



Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

AB 462 Implementation Update

May 31, 2019

Agenda & Objectives

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- SPCSA Historical Context
- Legislative Context
- SPCSA Response to Legislation
- What to expect over the next 6 months?
- Next Steps & Questions

Presentation Objectives

The purpose of this presentation is to provide you with an update regarding recently introduced legislative mandates, how the SPCSA will comply with these mandates, and what implications they have for our ongoing work as an authorizer.

SPCSA Purpose, Goals and Objectives

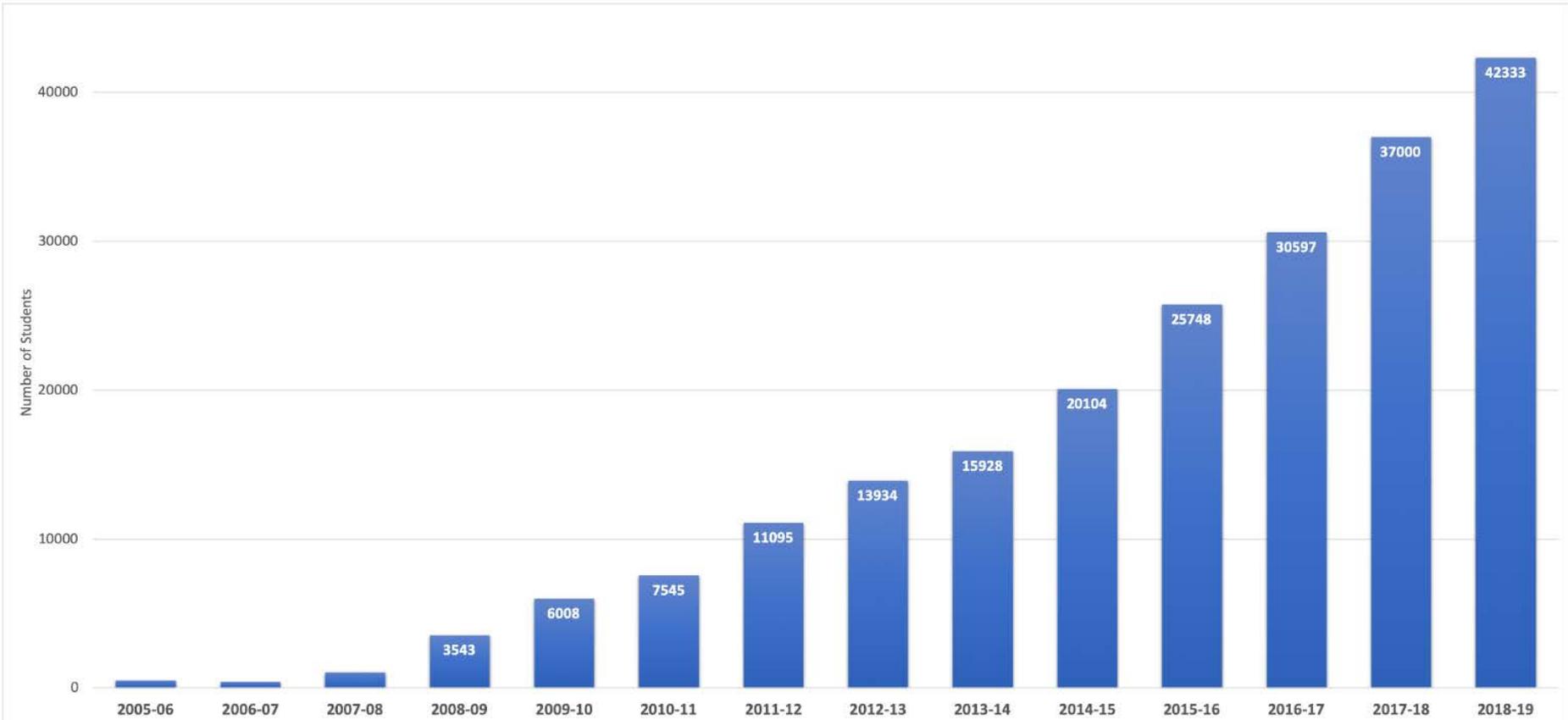
[NRS 388A.150 Creation; purpose.](#)

1. The State Public Charter School Authority is hereby created. The purpose of the State Public Charter School Authority is to:
 - a. Authorize charter schools of high-quality throughout this State with the goal of expanding the opportunities for pupils in this State, *including, without limitation, pupils who are at risk.*

[SPCSA 2016-2020 Strategic Plan](#)

