



## NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

**April 24, 2020**

In compliance with the Governor's Emergency Directive #006, dated March 22, 2020, the April 24, 2020 Meeting of the State Public Charter School Authority was conducted virtually and livestreamed.

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (via video):**

Member Lee Farris  
Member Tamika Shauntee-Rosales  
Member Don Soifer  
Member Holmes-Sutton  
Member Mallory Cyr  
Member Sami Randolph  
Member Sheila Moulton  
Vice Chair Randy Kirner  
Chair Melissa Mackedon

#### **AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT:**

Rebecca Feiden, Executive Director (via video)  
Ryan Herrick, General Counsel (via video)  
Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing (via video)  
Michael Dang, Management Analyst IV (via video)  
Danny Peltier, Management Analyst I (via video)  
Debbie Bowman, Director of Finance and Operations (via phone)

#### **AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jessica LaNeave (via video)  
Biante Gainous (via video)  
Lisa Satory (via video)  
David Blodgett (via phone)  
Jill Schreidl (via video)  
Jennifer McCloskey (via video)

## **Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Mackedon called the meeting to order at 9:04am, with attendance reflected above.

## **Agenda Item 2 – Approval of the March 6, 2020 State Public Charter School Authority Board Action Minutes**

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

*Member Kirner moved to approve the March 6, 2020 State Public Charter School Authority Board Action Minutes. Member Randolph seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

## **Agenda Item 3 – COVID-19 Updates**

Executive Director Rebecca Feiden provided updates regarding the SPCSA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- a. Implementation of Emergency Programs of Distance Education pursuant to Declaration of Emergency Directive 005
- b. Assessments and Accountability
- c. SPCSA Budget

See supporting materials for additional details.

Member Kirner asked how the site evaluations and the requirement to give feedback to the legislature would go given the virtual nature these days.

Executive Director Feiden said they will go forward with those site evaluations in a virtual manner and they anticipate meeting the initial deadline set by the legislature.

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

## **Agenda Item 4 – SPCSA Executive Director's Report**

- a. Executive Director Feiden provided an update regarding the transition of former Achievement School District (ASD) schools to the SPCSA.
  - July 1, 2020 timeline
  - Contracts expected to come before the Board for approval at the May meeting

See supporting materials for additional details.

- b. Director Modrcin provided an update regarding approved expansions for Fall 2020. He added that staff intends to have a brief update from the schools at the May meeting.
  - American Preparatory Academy
  - Mater Academy of Nevada
  - Nevada State High School

See supporting materials for additional details.

- c. Executive Director Feiden provided a summary of the update regarding the approved new charter schools for Fall 2020.
  - Pincrest Academy of Northern Nevada
    - Approved in December with conditions
    - Set to come discuss their transportation plan, given the circumstances staff asked the school to come back in May and provide the written update, see supporting materials.

- d. Executive Director Feiden provided the update regarding the revisions to New Charter School Application.

- Revisions align with AB 462 and the Needs Assessment and Growth Plan, as well as the newly approved Strategic Plan.

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

### **Agenda Item 5 – SPCSA Revolving Loan Application – Girls Athletic Leadership School**

Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing, provided a brief background of Girls Athletic Leadership School (G.A.L.S.) that was approved at the January 31, 2020 meeting under resubmission. He described the details of the revolving loan application, including the review process and staff’s recommendation, which is to approve the application.

Debbie Bowman, Director of Finance and Operations, provided the Board with details on the revolving loan account and the process beyond today. She confirmed that the SPCSA’s loan program has sufficient funds in reserve to fund loans approved by the SPCSA Board, however based on the 2019 Legislature, our ability has been restricted to approve these funds until we make the request through the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) for approval, which they plan to be on the agenda for at the IFC’s June meeting.

Jennifer McCloskey was present on behalf of the school.

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

*Member Moulton made a motion to approve the Revolving Loan Fund Application for \$62,500 for the Girls Athletic Leadership School (G.A.L.S.) according to the repayment terms described in the memo (see supporting materials). If approved, the school will work with an external CPA within 30-days after receiving its first DSA payment later this calendar year to further verify that the school has sound internal financial controls, and provide this documentation to SPCSA staff. Member Soifer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.*

### **Agenda Item 6 – Las Vegas Collegiate Charter School Contract Amendment Application (proposed facility change in the 89106 zip code)**

Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing, provided staff’s recommendation for the amendment application. See supporting materials for the school’s contract amendment application. The primary reason for this amendment is the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Biante Gainous was present on behalf of the school.

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

*Member Moulton moved to approve Las Vegas Collegiate’s Good Cause Exemption request; and approve, with the conditions outlined within the SPCSA Recommendation Memo (see supporting materials), Las Vegas Collegiate’s requests to:*

- *Lease a different facility in the 89106 zip code, specifically located at 1072 W. Bartlett Avenue.*
- *Reduce the enrollment cap for the 2020 – 2021 school year to 135 students, down from 162 students. This would not impact the enrollment caps for future years.*
- *Provide transportation to students beginning in the 2020 – 2021 school year in accordance with state guidelines, laws and regulations.*

*Member Shauntee Rosales seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

## **Agenda Item 7 – Pinecrest Academy of Nevada Charter School Contract Amendment Application (Dual Enrollment Policy Update for 2020-21 school year)**

Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing, turned it over to Mike Dang to provide the remarks along with staff's recommendation.

Mike Dang, Management Analyst IV, presented to the Authority with the school's amendment request and staff's recommendation, which is to approve the request.

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

*Member Kirner made a motion to approve, with conditions described in the SPCSA Recommendation Memo (see supporting materials), Pinecrest Academy of Nevada's request to implement a dual credit program for all eligible high school students enrolled in the Pinecrest Academy of Nevada Las Vegas network. Member Moulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

## **Agenda Item 8 – Growth Management Plan Feedback from the Legislative Committee on Education**

Executive Director Feiden provided the update regarding the proposed changes and additions to the Growth Management Plan responsive to the feedback received from the LCE. See supporting materials for the proposed updates.

Member Farris commented that the addition in the update regarding working with local jurisdictions on traffic and pedestrian safety, he would add parking to that.

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

*Member Moulton made a motion to approve the recommendations made by staff that have been made to the Nevada State Public Charter School Authority's 2020 Growth Management Plan and have said changes incorporated, along with Member Farris' suggestion. Member Kirner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

## **Agenda Item 9 – Biennial Review of Statutes and Regulations**

Executive Director Feiden, provided context regarding the planning process for the next legislative session. The process includes submission of Bill Draft Requests (BDRs). SPCSA's initial BDR is due in May. She provided details on what staff's approach going forward looks like, given the response and recovery to current circumstances. To date, staff has discussed to focus on narrow and meaningful changes. She opened it up to the Board to discuss any issues or items that they believe is important to consider as staff contemplate submission of BDRs.

There was further discussion between the Authority and staff regarding the process.

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

## **Agenda Item 10 – Long-Range Calendar**

Executive Director Feiden discussed its long-range calendar and asked the Authority if there were any additional items they would like to discuss in the coming months. See supporting materials for additional details.

*Member Randolph left the meeting.*

Member Cyr asked about considering programming related to helping kids through the current situation and in preparing for the next school year.

Member Moulton commented that Board training should be kept on the agenda.

Executive Director Feiden replied that she will flag these items for follow up.

*No public comment related to this agenda item.*

**Agenda Item 11 – Public Comment**

Executive Director Feiden confirmed there were no submissions via the email address provided on the notice.

*No public comment.*

**Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.

DRAFT