form. Please discuss how the school engages families and provide information regarding trainings that the school provides for staff on the topics of family engagement and diversity, equity, and inclusion. Finally, please discuss the demographics of the school as compared to the community it serves, local district, SPCSA

and statewide averages. Include any plans<sup>3</sup> that the school may be considering to address any student demographic gaps so as to align to the SPCSA Strategic Plan, as well as any efforts to ensure a representative teaching staff and governing board.

- Enrollment for Discovery Charter School has transitioned to an automated lottery platform called Lotterease. It has ensured a fair and efficient implementation process during the open lottery. In addition, through the school year as seats become available, families are contacted for mid year enrollment. Siblings are given priority to allow families to stay together.
- Retention of students remains at 98%. During the school year, withdrawals are mainly related to families moving from the area. Chronic absenteeism was an issue following the pandemic due to covid related illnesses and quarantine. Staff is implementing consistent communication for the current school year to reduce the chronic absenteeism rate. The process is teacher communication, office communication and administration communication in the form of email, phone call, and/or written letter sent home.
- Discovery Charter School was a member of the SPCSA MTSS Cohort 1. The MTSS committee worked strategically to set in place our Restorative Justice Plan, incentives for behavior and engagement, and school wide framework. Discovery Charter School exited the program in 2022 due to staff manning and the increasing SPCSA workload required for phase 2. The initial features from MTSS are still in place.
- Faculty/staff retention remains at 98%. The few staff members that leave their positions are due to career changes or staff relocation.
- The demographics of Discovery Charter School align with the vision of the SPCSA "To provide equitable access to diverse, innovative, and high-quality public schools for every Nevada Student." We meet many of these needs by owning a bus to transport students to a 5-star middle school. Our current Sandhill campus is K-5 and rather than lose these students, we choose to provide transportation and transport them to a diverse, innovative, and high quality public school.
- The mission of the SPCSA is to sponsor, support, and oversee dynamic and responsive public charter schools that prepare all students for academic, social, and economic success. Discovery Charter School prepares all students for academic, social, and economic success by providing research based curriculum to all grades in reading and math. We prepare our students socially by offering social emotional counseling, team sports, wellness lessons, city wide field trips and a variety of after school opportunities.
- The communities we wish to continue serving are those from the valley seeking a better school choice. We wish to be inclusive and expand our reach to include minority groups, FRL families, special education students, and at risk students. We are interested in these communities because we currently serve many of these identifiable needs and understand how to meet their academic needs.
- Despite the Hillpointe Campus being ahead of the diversity curve, DCS always strives to recruit more students within the targeted demographics. DCS shares the SPCSA's goal of increasing our minority, FRL, ELL, and SPED populations.
- To that end, in the context of the SPCSA approving both DCS Projects (and as a condition to approval), DCS is offering to implement a weighted enrollment lottery—thereby ensuring the

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<sup>3</sup> If previously directed by the Authority through [action on March 4, 2022](#), these plans should include updates on the implementation of a school's formal recruitment and enrollment plan.

99 new seats at Hillpointe are filled by pupils from key demographics. The weighted enrollment lottery will be recommended for board approved if this amendment is approved. We have taken notice of other charters (e.g., Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas and Founders Academy) adopting such policies, and would be happy to work with Staff in adopting our own.

- Given the small size of the Hillpointe Campus, an additional 99 students in the targeted demographics would have a huge effect on our percentages. In fact, because the Hillpointe Campus has not run at its full 380-student capacity given the lack of an MPR/gym, if we posited the addition of the 99 students and the Campus running at full capacity, that’s approximately another 111 students.
- Stakeholders have been involved for over a year by attending board meetings, town hall meetings, email correspondence, and tours. There has been no opposition to the expansion of the Hillpointe campus. The idea of not constructing the building creates confusion, frustration, and work standard tension. Stakeholders agree Discovery is doing an exceptional learning environment and this expansion seeks to expand the reach to special needs populations in Las Vegas. The expansion will lend itself to community events after school, volunteer opportunities for students, staff, and community. The space can serve as a resource and gathering area to not only the school community but neighboring community after school and on weekends.
- The relocation amendment request would offer a more accessible school builidgn for the community. In addition to more space, the location is more pleasing to an inclusive community and expanding engagement outreach.
- In regards to demographics During the 2021-22 year, Caucasian students made up a minority of the Hillpointe Campus’ enrolled population (40.4%). Together, Hispanics (36.2%) and African-Americans (6.7%) totaled 42.9%, outnumbering whites—and all of the non-Caucasian minorities together totaled 59.6%.

