

From: [Monica Johnson](#)
To: [Melissa Mackedon](#)
Cc: [sheliagil@yahoo.com](#); [Tyrone Henderson](#); [gracianojasmin@gmail.com](#); [Sherlene Simpson](#); [eagleschoolsnv@gmail.com](#); [jose.herrera@eagleschoolsnv.org](#); [NV Kara Hendricks GT Law / Eagle NV Attorney](#); [Andrea Shorter](#)
Subject: Eagle Charter Schools / Ms. Mackedon
Date: Saturday, March 30, 2024 1:23:24 PM

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Ms. Mackedon,

Please allow this to serve as a formal response to your email of March 26, 2024. As the Board Chair, I am disheartened by a number of the comments made therein and believe it is important to clarify a number of the issues raised.

As a preliminary matter, prior to Eagle's March 22, 2024 board meeting, school administration and/or myself met and/or discussed the schools financial situation individually with each board member and two board members participated in the call with you on March 18, 2024 in which the issues were addressed. This is not an issue that was swept under the rug or not taken seriously and the lack of vigorous discussion during the public meeting should not be construed as the same.

For ease of reference, I have provided comments to each of the bullet-points in your email below.

- The school owes \$837,085.27 to the Nevada Department of Education (NDE). They have informed us that they only have \$350,000, leaving a \$500,000 balance that the school does not have the funds or a plan to pay back.
 - *The school is developing a plan to return the overpayment back to the NDE. As you are aware, the funds were provided to the School based on early enrollment numbers. Due to the facility issues faced by Eagle, our enrollment did decline. Indeed, that is the basis for the amendment we have requested to our charter contract. We have already submitted a budget amendment that is consistent with our current enrollment numbers reflecting the lower enrollment and are working with our accounting team to develop the FY 25 budget with enrollment projections and the cash flow. We will schedule a board meeting prior to April 10th for the Board to review and approve the same.*
- NDE will stop making payments to the school in June or July. The school will not get payments until the entire amount is paid back. Based on the current monthly payment of \$119,446.83, the SPCSA and NDE projects the school will go without a payment from the state for approximately 7 months.
 - *We understand the issue and believe there is a feasible way for the School to pay back NDE and avoid a delay in receiving payments.*
- According to Opportunity 180, the school is not eligible for Charter School Program (CSP) reimbursements until there is a viable plan demonstrating the school can remain financially viable and pay off the \$837,085.27 balance to NDE.

- *The School is having ongoing discussion with Opportunity 180 and is providing the information they requested. Our understanding is that funding is available for the school.*
- The SPCSA has asked for a 12-month cash flow from the school, which should have been presented to the board at the 3/22/24 meeting. This did not occur. In fact, school leadership did not present any of the details regarding this critical financial situation.
 - *The financial situation facing the school was discussed during Agenda Item No. 3 at the 3/22 board meeting. When you spoke with school administration and our accountant on March 18, 2024, it was understood that a 12 month cash flow could not be prepared until we received the total amount due back to NDE. We did not receive the total NDE amount until we received your memo dated March 20, 2024. As such we did not have sufficient lead time to develop the cash flow in advance of the March 22, 2024. In follow-up discussions with you, we understood the cash flow could be provided on or before April 10th. We are working on this now and we would like to schedule a call with you, our accountant and any others you deem necessary to discuss the same.*
- The SPCSA has also asked for the FY25 budget, which is legally due April 15. Since the Eagle board is not scheduled to convene again before that deadline, we assumed the tentative FY25 budget would be presented at the 3/22/24 meeting. It was not.
 - *As referenced above, we intend to schedule a board meeting prior to April 10th to address budget issues and approve a budget for FY25 in advance of the April 15th deadline.*
- This matter will now go before the State Public Charter School Authority Board. SPCSA staff will recommend the school receive a financial Notice of Concern at our meeting on April 12, 2024. The school will be given an opportunity to address the Authority Board at that time. If you would like your cash flow and FY25 budget to be a part of that meeting, they will need to be approved by Eagle's board and forwarded to the SPCSA by April 10, 2024.
 - *Given our ongoing communication with you on the financial issues and our plan to approve the FY25 budget prior to the April 15th deadline, your response above is surprising. Notwithstanding, we will meet as a board prior to April 10th to adopt a plan to address the financial concerns moving forward and will provide the SPCSA the requested information. If a Notice of Concern is issued, we will address the same as required, but are hopeful this can be avoided.*
- The matter will go before the SPCSA board again on May 17, 2024, with a final recommendation, which may include school closure, if the school is not financially viable without CSP dollars.
 - *As referenced above, we do believe the school will be financially viable and we are developing a plan to address the same. We would like to avoid a*

recommendation for school closure and believe scheduling a call with stakeholders would be beneficial in this regard.

- Additionally, the board should know that it is an Open Meeting Law violation to require the public to sign up in advance to make public comment. That practice must stop immediately. It is also best practice during roll call that each board member unmutes and says, “Here,” and keeps their camera on for most of the meeting.
 - *We will have board members audibly answer roll call going forward. We were not aware of an issue with requiring people to sign up for public comment in advance of the meeting and language is included on the posted agenda to facilitate the same. Notably, we follow a similar procedure to what is utilized by CCSD in this regard. Notwithstanding, we are willing to change this process and would appreciate it if you could point us to the provisions of the Open Meeting Laws that have such a requirement or limitations so we can ensure we correct any concerns moving forward.*

As a board we do not take the threat of school closure lightly and have worked hard and will continue to work hard to serve our students and community. School leadership also takes this matter very seriously and, as referenced above, has discussed the issue individually with each board member.

We would be happy to have you attend our next board meeting to discuss your concerns and will notify you when a date is selected so we can include you on the agenda.

Additionally, due to the nature of issues raised in your email, we have re-engaged Kara Hendricks to assist the Board on legal matters and ask that she be copied on correspondence going forward. Additionally, we would like Ms. Hendricks to participate in the call proposed above so we can ensure we have a clear understanding of your expectations in order to better address the same.

Sincerely,

Monica Johnson
Board Chair, Eagle NV