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STATE OF NEVADA

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STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

March 30, 2022

Shubham Pandey
Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy
1570 Hillcrest Road
Dallas, Texas 75205
shubham@ptaaschool.org

Re: Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy Nevada Charter Application

Dear Mr. Pandey,

As you are aware, the 8th District Court ordered the State Public Charter School Authority to rehear the Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy Nevada's charter school application at a board meeting on or before April 29, 2022. Prior to that board meeting, SPCSA staff is required to provide Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy Nevada with a list of deficiencies. Attached to this letter you will find a memo outlining those deficiencies as well as the SPCSA's charter school application rubric.

The charter school application rubric is divided into four main categories: Meeting the Need, Academic Plan, Operations Plan, and Financial Plan. An addendum is also required of some applicants, specifically those that propose to contract with an EMO or CMO. The attached memorandum details where the Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy Nevada application approaches the standard or does not meet the standard as defined in the charter school application rubric. Any area in which the applicant is rated as approaches standard or does not meet standard constitutes a deficiency. Applicants should refer to the contents of the memorandum which summarizes major findings as well as the Appendix which lists each rubric criteria that the applicant did not substantially meet. While several areas of the current application are rated as 'Meets the Standard' it is important to note that changes to one section may have cascading impacts on other sections and applicant must ensure that the application, including the narrative and all

attachments are consistent and cohesive. For example, any changes to the student enrollment plan may impact other sections of the application, such as the budget and staffing plan. Should the applicant change the enrollment plan the applicant must also update any related sections, such as the budget and staffing plan, even if they had previously been rated as ‘Meets the Standard,’ and ensure these sections continue to meet all criteria outlined in the charter school application rubric. Please note that the charter school application rubric also sets forth all of the characteristics that constitute a strong response in each section of the rubric.

Any second resubmission in April 2022 pursuant to the above-referenced court order must be submitted to the SPCSA via EpiCenter on or before April 13, 2022. Should you wish to schedule a time to meet and confer on the method to correct the identified deficiencies, please contact Jennifer King at 702-486-8895 or jennifer.king@spsca.nv.gov to schedule a meeting with both Director Modrcin and myself. Any resubmitted charter school application may be in one of two formats:

- 1. An addendum to the original application.** In this case, the applicant provides additional materials or information that will be considered along with all materials and information from the original submission in July of 2021 as well as the first resubmission in December of 2021. Please note that any instances where the addendum could conflict with the original and/or first resubmitted application from December of 2021 must be clearly identified and the applicant should specifically state how a conflict would be resolved. Materials also must reference which deficiencies the additional materials or information aim to resolve. *For example, if the addendum contemplates the addition of a guidance counselor, the applicant must clearly state any conforming changes that must be made to the staffing plan, school culture plans and/or proposed budget. The applicant should also note that this addition of a guidance counselor is in response to a specific deficiency within the school culture plan.*
- 2. A redline version of the original application.** In this case, the applicant provides a complete resubmission of the application with tracked changes. Unless the applicant provides updated attachments, the original attachments will be considered along with the redlined version of the application. Materials and redlines should make reference to which deficiencies the changes, additional materials, or information aim to resolve. Given that the first resubmission from December of 2021 was not a redline, if the applicant opts for a redline in this second resubmission in April of 2022, the applicant must make clear whether information from the first resubmission should also be considered as part of the review, or whether it should be ignored in whole or part.

While the format of the resubmission is at the discretion of the applicant, SPCSA staff encourage applicants that are addressing a substantial number of changes to its original charter school application to consider the redline resubmission option. We are also happy to discuss which resubmission option may be the best fit for Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy Nevada when we meet to confer on the method to correct the identified deficiencies. All resubmission documents should be submitted via EpiCenter on or before April 13, 2022.

The SPCSA appreciates the time, dedication, and efforts of Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy Nevada toward creating a quality charter school. The public charter school application process is intentionally rigorous. We know that it takes a tremendous amount of work to not only open a school,

but more importantly, to open a high-quality school. We look forward to receiving your second resubmitted application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Feiden'.

Rebecca Feiden,
Executive Director, State Public Charter School Authority

cc: Melissa Mackedon, Chair, State Public Charter School Authority (via email)
Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing, State Public Charter School Authority (via email)
Jennifer King, Administrative Assistant, State Public Charter School Authority (via email)
Rudy Pamintuan, Proposed Board Chair, Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy Nevada (via email)