



Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

AB 462 Implementation Update: Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment

June 28, 2019

Agenda & Objectives

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- Review Requirements of AB 462 & SPCSA Response to Legislation
- Update on Development of Needs Assessment and Growth Management Plan
- Update on Stakeholder Engagement
- Preview of Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment
- Next Steps & Questions

Presentation Objectives

The purpose of this presentation is to provide you with an update on SPCSA's progress since our last meeting as well as a preview of the Academic and Demographics Needs Assessment.

Review: Requirements of Assembly Bill 462

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

- 1 Provide *written notice* to local school district and Department of any notices of intent, new school applications, amendment requests and approvals
- 2 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.
- 3 Submit initial *Growth Management Plan* by **January 1, 2020**
- 4 Complete all *site evaluations* and provide a report to the Legislative Committee on Education by **June 30, 2020**

Review: The SPCSA is creating 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>We will provide a preview of the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment today.</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>We will introduce SPCSA’s plan to develop a Growth Management Plan today.</p> |

Review: Implications for SPCSA authorizing 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

Update on Development of Needs Assessment and Growth Management Plan

We have identified the necessary elements of the Growth Management Plan and will begin to develop it subsequent to approval of the Academic & Demographic Needs Assessment at the July board meeting. As required by AB 462, we must complete the Growth Management Plan by the end of this calendar year.

Develop Growth Management Plan

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

Finalize Needs Assessment

**Update Needs Assessment
with 10/1 Demographics**

We are on track with the production of the Academic & Demographic Needs Assessment and have shared our outline, proposed definitions, and associated implications for authorizing decisions with key district partners and the Department as required by AB 462.

Update on Stakeholder Engagement

Engagement Activities

- Since our last meeting, we shared an overview of the Needs Assessment with all school districts and Nevada Department of Education.
- We subsequently had discussions with representatives from Clark County School District, Washoe County School District, Nevada Department of Education, and City of Henderson

Preliminary Findings

- Generally positive reception with some constructive feedback on tone and a desire for greater clarity in how the needs assessment will inform authorizing decisions
- Suggestions on incorporation of additional data points such as early indicators of high school success
- Some ideas for consideration such as how to include schools on the alternative performance framework

Preview of Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment

Preview of Needs Assessment

Preview of Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment for SPCSA Board

Context
In 2019, the Nevada State Legislature voted to pass Assembly Bill 462. This legislation requires that the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) conduct and incorporate the findings of "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 in this state" into its charter school authorizing decisions. To this end, the SPCSA has conducted an Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment in collaboration with the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) as well as school districts and, moving forward, will conduct this assessment on an annual basis. The purpose of this document is to detail how the SPCSA has defined academic and demographic need and how those findings will impact the charter application process.

The SPCSA believes that this legislation presents an opportunity to enhance its authorizing and accountability practices such that they respond more directly to the needs of Nevada students. The SPCSA staff and board will, as required by AB 462, use the findings of the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment to determine whether a proposed charter school meets a need that exists among Nevada's students. The charter application process will now require that proposals not only satisfy the standards of the charter school application rubric but that they explicitly satisfy one or more of the needs found in the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment.

Identified Needs
AB 462 requires that the Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment evaluate 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 in this state." Accordingly, the SPCSA has defined a set of needs that are:

- supported by rationale (data);
- accompanied by information (maps and/or data) that will be useful for charter operators seeking to open schools and for SPCSA staff and Board reviewing applications for alignment to need;
- reflective of the current context of the State Public Charter School Authority (demographic makeup, locations, density and performance of schools); and
- responsive to the statewide, district and localized educational context.

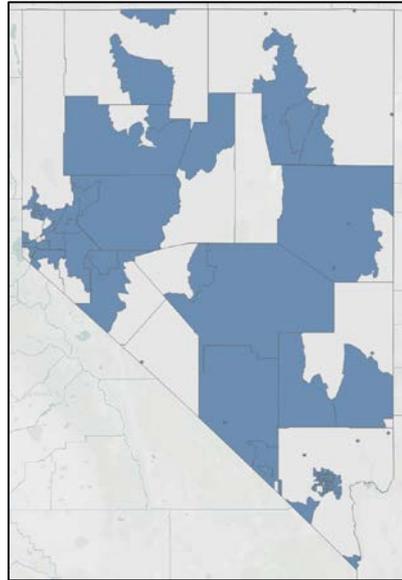
While the definitions of needs are specific, charter applicants will have the flexibility to determine how they would address one or more of the needs, if approved.

1. Demographics (see Appendix A for related statewide data)

- A. Applicants meeting this need will propose a school model that includes demonstrated capacity, credible plans, and thorough research and analysis in order to intentionally serve the following student populations, each of which has been identified by the Nevada Department of Education as persistently underperforming:
- Students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch
 - English Learners
 - Students with IEPs

In addition to meeting the needs of students in the subgroups identified above, strong applicants should demonstrate capacity and plans for enabling students from all backgrounds to achieve academically.

Sample Map Identifying Academic Need



- We are well underway with the needs assessment and have shared with you a preview of the assessment so that you have a sense of where we are heading
- We are in the process of developing a set of detailed maps regarding school quality and student demographics
- We still have a lot of work ahead of us but we are on track to meet the legislative deadline of June 30, 2019

Upcoming Board Meetings

| Board Meeting | Key Items |
|------------------|--|
| July 26, 2019 | Review and Approval of Final Version of Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment (ACTION) Discussion of Linkage Between Needs Assessment and Charter Authorization Requests (DISCUSSION) Consideration of Expansion Amendment Requests (ACTION) |
| August 30, 2019 | Update on Growth Management Plan development process (DISCUSSION) |
| October 4, 2019 | Review of 2018-19 Academic Performance (pending availability of Star ratings) (DISCUSSION) |
| November 1, 2019 | Review of School Demographics (DISCUSSION) Presentation of Draft Growth Management Plan for Feedback (DISCUSSION) Consider Charter school renewals and new school authorizations (otherwise, in December) (ACTION) |
| December 6, 2019 | Review and Approval of Final Version of Growth Management Plan (ACTION) |

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 and finalize document for July meeting;
- At the July board meeting, SPCSA staff will present the final Academic and Demographic Needs Assessment for approval