



SOMERSET ACADEMY
OF LAS VEGAS

September 27, 2019

Nevada State Public Charter School Authority Board Members and Staff,

Please accept this correspondence and attachments as additional support materials for Agenda Item 7(k) for your October 4, 2019 Board Meeting. We look forward to speaking with you in person at that meeting and answering any questions about the action plans in place to improve academic performance at Somerset Academy's North Las Vegas Campus Elementary School, Aliante Campus Elementary School, and Losee Campus Elementary and Middle Schools.

While we recognize the need for improvement on these campuses, we are confident that the overall performance of Somerset Academy of Las Vegas demonstrates our ability to progress towards 5-star results at all campuses. Indeed, Somerset Academy's 2018-19 school year featured significant enrollment and academic growth. Some highlights of this year include:

1. The opening of the Aliante Campus and Sky Canyon campus, which achieved a total of three 5-star ratings;
2. A total of Nine 5-Star school ratings across the Somerset Academy Network, at the following campuses:
 - Aliante Campus Middle School
 - Lone Mountain Campus Elementary School
 - Lone Mountain Campus Middle School
 - Skye Canyon Campus Elementary School
 - Skye Canyon Campus Middle School
 - Sky Pointe Campus Elementary School
 - Sky Pointe Campus Middle School
 - Stephanie Campus Elementary School
 - Stephanie Campus Middle School
3. Somerset Academy's Sky Pointe Campus achieved the highest NSPF point-total of any elementary school in the State of Nevada;
4. Somerset Academy's Lone Mountain Campus achieved the fourth highest NSPF point-total of any middle school in the State of Nevada;
5. After installing a new administrator during the course of the 2018-2019 school year at Somerset Academy's North Las Vegas Campus, the Middle School improved from a 3-star to a 4-star rating and the Elementary School's NSPF point-total improved and is trending towards a 3-star performance, and better, in future years.

While these gains are fantastic, we acknowledge that there is a necessity to immediately improve at each of our campuses scoring below 3-stars (indeed, it is the expectation of the Somerset Academy Board

that all schools scoring below 5-stars improve towards the highest level of performance). We believe each of these schools is well positioned to improve in the 2019-2020 school year. Of the three campuses who received a 2-star rating, Aliante Campus is a brand new campus that opened with a new student population and scored 1-point away from a 3-star rating, North Las Vegas Campus underwent a mid-year principal change which has already led to initial academic improvement, and Losee Campus has begun the 2019-2020 school year with a new administrator who is immediately implementing steps for improvement. As such, we are confident that we now have a solid cohort of administrative leaders at all of our Somerset Academy campuses which are working together to ensure best practices and academic excellence at every Somerset Academy Campus.

We appreciate the Staff's recommendation not to issue Notices to Somerset Academy's High Schools. We have reported to SPCSA and DOE staff that Somerset Academy's High School star-ratings are currently based on inaccurate graduation rate data. The circumstances of this reporting issue were shared in the public comment of a previous SPCSA Board Meeting. We are confident that all future graduation reports will demonstrate the success that should have been recognized in prior reports, of graduation rates in excess of 90%.

Attached to this statement please find brief outlines from each of the campuses receiving a 2-star rating for the 2018-2019 school year. As demonstrated in these plans, we are taking significant steps to ensure improved academic performance at our Somerset Academy campuses. We are grateful for this opportunity to address the State Public Charter School Authority Board and Staff, and look forward to working together to further the Somerset Academy mission of providing an equitable, high-quality education for all students.