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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Patrick Gavin
SUBJECT: Agenda Item 4—Beacon Academy Contract
DATE: October 21, 2016

Background:

At the August 26, 2016 Authority meeting, the Authority directed staff and Beacon Academy to negotiate an amended charter contract by September 19, 2016. Staff and the school did not agree to mutually agreeable terms by the deadline.

Pursuant to [NRS 388A.330](#) and [NAC 386.330](#), the Authority directed staff to Issue a Notice of Intent to Terminate the Charter Contract of Beacon Academy based on having a graduation rate for the preceding school year that is less than 60 percent.

Subsequently, Agency and Beacon representatives negotiated a contract which staff believes will be acceptable to the Authority. The contract language provides a mechanism for Beacon to transition to serve a more high need student population via an amendment to its admissions policy to exclusively serve at risk youth. This would be accompanied by revisions to the graduation rate benchmarks to provide appropriate and rigorous achievement goals for that new population . This amendment would permit the school to eventually qualify for the alternative performance framework. The contract has already been executed by the Chair of the Beacon governing body following a public meeting where the contract was approved.

Staff is already in receipt of the admissions policy amendment request and intends to begin negotiating the revisions to the benchmarks for the new student population.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of this amended charter contract and execution by the Chair effective today.