This marks a 180° change in the Caucasian/non-Caucasian ratios. In the four-year period from that year to 2021-22, the ratios completely flipped as follows:

School Year	Caucasian	Non-Caucasian
2017-18	59.8%	40.2%
2021-22	40.4%	59.6%
Change	- 19.4%	+ 19.4%

As you know, the SPCSA’s strong push on demographics did not start in earnest until after the 2019 Legislative Session. In other words, DCS’ push towards a more diverse student body (from 2017-18 onwards) began before the SPCSA shifted its approach, proving DCS is leading the way on these issues, not being pulled.

- Compare the information above with the CCSD elementary school across the street from the Hillpointe Campus—i.e., Lummis Elementary. During the 2020-21 year, Lummis’ Caucasian population was nearly ten points higher than DCS’ (49.89%), and its Hispanic population was over 10 points less than DCS’ (24.5%). Schools like Lummis might match one’s assumptions about Summerlin, but DCS does not.

- According to the Nevada Accountability Portal’s recent data release, DCS’ Hillpointe Campus population of students on IEPs in 2021-22 was virtually equal to the SPCSA’s statewide average. The Campus and Authority figures are 8.9% and 9.8%, respectively.
- According to that Nevada Accountability Portal information, Hillpointe had 32 students on IEPs last year. In actual fact, by year’s end, that Campus had 67 such students. As of today’s date, that Campus has 87 pupils on IEPs.

That represents a *271% increase* in IEP students in just the past calendar year—all of which was accomplished without the benefit of any weighted lottery (per Section B below).

More importantly, that annual growth has made it all the more important for Discovery to build this new Project. As the SPCSA’s Ms. Jorgenson would confirm, a school needs more square footage, technology, quiet “breakout” rooms, and other facility resources to optimally serve a special education population. The unexpected, near-tripling of the Hillpointe Campus’ IEP population has put an extraordinary strain on our special education providers, given the facility limitations they are coping with. At various times in recent weeks, our speech therapist has had to provide speech therapy out of a *modified closet space*. The Hillpointe Campus Project which we are championing would expand this location from a four-building site with 16,459 ft.<sup>2</sup> to a five-building site with 29,369 ft.<sup>2</sup>, giving us the space necessary to most effectively serve our special education community.

- As of Oct 2022, DCS’ has a 25% FRL population. We do not believe this accurately reflects our students’ financial situations. Like many other charter schools, that low rate is only a function of families not filling out FRL paperwork (when they would qualify), since unlike CCSD schools there are fewer ‘carrots’ at DCS tied to that designation. Nevertheless, DCS’ leadership is committed to pushing families to complete that paperwork, and we have already made significant progress, growing the percentage from 0% in 2020-21 to that 25% figure above the following year.
- Discovery also leads the way in its gender statistics. During the 2020-21 year, the Hillpointe Campus’ population was 56.8% female. This significantly outpaces the SPCSA’s statewide average of 50.3%.
- In sum, it would be profoundly incorrect to assume our Hillpointe Campus population is as non-diverse as the Summerlin location suggests. DCS draws children to its Hillpointe Campus from all over the Las Vegas/Henderson Valley. Upon completion of the MPR/gym building, we know many Sandhill 5th graders will matriculate to the middle school campus at Hillpointe. It is important we judge Hillpointe’s demographics not on its location but on its actual student body, as that group is composed as of today’s date.