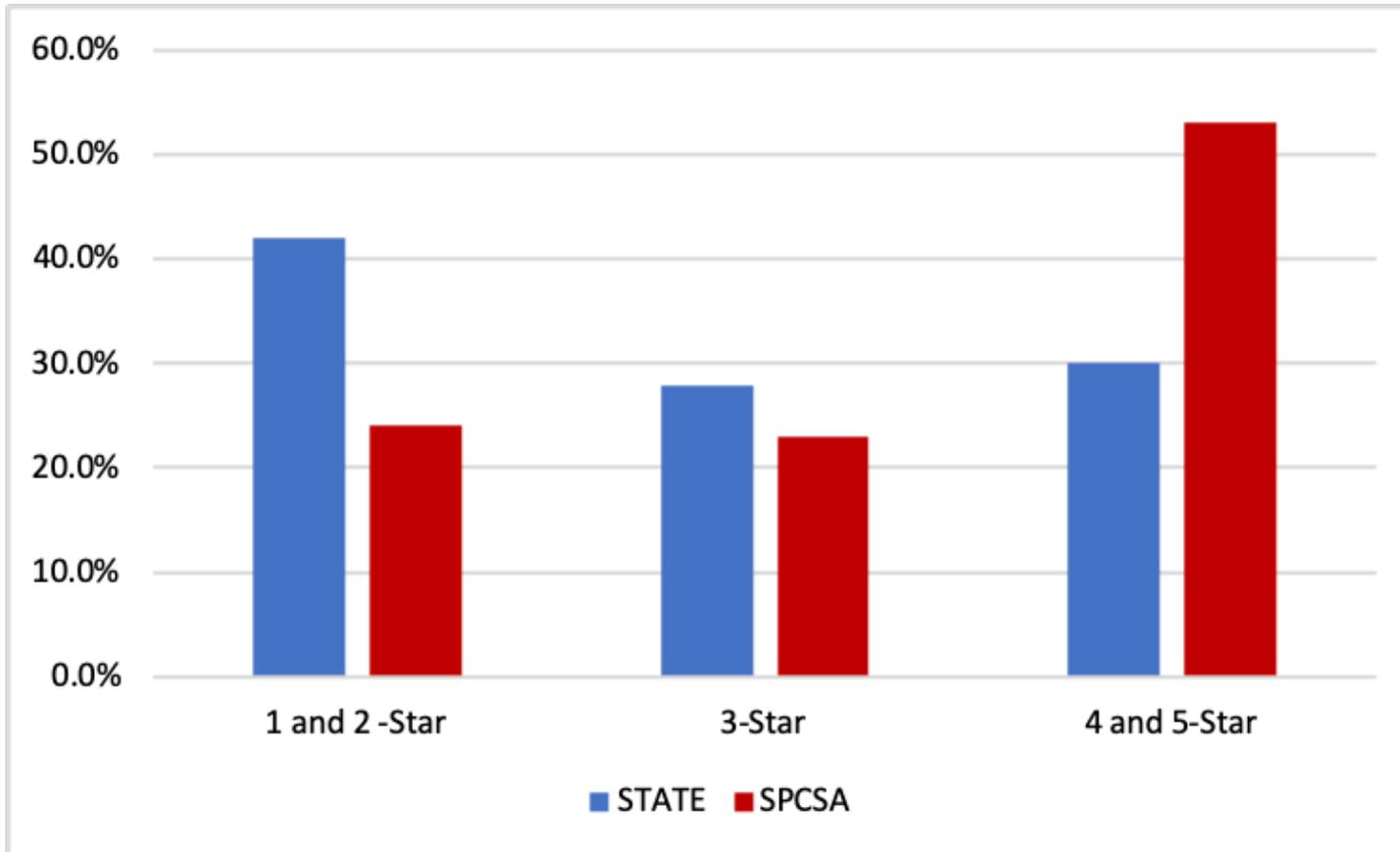
- Open and sustain quality schools *that reflect the demographics of their community*
- Ensure Fulfillment of Public School Obligations, including *ensuring equitable service to traditionally underserved populations*
- By 2020, enroll a statewide student population *which is representative of our sending schools*

SPCSA district-wide enrollment has increased steadily over the last 13 years



As of the 2018-19 school year, the SPCSA's 53 campuses serve over 8% of Nevada's public school students.

