

EXHIBIT 2

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NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

January 4, 2016

Nevada Department of Education
700 East Fifth Street
Board Room
Carson City, Nevada

And

Nevada Department of Education
9890 South Maryland Parkway
Board Room
Las Vegas, Nevada

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

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

In Carson City:

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:

Angela Blair, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority
Kathy Robson, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority

the school had 98% of their students who were two years behind their cohort using their third party assessment. Director Gavin said that assessment was not valid in the state. Dr. Kotler said she was assured if the students were tested using the state's methods it would confirm SSCS's results.

Director Gavin noted SSCS had been open for 12 years and the results over the last 6 years showed the school was academically underperforming. Ms., Saenz noted the school was considered high-achieving prior to the change of the academic framework it was measured by. Director Gavin said he had no further questions.

Director Gavin said the organizational and academic underperformance was evident the school should cease operation upon the completion of the 2015-2016 academic year.

Chair Johnson asked if SSCS had any additional closing statements. Ms. Saenz said she had no further closing statements. Dr. Kotler said she was sad for the future of the students who attend SSCS who may be left with no degree. Mr. Russell said SSCS appreciated the time given by the SPCSA during the hearing. Director Gavin said the SPCSA had no further arguments.

Chair Johnson then called for Authority deliberation regarding the testimony of both the SPCSA staff and representatives of SSCS.

Member Wahl referenced the CREDO study that stated that a school's first year results were indicative of how they would do over the course of their charter. She then stated the school was in its 12th year and the results still were not acceptable.

There was no further deliberation and Chair Johnson called for motion to consider the revocation of SSCS's written charter agreement.

Member Wahl motioned for the Nevada State Public Charter School Authority to revoke the written charter agreement between it and Silver State Charter School upon the completion of the 2015-2016 academic year. Member Luna seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously 7-0.

Agenda Item 6 - NACSA SPCSA Evaluation presentation

Elisa Westapher and Carly Bolger spoke to the Authority regarding the NACSA Authorizer Evaluation they completed on behalf of the SPCSA. Ms. Westapher and Ms. Bolger detailed the process and findings of their report. The findings contained in the report were: The Authority has developed an application template that is focused on identifying new schools that are likely to drive improved outcomes for students. The Authority's charter school contract is comprehensive and clearly outlines the responsibilities of each party. The Authority has established strong academic, financial, and organizational performance frameworks. The Authority's board is knowledgeable and committed to implementing high- quality authorizing practices.

The new school application has been recently revised to better align with the Authority's needs but the evaluation process needs to be further developed and more consistently implemented. Key Recommendations included: Articulate process for reviewing applications including who reviews the application, the criteria for review, a capacity interview, and a consensus discussion among all evaluators. Develop, train, and, orient staff on the application review process to ensure that all reviewers are prepared to conduct a thorough review of all sections of the application. The interview panel should, when possible, include all members of the evaluation team for a particular application. Continue to engage

external reviewers to ensure that all evaluation teams have the appropriate expertise to thoroughly evaluate all sections of the application.

While the Authority has established systems for monitoring school performance, it has not implemented such systems with fidelity. Key Recommendations included: monitor schools' academic, financial, and organizational performance consistently and effectively. Implement mid-term site visits, and develop a site visit protocol and formal process for providing feedback to schools after the visit. Develop a plan for accelerating the transfer of remaining schools to the new contract and allocate additional capacity to address the backlog. Issue a guidance document, similar to the performance framework guidance document, which explains the new renewal process.

The Authority has established strong academic, financial, and organizational performance frameworks, but it is not effectively communicating with schools about their performance on these frameworks. Key Recommendations included: provide schools with an annual assessment of their academic, financial, and organizational performance; ensure schools up for renewal receive performance information in a timely manner. Develop a plan for addressing schools' concerns and confusion regarding the implementation of the academic performance framework; particularly, the opportunity for schools to meet with staff to discuss the underlying data and how this data is used to calculate their ratings. Revise the organizational performance framework so that it describes what information the Authority will review and how the Authority will verify schools' compliance with the requirements.

The Authority's reporting requirements for schools, mandated by the state and based on their status as the LEA, have the potential to erode the autonomy granted to charter schools. Key Recommendations included: Clarify and codify the Authority's LEA responsibilities and communicate this information to schools. Maintain focus on preserving school autonomies when considering new regulations or requirements. Identify ways to reduce duplicative reporting requirements from state agencies. Develop a plan for differentiated oversight as permissible by law.

The Authority needs to significantly expand its capacity in order to meet its obligations as an LEA and to ensure high quality authorizing. Key Recommendations included: Engage in a new strategic planning process as soon as possible, and ensure that the process includes diverse stakeholders such as board members, staff, and school leaders. Given the limitation on hiring new staff, clearly define and communicate roles and responsibilities to all current and future staff members. Provide management support and/or coaching to the director to enable him to fully leverage his existing staff. Implement an evaluation system for the director.

Ms. Westapher and Ms. Bolger then detailed the next steps both short and long term for the Authority and staff. Short-term steps included: Fully operationalize the application decision-making process, develop plan for expanding Authority capacity to continue to implement high-quality authorizing practices and monitor schools' academic, financial, and organizational performance consistently and effectively. Long-term steps included: engage in strategic planning process, develop annual reporting for schools' academic, financial, and operational standing, mid-term visits for charter schools and differentiated autonomy/compliance for schools based on performance.

Discussion continued between the Authority and NACSA regarding the final authorizer evaluation report, which included next steps, monetary/budgeting concerns, further evaluations in the future and how to best implement some of the recommendations contained within the report. NACSA identified the "internal battle of authorizing versus LEA functions" that continues to be a point of confusion for staff and the Authority as being one of the most pressing issues facing the SPCSA and its board. Ms. Bolger said that