### C. Required Supporting Documents

Please upload with your renewal application the following documents:

- Proposed calendar for the first year of the new charter term
- Daily schedule for all grade levels

### 3. Academic Plans for the Proposed Charter Term

#### A. Written Narrative [Limited to 10 pages]



Please include a written narrative describing the academic vision and plans for the next charter term. This should include detailed descriptions of key design elements, programs, structures, principles, that are remaining unchanged as well as those that may be changing. For any proposed changes, please provide a rationale. This section should also include a description of any academic improvements that the charter school has undertaken or plans to implement as well as a description of the proposed Restorative Discipline plan for the upcoming term and plans to monitor for potential disproportionate discipline practices, plans to monitor for potential disproportionate discipline practices, and plans to address any opportunity gaps for specific student groups. This may include plans to close gaps in proficiency and/or growth between different student groups (ex. race/ethnicity, FRL, EL, IEP).

- The academic programs remain to be implemented based on research based and best practice vetted strategies to include:
  - Wonders Reading
  - iReady Math and Reading
  - Metra Phonics
  - STMath
  - Imagine Learning
  - Reading A-Z
  - Mystery Science
  - STEAM elective
  - GATE endorsed teacher and program
  - Kahn Academy
  - Formative Loop
  - Small group instruction
  - RTI
  - Literacy Groups
- The instructional practices include Tier 1 instruction. Students are identified within 45 days and if students meet the qualifications for RTI, they meet with Literacy Specialist on a daily basis.
- There are no major changes to current practices, but rather expand and develop staff on current practices and core curriculum listed above.
- ESSER money has been allocated to provide tutoring to achieve closing achievement gaps.

Finally, if the school currently provides distance education and plans to continue doing so under a renewed contract, please include responses to the following questions as required by NRS 388A.725(3) and NRS 388A.725(4): **NA**

- The support available to each pupil, in his or her home or community, including, without limitation, the availability and frequency of interactions between the pupil and teachers;
- The methods the charter school for distance education will use to administer any test, exam or assessment required by state or federal law;
- The methods the charter school for distance education will use to assess the academic success of pupils; and

- The criteria pupils must meet to be eligible for enrollment at the charter school for distance education.

#### **4. Organizational Viability and plans for the Proposed Charter Term**

##### **A. Written Narrative [Limited to 10 pages]**

Please include a written narrative describing the current Governing Board's capacity, skills, and qualifications for continued successful implementation of the school's design, as well as a growth plan for adding/replacing board members that support the school's success. This section should also include a description of any organizational improvements that the charter school has undertaken or plans to implement in response to past performance, including board training and development. Additionally, should the school contract with a Charter Management Organization (CMO) or Education Management Organization (EMO), this section should speak to the oversight and monitoring by the local board of the services provided by these organization(s)

- Since receivership, several organizational improvements have been made to ensure success and viability.
  - Administration
    - The school has remained under the leadership of Principal Tricia Wilbourne for the past three years who was a former Title I CCSD teacher, instructional coach and DCS teacher. Denise Koch has remained the Assistant Principal for the past three years at the Hillpointe campus. John Sullivan remained the part time administrator for the past three years at the Hillpointe campus. Teresa Holden recently replaced Carol Leavitt of three years as part time administrator for the past three years at the Sandhill campus. This consistency has contributed to the success of the school.
  - Accounting
    - The school subcontract Higgins Associates to assist with payroll, PERS allocations, hiring documentation, tax filings, state and SPCSA reporting, and invoicing. This service is a valuable part of the financial security of the school.
  - Increase to board membership
    - DCS recently increase its board from 5 members to 7 to ensure transparency and compliance. Board members received the SPCSA governance training.