Academic Performance: SPCSA Outperforms State Averages

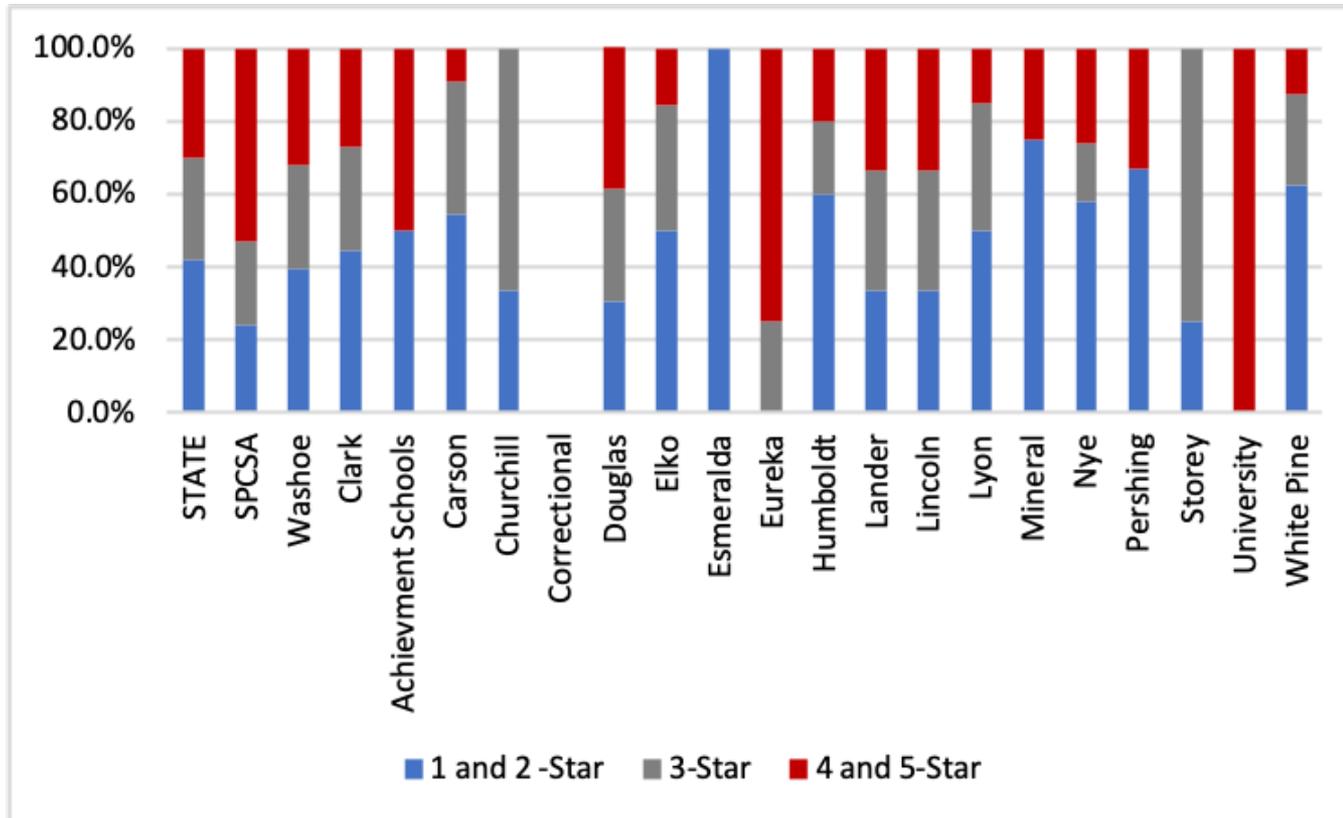


The SPCSA has a higher percentage* of 4- and 5-Star rated schools than the rest of the state.

Similarly, the SPCSA's percentage* of 1 and 2-Star rated schools is among the lowest for Nevada districts.

