

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

PATRICK GAVIN
Executive Director



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

**1749 North Stewart Street Suite 40
Carson City, Nevada 89706-2543
(775) 687 - 9174 • Fax: (775) 687 - 9113**

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Patrick Gavin
SUBJECT: Agenda Item 11—Discovery Recommendation
DATE: June 23, 2017

Background:

At the January 27, 2017 meeting of the State Public Charter School Authority Board, the Authority Board received information regarding the 2015-2016 performance of Discovery Charter School. The Authority Board then directed staff to issue a written Notice pursuant to [NRS 388A.330\(1\)\(f\)](#) (“Notice of Intent”) based on the identification by the Department of Education of being in the bottom five percent of all elementary and middle schools during the 2015-2016 accountability year.. The Notice of Intent was issued pursuant to NRS 388A.330(2) on February 10, 2017.

- 1) The deficiencies or reason upon which the action of the Authority was based was the identification by the Department of Education of being in the bottom five percent of all elementary or middle schools during the 2015-2016 accountability year as required by NRS 388A.330(1)(f). Discovery’s performance in 2015-16 was determined to be in the lowest five percent of elementary or middle schools statewide.
- 2) Pursuant to NRS 388A.330(2)(b), the school was given at least 30 days within which to correct the deficiencies. The first day of this period was February 13, 2017. The date by which the school must have completed all efforts to correct these deficiencies was March, 24, 2017.
- 3) The school submitted a series of materials as evidence that it had corrected the deficiencies, uploading that information into Epicenter.

At the April meeting, the Authority determined that one of two options should be pursued:

- The reconstitution of the governing body, effective June 23, 2016
- The installation of a receiver, effective June 23, 2016

Following the board meeting, the Agency, in conjunction with the school, undertook steps to collaboratively recruit either a new governing body or a new receiver and worked with the school and proposed receiver on a [joint petition for receivership](#) and accompanying [exhibit 1](#) and [exhibit 2](#) as well as a [proposed order appointing a receiver](#). Both documents were agendaized for consideration at Discovery's Board meeting on the evening of June 22.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Authority accept the proposed joint petition and proposed order which includes a more extended academic receivership period based on terms agreed upon by the school. Deputy Attorney General Ott is prepared to answer any questions with regard to this recommendation. Counsel from the school and the proposed receiver are available for questions as well.