##### **B. Required Supporting Documents**

Please upload with your renewal application the following documents:

- Current resumes for all Governing Board members
- Board Member Information Sheet / Roster (page 7 of this application). Note that only names, contact information and Board leadership information are required. Information provided in this section should match Epicenter.
- Board Chair/Member Assurance Statement & Signature (see page 9 of this application)
- For schools contracting with a CMO or EMO, a copy of a draft contract for the upcoming term.**NA**

## 5. Fiscal Soundness and Plans for the Proposed Charter Term

### A. Written Narrative [Limited to 10 pages]

Please include a written narrative describing the current fiscal state of the school and plans during the upcoming charter term to ensure it remains financially viable. This section should also include a description of any financial improvements that the charter school has undertaken or plans to implement.

- Our current fiscal state is good and viable. All Receivership-era debts are long since paid off. In recent months, our balance sheet has been particularly buoyed by our unprecedented receipt of three charitable donations from the Windsong Trust totaling \$1,500,000; and (ii) our successful, first-time issuance on July 14<sup>th</sup> of \$24.15 million in non-taxable bonds. This proved that Wall Street analysts (and investors at prestigious funds like Transamerica and Nuveen) believe wholeheartedly in DCS' performance trends.
- Given the inherent uncertainty of the approval to increase the enrollment capacity at the Hillpointe campus, the underwriter (Stifel), and DCS mutually agreed to structure the financing such that the majority of construction funding be escrowed until the SPCSA approved the 99-student enrollment increase, thereby assuring bond investors that the project would not be pursued until the school could increase enrollment to support the cost of the expansion. This structure was formalized with the following condition to the release of the construction funds being added shortly before the pricing of the bonds:
- “No proceeds of the Series 2022 Bonds deposited in the Construction Subaccount of the Project Fund will be disbursed unless the Borrower has delivered to the Trustee evidence of the following (the “Construction Draw Requirements”):...evidence of approval by the Nevada State Public Charter School Authority of a material revision to the Charter School Contract that allows the School to increase enrollment to an aggregate of at least 680 students...On July 1, 2025, if the Construction Draw Requirements have not been satisfied then all moneys on deposit in the Construction Subaccount will be transferred to the Redemption Fund” and thus returned to the bond investors. (Offering Memorandum, p. 24; Indenture of Trust, p. 56 (§4.15(c)(iii)).)
- The total amount of construction funds borrowed by DCS is approximately \$12.5 million. *That means that for each year of delay in the Hillpointe Project, DCS will pay approximately \$875,000 in interest for the borrowing of funds which it is not using.* If DCS were to borrow those funds, not use them, and have to return them to the investors on July 1, 2025, the underwriter estimates that the school will have paid approximately **\$2.6 million** in interest for funds it never used.
- In other words, clarifying, DCS has already borrowed the funds to build the MPR/gym building described in the May 20<sup>th</sup> Dang/Modrcin Memo, and if the small enrollment increase were not approved, that will likely have a very serious adverse effect on DCS' financial outlook. It will lead to the loss of millions of dollars in taxpayer funding. None of those funds will reach classrooms or teacher pockets. It is imperative we explore mutually-agreeable conditions under which the Hillpointe Project wins your support, such as the weighted lottery proposed above.
- DCS has the contingency plan to operate with the current 500 enrollment cap, however, we do not think that is in best interest of our students. Our special education population needs to be served correctly and our 89121 community deserves a better learning environment. The contingency plan includes returning the reserve bond funds, scaling back staff positions, and discontinuing improvements that would benefit student achievement. In other words, the reach of a better school choice for Las Vegas families would diminish with the possibility of removing seats and consolidating the reach.

Please upload with your renewal application the following school board-approved documents:

- Budget for the current and upcoming fiscal year (FY24)<sup>4</sup>

#### **6. Additional Information from the Governing Board Supporting Renewal**

Please provide any information or data that the governing body of the charter school determines supports the renewal of the charter contract. This information must include:

- If applicable, external evaluations or academic data submitted within this section must be independently audited and verified by the person performing the evaluation as required by [NAC 388A.415](#).
- Agenda and draft minutes for the meeting where the governing body voted to approve the submission of the renewal application.

