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NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

August 24, 2015

Grant Sawyer Building
555 East Washington
Room 4412
Las Vegas, Nevada

And

Legislature
401 South Carson Street
Room 2135
Carson City, Nevada

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Kathleen Conaboy
Robert McCord
Adam Johnson
Melissa Mackedon
Elissa Wahl
Marc Abelman

In Carson City:

None

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Patrick Gavin, Director, State Public Charter School Authority
Joan Jurgensen, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority
Nya Berry, Education Programs Professional, State Public Charter School Authority
Traci House, Business Process Analyst, State Public Charter School Authority

In Carson City:

Jessica Hoban, Administrative Services Officer, State Public Charter School Authority
Angela Blair, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority

Kathy Robson, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority
Katie Higday, Management Analyst, State Public Charter School Authority
Danny Peltier, Administrative Assistant, State Public Charter School Authority

LEGAL STAFF PRESENT:

In Carson City:

Greg Ott, Deputy Attorney General

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE:

In Las Vegas:

Attendance Sheet Attached

In Carson City:

Attendance Sheet Attached

Mr. Truman said the major issue the school had with the recommendation by SPCSA staff was the requirement the school waive any opportunity to challenge decisions in court on appeal. Director Gavin said the SPCSA staff had requested the board of Quest hold a joint meeting with the Authority board in order to deliberate the recommendations contained in the report. Member Mackedon asked why this request was not followed through upon Mr. Feelum said he was unaware of the request and there board was scheduled to meet on August 24 to discuss the recommendation report. Director Gavin said the conversation took place between SPCSA staff and Ms. Roberson regarding the joint meeting. Ms. Roberson said there were scheduling issues with the board members that made it impossible for the school to have their full board in attendance.

Chair Conaboy asked the students in audience who were there on behalf of Quest Academy to testify. Ally, spoke in favor of Quest Academy and said she didn't want to have the school close. Gabriel Zeigler spoke in favor of the school and on behalf of the board president. Her father said he hoped the school would remain open so it would remain that way so it could continue to help the kids it serves. William Mackedori spoke in favor of Quest remaining open. He said it was the greatest school he had ever been to. Zachary Zeldaki also spoke in favor of Quest Academy remaining open. Tera Mackedori, parent of Quest Academy, spoke in favor of Quest to remain open and the day-to-day life that made Quest such a great school. She asked the Authority Board to work with Quest's governing board to assist them in getting the financial aspects of the school right. Ally's mother spoke in favor of Quest Academy remaining open and said Quest Academy had done a wonderful job making her daughter feel better about herself and allowed her to catch up on credits that she went behind on at Clark County School District. Greg, a former board member, spoke in favor of keeping Quest Academy open. He said that agreed with the SPCSA staff that Quest's board had fallen apart in the last year. He said he hoped the Authority could recognize the school was making great efforts to reduce the mismanagement of the school and allow them to keep educating children.

Chair Conaboy said the Authority wasn't in a position to fix the Quest Board. She said recommendations would be provided and it would be up to the school to follow through on those recommendations to ensure their good standing with the Authority. She appreciated the families that had come out in support of Quest Academy and hoped those same families would take their passion to the members of Quest's board since they were ultimately responsible for the school's success or failure.

Member Mackedon moved for approval of staff recommendation for Quest Academy's amendment request pursuant to NAC 386.325. Member Johnson seconded. There was no further discussion. The vote was unanimous. Member Abelman abstained.

Agenda Item 8- Mater Academy amendment request pursuant to NAC 386.325

Director Gavin outlined the amendment request by Mater Academy. Mater was approved by the SPCSA Board in January 2014 and opened in the fall of 2014. It currently operates under a charter contract. It has previously received approval to vacate its first incubator facility and occupy a new facility based on authority delegated to SPCSA staff. The school has not received any notices of concern or breach related to its academic, financial, or organizational performance. Results from internal assessments indicate that the school is making academic growth, but it is important to note that absent SBAC data it is impossible to determine what, if any, predictive value the school's commercially available testing system has related to SBAC performance.

As the school has only been in operation since 2014, there is no NSPF (Star System) data to consider in evaluating this request. The SPCSA board has the authority in regulation to grant permission to pursue and occupy an additional facility absent an NSPF ranking. It is important to note that the school is a