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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Rebecca Feiden, Executive Director
Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing
SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 7: Recommendations for American Preparatory Academy – Las Vegas Stemming from the Final 2018 – 2019 Nevada School Performance Framework Results
DATE: October 4, 2019

As the Authority is aware, the Nevada Department of Education recently released the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) results for the 2018 – 2019 school year. All public schools in the state of Nevada are issued a star rating when all data points are available.

As a reminder, the Authority has three levels of intervention when schools do not meet academic standards (i.e. a NSPF rating of 3-stars). These levels are as follows:

- Notice of Concern
- Notice of Breach
- Notice of Intent to Terminate

The academic performance of American Preparatory Academy Las Vegas for the last two school years is provided below. While the academic performance of the middle school program remains at the superior level (5-star), the elementary school declined in performance in the 2018 – 19 school year below the three-star threshold.

<u>American Preparatory Academy Las Vegas</u>	<u>2017 – 2018 Index Score</u>	<u>2017 – 2018 Star Rating</u>	<u>2018 – 2019 Index Score</u>	<u>2018 – 2019 Star Rating</u>
Elementary School	87	5-star	46	2-star
Middle School	84.2	5-star	83.8	5-star
High School	Not Rated	Not Rated	45	2-star

Notice of Concern

Due to the elementary school program earning a rating of less than 3-stars for the 2018 – 2019 school year, SPCSA staff recommends that the Authority issue a Notice of Concern to the American Preparatory Academy Las Vegas regarding the elementary school. Given this notice recommendation, SPCSA staff also plans to carefully review the school’s performance plan for the 2019 – 2020 school year. In addition, the school will be required to provide a written update to the SPCSA by February 1, 2020. The report must include:

- Progress to date in implementing the School Performance Plan
- A summary of mid-year assessment performance

No Action Regarding High School

Given some purported issues related to the reported graduation rates, SPCSA staff is recommending no action at this time for the American Preparatory Academy high school, despite the fact that the school earned a 2-star rating. Graduation data for 2019 is to be released in December. SPCSA staff will review that data when it is finalized, and may bring a recommendation to the Authority at that time regarding the high school.

Additionally, per [NRS 388A.367](#), low performing schools are required to notify the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled of the school’s star rating and post written notification on their website, as well as the scores of neighboring zone traditional public schools. Finally, [NRS 388A.367](#) requires the governing body of qualifying public charter schools to hold a public hearing within 30 days of sending out the required notice so as to provide all stakeholders and opportunity to discuss actions and solicit feedback for continued growth and improvement based on the statewide accountability rating system. Staff will monitor compliance with these statutory requirements.

Proposed Motion: *Approve the recommendation of SPCSA Staff to Issue a Notice of Concern to American Preparatory Academy Las Vegas – Elementary and require the school to submit a report by February 1, 2020 which includes progress to date in implementing the school performance plan and a summary of mid-year assessment performance.*