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<sup>4</sup> Applicants should use the budget template provided by the SPCSA. Should there be questions, or if incomplete information submitted, SPCSA staff will reach out to the applicant for additional information.

## OVERSIGHT

SPCSA staff will include any Site Evaluations in the recommendation and provide documentation collected during visits to the Board as part of the renewal process. Additionally, SPCSA staff may consider and include the results of any subrecipient grant monitoring.

Renewal decisions for schools operating under written charters are based on historic performance data as evidenced by both the NSPF Performance Framework as well as the SPCSA Performance Frameworks. Historical anecdotes or unsolicited data, e.g. leadership changes or past programmatic adjustments, may be included in the report but will be given less weight when considered by the Authority in making renewal decisions. Additionally, renewal decisions will be based on the overall financial and organizational health of the public charter school. Evidence from both the financial framework and financial audits will be used to assess the overall financial health of a school, and the SPCSA Organizational Framework will be used to assess the overall organizational capacity of the school. The Epicenter platform will be used to inform the assessment of the organizational health of a school, and to help determine whether or not the school is compliant under local, state and federal law.

Schools which are contemplating material amendments, e.g. changes to the mission statement, grade levels served, enrollment, facilities expansion, academic program, instructional delivery, management agreement, etc. will be permitted to submit such amendment requests in the event that the school is renewed based on past performance. Schools are permitted to draft such amendment requests during the renewal process for filing immediately following the renewal decision by the Authority. Stated another way, a school may submit formal amendments for consideration by the Authority separately from the renewal application.

It is the responsibility of the school to ensure that the content is accurate and reflects information provided by NDE and the SPCSA. Any discrepancies between the data submitted and data previously provided by NDE or the SPCSA will result in a request for resubmission of a compliant and complete application from SPCSA staff.

Schools are required to submit the agenda and draft minutes for the meeting where the governing body voted to approve the submission of the renewal application into the appropriate areas in Epicenter prior to filing the renewal application, as called for in Section 6 of this application template. Failure to submit the agenda and draft minutes into the appropriate areas in Epicenter prior to filing the renewal application will result in the return of the renewal application and a request for resubmission of a compliant and complete application from SPCSA staff.

## ACCESSIBILITY TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

All charter school applications and renewals are required to be ADA compliant as described by Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (refer to 29 U.S.C. 794d). This statute requires access to and use of Federal executive agencies and information technology (ICT) by individuals with disabilities. Compliance with Section 508 is mandatory for all entities receiving federal funds-including the SPCSA and its charters.

## 2022 WRITTEN APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF CHARTER

School Name & Contact Info	Name: Discovery Charter School Address: 8941 Hillpointe Rd Phone: 702-240-0359 Website: www.dcsv.org		
School Leader Name & Contact Info	Name: Tricia Wilbourne Title: Principal Contact info: 702-240-0359		
Governing Board Names & Contact Info  <i>Add rows/names as may be necessary</i>	Chair/President	Name: Flynn Stern Email: Flynn.stern@pinecrestnv.org Phone: 702-241-4186	
	Vice Chair/Vice President	Name: Bryan Weeks Email: bryanpweeks@gmail.com	
	Treasurer	Name: Chris Crooks Email: Chris.Crooks@nmrk.com	
	Secretary	Name: TBD Email:	
	Member	Name: Emil Pehlivanov Email: emil.pehlivanov@gmail.com	
	Member	Name: Jackie Salas Email: koketa14@gmail.com	
	Member	Name: Martha Sandoval Email: merino.3b@gmail.com	
	Member	Name: Bonnie Coffey Email: bonnie.coffey@pinecrestnv.org	

### ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE<sup>5</sup>

2019 NSPF Rating <i>Complete campus boxes as may be applicable</i>	Campus 1 Hillpointe ES	Campus 2 Hillpointe MS	Campus 3 Sandhill ES		
	NA	NA	NA		
	Campus 4 (name)	Campus 5 (name)	Campus 6 (name)		
2018 NSPF Rating <i>Complete campus boxes as may be applicable</i>	Campus 1 Hillpointe ES	Campus 2 Hillpointe MS	Campus 3 Sandhill ES		
	4	4	2		
	Campus 4 (name)	Campus 5 (name)	Campus 6 (name)		
2017 NSPF Rating	Elementary School Rating	Middle School Rating	High School Rating		
	4	5			
CSI or TSI Identification	Please list any years in which your school was identified as a CSI (Comprehensive Support and Improvement) or TSI (Targeted Support and Improvement) school by NDE.				
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
NDE-Validated Four-Year Graduation Rate	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

<sup>5</sup> For schools applying for a third charter term or beyond, NAC 388A.415 provides that the State Public Charter School Authority will give the academic performance of pupils a greater weight than that assigned to it on the first renewal. SPCSA staff will include academic performance data for any previous charter term for the Authority's consideration.



## OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW

CURRENT YEAR ENROLLMENT & DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS							
Total Student Enrollment [as of first day of school 2022] =							
Gender		Ethnicity / Race					
Female	Male	White	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Asian	Mixed Race	Other
284	238	178	44	213	20	54	30
Special Populations				Students on Waitlist			
Students w/disabilities (number)	ELLs (number)	Homeless Students (number)	Free/Reduced Lunch Eligibility (number)	Number of Students on Waitlist	Percentage of Waitlist Students w/Preference Status		
83		0	121	213	0		
Staff Retention				Discipline Data (2021 - 22)			
Number of Instructional Staff	Total Number of Staff	Percentage returning staff 2021-22	Percentage returning staff 2022-23	Number of out of school suspensions	Number of expulsions		
28	21	98%	96%	2	1		
Year-to-Year Mobility [Student Retention from Oct. 1 to Oct.1] <sup>6</sup>							
2017 - 2018		2018 - 2019		2019 - 2020		2020 - 2021	
Not available		83%		96%		89%	
				2021 - 2022			
				89%			

## ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

SPCSA Authority Academic Programmatic Audit Findings			
2019-20	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2018-19	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2017-18	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2016-17	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2015 - 16	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

SPCSA Authority Financial Programmatic Audit Findings			
2019-20	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2018-19	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2017-18	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2016-17	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2015 - 16	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach

## ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE

SPCSA Authority Organizational Programmatic Audit Findings			
2019-20	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2018-19	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2017-18	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2016-17	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach
2015 - 16	No Notice	Notice of Concern	Notice of Breach

<sup>6</sup> To calculate student retention, subtract the number of students from year 2 not returning from year 1, and divide this result by the total number of students in year 1. For example, if there were 5 students in year 1, and 1 student did not return in year 2, the retention calculation would be: (5-1)/5, or 80%.



## NEXT CHARTER TERM

Current Enrollment Cap & Grade Spans for next charter term						
	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029
Planned Enrollment Caps	620	620	620	620	620	620
Planned Grade Spans	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

*Note: the enrollment cap and grade span information provided above should match current levels approved by the Authority, including previously approved amendments (such as expansions/new campuses) that have yet to take effect. These totals were provided in the school in the Performance Summary report submitted to the school by SPCSA staff on or before June 30.*

*Should the school propose a change in the enrollment cap or grade configuration during the upcoming charter term, please outline this change and provide a short rationale and additional information for the proposed change. Note that a change to the enrollment cap or grade configuration requires separate Authority approval.*

## BOARD MEMBER ASSURANCE STATEMENT

*I certify that the governing body of this charter school has voted that the school and its staff will adhere to the renewal process expectations outlined in the Renewal Guidelines. The information provided in this charter renewal application is true and correct. I also certify that the governing body of this charter school understands that any academic, financial, or organizational performance data collected during the period of the current charter term which is analyzed and reported following a renewal vote may be considered by the Authority in making performance and accountability decisions in the subsequent charter term.*

Signature of Head of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of President/Chair of Governing Body: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Governing Body voted to approve application for renewal: \_\_\_\_\_