**Of the schools that received a rating.*

Academic Performance: SPCSA Outperforms Most District Peers

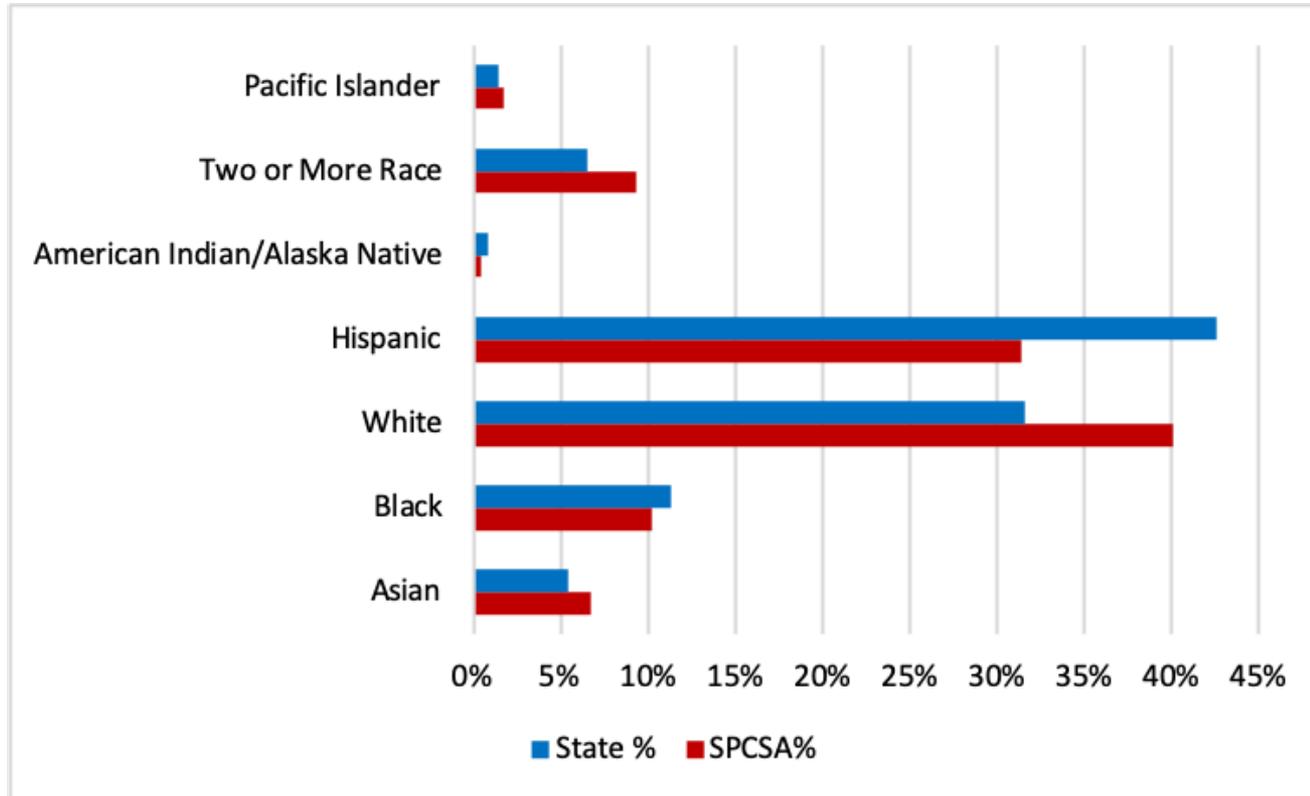


The SPCSA has a higher proportion* of 4 and 5 star schools than most of its traditional district peers.

The SPCSA has a lower proportion* of 1 and 2 stars schools than most of its traditional district peers.

