

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, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Honors Academy of Literature Renewal Request
DATE: January 26, 2018

Background:

Honors Academy of Literature Charter School has submitted a request for renewal. The current charter contract for Honors Academy of Literature expires on July 31, 2018. Honors Academy of Literature operates one campus in Reno, and opened in 2012.

Grade Level	Total Amount Across All Existing Campuses - Number of Students					
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Pre-K	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
K	N/A	14	20	19	22	21
1	15	21	17	31	24	23
2	7	19	21	17	33	26
3	18	17	21	20	17	27
4	23	24	20	25	25	24
5	19	26	20	18	26	24
6	18	33	21	21	16	24
7	15	26	26	21	25	21

8	7	13	21	13	19	25
9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	122	193	187	185	207	215

Analysis:

Academics: Honors Academy of Literature has exhibited satisfactory academic performance over the past few years. Most recently, the Nevada State Performance Framework (NSPF) rated the Honors Academy Elementary schools as a four star program, and the Middle school as a three star program. Additionally, the following academic data is available from throughout the charter term:

Year	SPCSA Audit Findings	NSPF Rating
2013	Adequate	Elementary: 2 Star Middle School: 4 Star
2014	Adequate	Elementary: 2 Star Middle School: 4 Star
2015	N/A	Elementary: 2 Star (frozen from 2014) Middle School: 4 Star (frozen from 2014)
2016	N/A	Elementary: 4 Star Middle School: 2 Star
2017	N/A	Elementary: 4 Star Middle School: 3 Star

Organizational: In its current iteration, the SPCSA Organizational Framework is a rolling evaluation of school organizational performance. Based on verified complaints and spot checks of school organizational performance, the Authority issues Notices of Concern or Notices of Breach for Organizational Performance. Schools which have not received such notices are presumed to be in Good Standing. Honors Academy of Literature has not received a Notice of Breach or Notice of Concern since the inception of the Framework, has been classified as in Good Standing in each year from 2014 – 2016, and maintained a Good Standing rating in 2017.

Financial: Honors Academy of Literature has a history of clean audit findings. The SPCSA Financial Framework monitors a variety of indicators of financial health. Honors Academy of Literature received one Notice of Concern for the 2015 – 2016 school year. Preliminary findings for the 2016 – 2017 demonstrate that there may still be areas for improvement under certain metrics, specifically: days of cash on-hand, enrollment forecast and cash flow. Nevertheless, SPCSA has not issued any other Notices of Concern or Breach during this charter term, indicating that the financial health of the school is stable. This is supported by the school being classified within the financial rating system as in Good Standing each year since 2014.

Recommendation: Approve Renewal

Honors Academy of Literature has shown commendable academic and organizational performance in its initial charter term. They are financially viable, and SPCSA staff is confident that the school

can improve in the areas noted above. The Authority is urged to approve renewal of this charter school for a six year term.