

Notice of Concern Status Update & Data Summary

NV Prep Charter School

September 2021

The most recent available Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) ratings are based on student achievement and growth data from the Spring 2019 Smarter Balanced Assessment. At that time, the NV Prep Elementary School was issued a 2-star rating, and the NV Prep middle school was issued a 5-star rating, with the highest overall academic growth of any Nevada middle school. Since that time, NV Prep has been operating under a notice of academic concern, including submitting regular reports of academic progress. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, no new star ratings or high-stakes tests have been administered since the 2018-19 school year, so the school has continued to operate under the notice of concern but has been unable to demonstrate any more recent improved performance on public, high-stakes tests.

NV Prep acknowledges a need to improve in *all* areas, and we hold ourselves to high standards, however, the following context about the 2-star notice of concern school may also be helpful:

- NV Prep ES during 2018-19 was comprised of two small 5th grade classrooms, with 39 total students. Most of these students have moved on to NV Prep MS, a 5-star school, for the subsequent three years and are currently enrolled in our 8th grade class, preparing to apply for high schools in the next few months.
- The median student growth in Mathematics for the NV Prep elementary school receiving the notice of concern was the 76th percentile. This means a “typical” NV Prep scholar in that class grew more than 76% of their peers in mathematics during the preceding year.
- 17% of NV Prep ES scholars were proficient or advanced in science based on the 2018-19 science exam. This is a far cry from where NV Prep wants its scholars to be, and we are aggressively working to ensure that our scholars achieve excellent results in science across all grade levels, but this is also significantly higher than the elementary schools where our scholars are zoned to attend. Having only 5th grade enrolled (without 3rd and 4th grade means that science proficiency is weighted more heavily, as 33% of a school’s proficiency calculation, rather than 14% of the school’s proficiency calculation. NV Prep ES scholars take a science or social studies class every day, meaning they receive significantly more science instruction that is required by law or what is offered at most elementary schools.

Winter 2021 is the most recently completed NWEA MAP testing window for NV Prep scholars. Data from that assessment is summarized in the prior academic status report NV Prep submitted to the SPCSA in April 2021, so the data are not included again here, but school staff is happy to discuss those details further. NV Prep is currently in the Fall 2021 testing window and has tested most scholars. Some make-up testing remains, and the school is happy to share that MAP data with the SPCSA when it is available, but because of the high number of new students at NV Prep this year, the Fall 2021 MAP data will largely be used for diagnostic purposes.

A summary of the school's progress in attendance and absenteeism is also summarized in the April 2021 version of this report, so it is not re-stated here. In summary, some scholars were chronically absent in 2018-19 due largely to absences between August and October of that year. After launching school bus transportation in October 2018, absences significantly decreased, but by this point some scholars had already missed enough days to qualify for the chronically absent designation of 10% of school days missed.

High School Access:

NV Prep reported preliminary high school access data in its May 2021 report. This is not elementary school data, per se, but it is relevant to the elementary school discussion because the scholars whose data resulted in the notice of academic concern are currently participating in the 8th grade high school access process at NV Prep. High school admissions data is not tracked or reported by a third party, but based on internally surveys of NV Prep's first class of alumni, the following results are

At least 35 of 89 alumni have received an offer to attend a selective private high school and have secured an estimated \$600,000 in scholarships for tuition. At least 40 alumni have received an offer to attend a competitive CCSD magnet school. These alumni return to NV Prep's campus for quarterly reunion events to receive additional support.

Spring 2021 SBAC Performance:

At the end of the 2020-21 school year, NV Prep operated in an almost entirely virtual model, with a full, synchronous online class schedule each day. SBAC testing was offered on campus only, so families were encouraged to bring scholars to campus for SBAC, but NV Prep clearly communicated to families that no scholars would be penalized for not taking SBAC. As a result, test participation was much lower than it has been in prior years, but the majority of scholars did participate in SBAC, with more than 71% participating in SBAC.

The elementary school students included in the data below are from two cohorts:

- **Fourth graders** in their first year at NV Prep. Their full school year was spent in a primarily virtual learning model. They never attended a traditional face-to-face lesson at NV Prep prior to this SBAC test because they enrolled at NV Prep after the arrival of COVID-19.
- **Fifth graders**, some of whom enrolled new at NV Prep for 2020-21 which was primarily a virtual learning model, and some of whom who enrolled in 2019-20, the year that started face-to-face, before transitioning to virtual learning in March 2020. Most of these scholars attended a partial face-to-face school year at NV Prep the year prior to this SBAC test.

NV Prep ES English Language Arts (4 th and 5 th Grade only are included here)					
	Minimal Understanding	Partial Understanding	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient or Advanced
Nevada	38%	20%	24%	17%	41%
CCSD	43%	20%	22%	16%	38%
NV Prep	54%	15%	26%	5%	31%

NV Prep ES Math (4 th and 5 th Grade only are included here)					
	Minimal Understanding	Partial Understanding	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient or Advanced
Nevada	46%	28%	17%	10%	26%
CCSD	53%	26%	14%	7%	21%
NV Prep	73%	12%	12%	3%	15%

The middle school data below are provided as a reference because this data includes the scholars whose data produced the two-star rating and academic notice of concern from 2018-19.

NV Prep MS ELA					
	Minimal Understanding	Partial Understanding	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient or Advanced
Nevada	27%	29%	32%	11%	43%
CCSD	32%	29%	30%	10%	41%
NV Prep	25%	38%	24%	13%	37%

NV Prep MS Math					
	Minimal Understanding	Partial Understanding	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient or Advanced
Nevada	48%	28%	15%	9%	24%
CCSD	27%	29%	32%	11%	39%
NV Prep	51%	25%	16%	9%	25%

* Fewer than 41% of CCSD middle school students were tested in either subject in the data above.

* Roughly 59% of Nevada middle school students overall were tested in either subject in the data above.

Headlines for further improvement planning:

- In September 2021, NV Prep opened its permanent campus at 1780 Betty Lane. Since September 7, 2021, a full, face-to-face class schedule has been in effect. Returning to classrooms for in-person instruction and interventions is by far the most important step NV Prep can take toward improving student performance and accelerating student learning.
- The school is allocating funds from various, incredibly valuable ESSER grant sources for additional technology, additional support and intervention teachers, and a virtual learning liaison who conducts home visits and provides frequent support to families of scholars who need to learn from home temporarily or longer-term due to individual health and safety needs.
- For the 2021-22 school year, NV Prep hired an experienced leader specifically tasked with managing the Multiple Tiers of Support (MTSS) process to identify and address scholars academic, social-emotional, behavioral, and other needs.
- With the return to on-campus learning NV Prep is able to more fully implement its power hour intervention model, in which all scholars who have not yet exceeded standards attend a supplemental math and ELA class each school day. During this time, scholars receive individualized support or work on targeted digital learning programs.