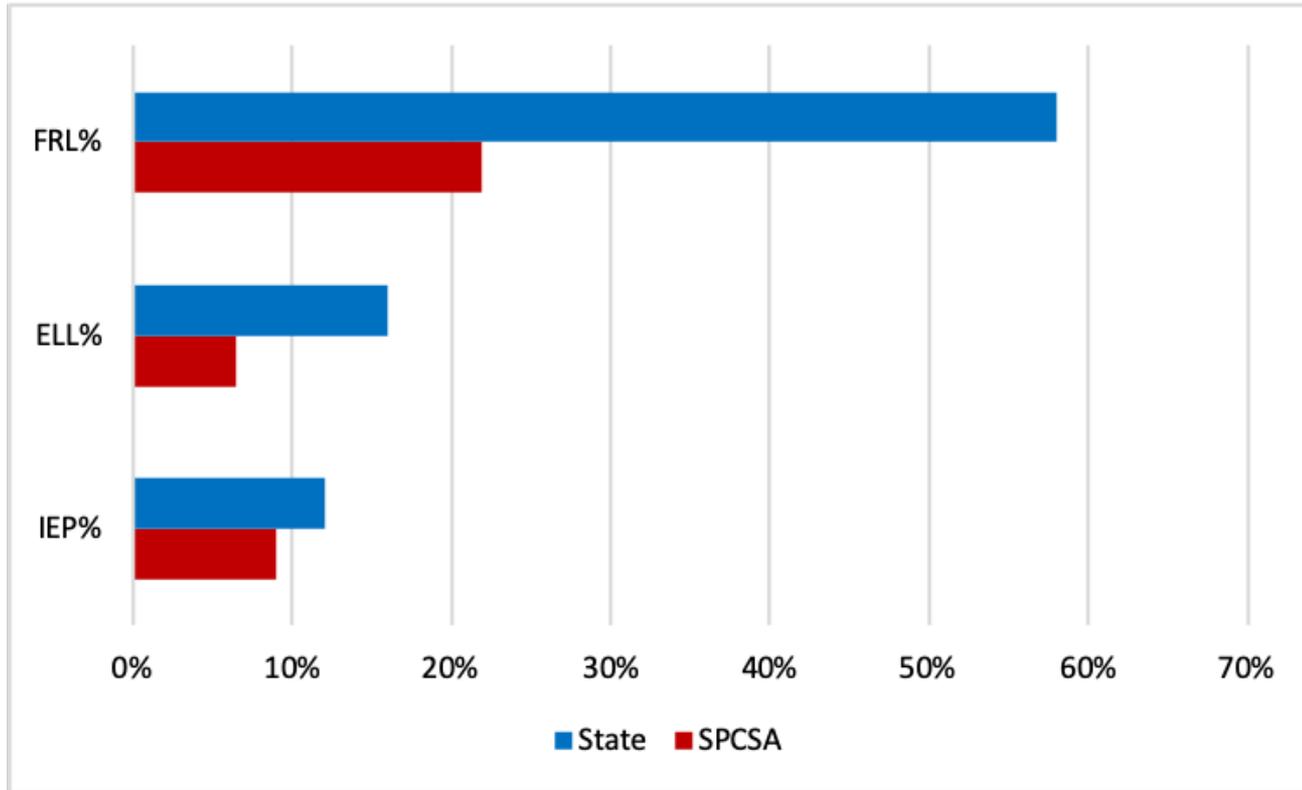
**Of the schools that received a rating.*

Demographics: SPCSA Serves Too Few Non-White Students



Compared to the rest of Nevada, the SPCSA serves relatively lower proportions of students who identify as Black or Hispanic and relatively higher proportions of students identifying as White or Asian.

Demographics: SPCSA Serves Too Few Economically Disadvantaged Students



Compared to the rest of Nevada, the SPCSA serves relatively lower proportions of students classified as economically disadvantaged, English Language Learners, and students requiring special education services

Legislative Context: Assembly Bill 462

AB 462 has four key components that will directly impact the work of the SPCSA.

- 1** Complete all site evaluations and provide a report to the Legislative Committee on Education by **June 30, 2020**
- 2** Provide written notice to local school district and Department of any notices of intent, new school applications, amendment requests and approvals
- 3** Conduct the Academic and Demographic Academic Needs Assessment to identify geographic areas within the state that are in need of high quality school options by **July 30, 2019** and use this tool to inform authorizing decisions going forward.
- 4** Submit initial Growth Management Plan by **January 1, 2020**

The SPCSA will create two planning tools in response to AB 462

Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment	Growth Management Plan
<p>Prior to July 30 of this year, the SPCSA must prepare an evaluation of demographic information of pupils, the academic needs of pupils and the needs of any pupils who are at risk of dropping out of school.</p> <p>Going forward this evaluation will inform authorizing decisions and be updated annually.</p> <p><i>We will review the process for developing the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment in detail today.</i></p>	<p>The SPCSA must establish a plan to manage the growth of charter schools. The plan must include new charter schools as well as additional campuses, grade level expansion or other increased enrollment, and any likely charter renewals that the Authority will approve.</p> <p>The plan must additionally consider statewide pupil performance, including data for specific groups and subgroups, and the academic needs of students in geographic areas of the state.</p> <p><i>At the June board meeting, we will introduce the Growth Management Plan and provide an overview of our process for developing it.</i></p>

This Legislation is an Opportunity for the SPCSA to Enhance its Practices

This is an exciting opportunity to become a more strategic authorizer and to develop authorizing practices that are directly responsive to the needs of all Nevada students.

Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment

This will be an evaluation of demographic information of pupils - including the academic needs of pupils, and the needs of any pupils at risk of dropping out of school.



Growth Management Plan

This will reflect our plans to manage the growth of charter schools and include projections for expansions in enrollment over the next five years. We will align our anticipated growth to the needs reflected in the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment.



Strategic Authorizing Practices

Taken together, the Needs Assessment and the Growth Management Plan will inform new school authorization priorities as well as changes to accountability practices that respond directly to the needs of Nevada students.

