



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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COVID-19 UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 2020

Reopening for the 2020-21 School Year

Following the Authority’s action on Friday, August 14, 2020, SPCSA staff issued a document summarizing the [COVID-19 In-Person Learning Guidance](#). SPCSA staff provide a weekly update to schools on the status in each county. Below is a summary of the status of each county as of September 25, 2020.

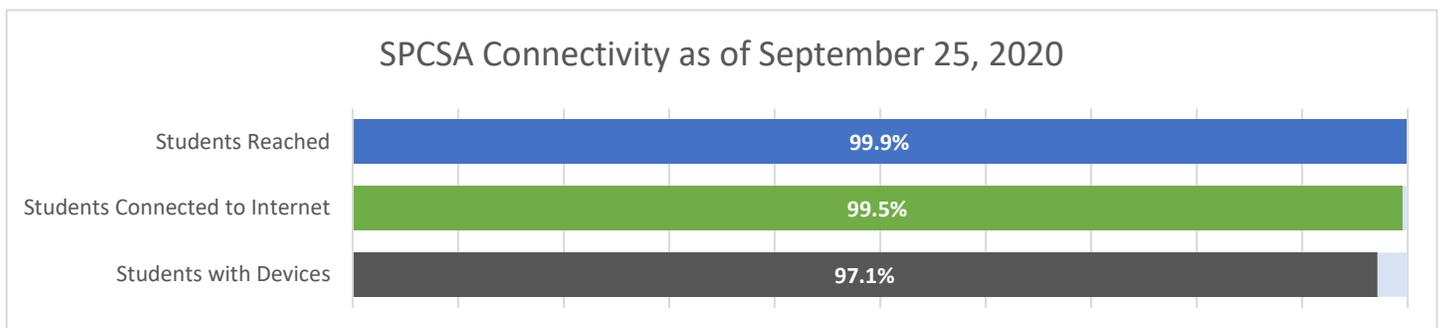
- **Four counties with SPCSA-sponsored charter schools are currently under heightened mitigation: Clark, Churchill, Elko and Washoe Counties.** Charter Schools located in these counties, except with written approval of an exemption from Executive Director Feiden, must operate under a distance education model with an option for limited in person. Recent data has shown a decline in test positivity and case counts in all of these counties. To return to baseline mitigation, counties will need to show sustained weeks in which less than two of the three elevated transmission criteria are met.
- **One county with SPCSA-sponsored charter schools remain at baseline mitigation: White Pine.** Charter schools in these counties may operate under an in-person or hybrid model as long as they maintain compliance with prevailing directives.

Connectivity and Devices

Along with every school district in Nevada and in line with the [Connecting Kids Initiative](#), the SPCSA is working to get 100% of students online. That requires three steps:

1. Reaching every student to determine their needs
2. Ensuring that they have reliable access to the internet
3. Ensuring that they have consistent access to a device

Below is a summary of where charter school students stand as of September 25, 2020.



Monitoring the Impact of COVID-19 Cases

Since the beginning of the 2020-21 school year, the SPCSA has been notified of 36 students or staff members at SPCSA-sponsored schools that have tested positive for COVID-19. In most of these instances, the student or staff member had not been in direct contact with other members of the school community and as a result, less than 50 individuals have been excluded from a charter school campus due to contact with an individual who tested positive.

SPCSA staff are grateful for the ongoing support from the Southern Nevada Health District, the Washoe County Health District, and the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health. These agencies have been highly responsive and supportive in working with SPCSA-sponsored schools that have been notified that a member of their school community has tested positive for COVID-19.