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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 Somerset Academy of 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 Somerset Academy Las Vegas for the last two school years at the Losee, Aliante, North Las Vegas and Sky Pointe campuses is provided below. Note that there are multiple programs within these three campuses that declined in performance in the 2018 – 19 school year.

<u>Somerset Academy of 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>
Losee – Elementary School	52.5	3-star	35.5	2-star
Losee – Middle School	53.5	3-star	35.5	2-star
Losee – High School	Note Rated	Not Rated	29.4	2-star
Aliante – Elementary School	Not Rated	Not Rated	49	2-star
Aliante – Middle School	Not Rated	Not Rated	82.7	5-star
North Las Vegas – Elementary School	40	2-star	43.5	2-star
North Las Vegas – Middle School	57.1	3-star	71.5	4-star
Sky Pointe – Elementary School	70.8	4-star	98.8	5-star
Sky Pointe – Middle School	59.2	3-star	88.8	5-star
Sky Pointe – High School	66.3	3-star	48.8	2-star

Notice of Concern

Due to the elementary programs at the Losee and Aliante campuses and the middle school program at the Losee campus earning a rating of less than 3-stars for the 2018 – 2019 school year, SPCSA staff recommends that the Authority issue Notices of Concern to Somerset Academy regarding the Losee campus elementary and middle schools and the Aliante campus regarding the elementary school. Given these notice recommendations, SPCSA staff also plans to carefully review each school's performance plan for the 2019 – 2020 school year. In addition, each 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

Notice of Breach

Due to the elementary program at the North Las Vegas campus earning a rating of less than 3-stars for the second consecutive year in the 2018 – 2019 school year, SPCSA staff recommends that the Authority issue a Notice of Breach to Somerset Academy regarding the elementary school at the

North Las Vegas campus. 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 present to the Authority in early 2020. The presentation must include:

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

No Action Regarding High Schools

Given some purported issues related to the reported graduation rates, SPCSA staff is recommending no action at this time for both the Somerset Academy Losee and Skye Pointe high school programs, despite the fact that each 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 recommendations to the Authority at that time regarding these schools.

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 Notices of Concern to the Aliante and Losee elementary programs and Losee middle school program at Somerset Academy of Las Vegas 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.*
- *Additionally, approve the recommendation of SPCSA Staff to Issue a Notice of Breach to the North Las Vegas elementary program, and require the school to present to the Authority an update regarding the school's progress against the performance plan and a summary of mid-year assessment performance in early 2020.*