Requirements of AB 462

Conducting the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment

Summary

The Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment will evaluate the need for new schools across districts and within zip codes according to the demographic information of pupils, the academic needs of pupils and the needs of any pupils who are at risk of dropping out of school. The Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment will be updated annually by January 31.

Process

The SPCSA will work collaboratively with the Department and local school districts to obtain a comprehensive data set inclusive and to establish business rules for analyzing the data in a way that is reliable and sound.

The SPCSA will analyze student demographic and academic performance data throughout state and will make its findings publicly available.

The SPCSA's findings will be incorporated into the charter school authorizing processes and may influence what applicants are required to submit, how the staff conduct their application review, and how the SPCSA makes authorizing decisions.

Ongoing use of the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment

Applicant Review Process

When reviewing an application, the SPCSA must “consider the degree to which the proposed charter school will address the needs identified.”

The SPCSA must “solicit input from the board of trustees of the school district in which the proposed charter school will be located.”

Authorization Decisions

In approving authorization recommendations, the SPCSA board must ensure that applicants “address one or more of the needs identified” and that the SPCSA has received “sufficient input from the public.”

Moving forward, the SPCSA’s review processes will provide for local district and public input and all staff recommendations will include an assessment of the degree to which the proposed school addresses one or more of the needs identified in the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment.

Impact on the Authorizing Process

Former Process

Staff receives and assesses applications against Application Rubric

Staff provides recommendation to Board

Board decision

Updated Process

Staff receives and assesses applications against Application Rubric

Staff provides recommendation to Board

SPCSA applicant training includes Demographic and Academic Needs Assessment findings

Staff assesses and gets local school district input on alignment to Needs Assessment

Board decision, in alignment with identified need and with public input

SPCSA will engage all relevant stakeholders for each stage of planning

Stakeholder engagement will be a critical part of implementing AB 462. So far, we have engaged with the Washoe and Clark County school districts and the Department of Education on the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment and we are in the process of reaching out to other school districts.

Beyond school districts, we also intend to engage with representatives from the following stakeholder categories: legislators, business community organizations, parent/family groups, community groups, municipalities, and others.

What other stakeholders do you think should be included in our engagement efforts?

What role would you like to play in our engagement efforts?

Board Meetings through January 2020

Board Meeting	Key Items
28 June 2019	Consider non-expansion amendment requests (ACTION) Update on Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment Overview of Growth Management Plan development process
26 July 2019	Presentation of final version of Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment (ACTION) Discussion of how Needs Assessment should inform authorizing and expansion decisions Consider expansion amendment requests (ACTION)
30 August 2019	Update on Growth Management Plan development process
TBD September 2019	Review of 2018-19 Academic Performance (pending availability of Star ratings)
1 November 2019	Review of School Demographics Presentation of Draft Growth Management Plan for Feedback Consider Charter school renewals and new school authorizations (otherwise, in December) (ACTION)
6 December 2019	Presentation of final version of Growth Management Plan (ACTION)
TBD January 2020	Review of 2018-19 Graduation Data

In Summary: Four Key Takeaways

- 1** The recent legislation - AB 462 - is an opportunity to enhance our authorizing and accountability practices to drive strategic, responsible growth of charter schools in response to concentrated needs throughout Nevada.
- 2** Starting this summer, our application review and authorization recommendations will align with needs as reflected in the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment.
- 3** After completing the initial Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment, the SPCSA will refresh the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment on an annual basis to ensure that SPCSA practices are aligned to and responsive to statewide needs as they evolve.
- 4** We have a lot of hard work to do over the next six months and we must all work together to achieve our goals. We will be working collaboratively with the Department, local school districts, and others as we move forward.

Questions & Next Steps

Questions

- What questions do you have at this time?
- What additional topics would you like to see covered at future board meetings?

Next Steps

- SPCSA will continue stakeholder engagement regarding the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment;
- SPCSA will develop a first draft of the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment and share it with stakeholders for feedback;
- At the June board meeting, SPCSA staff will provide an update on the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment process and provide an Overview of the Growth Management Plan process.

Appendices

Academic performance and demographic data for schools can be found on the Nevada Report Card website:

<http://nevadareportcard.nv.gov/di/>

Opportunity 180 has published a map of school locations in southern Nevada that can be filtered by type of school and school performance level. This map can be found on the Opportunity 180 website:

<https://opportunity180.org/school-map.html>