

NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

January 27, 2017

Nevada Department of Education
Board Room
Carson City, Nevada

And

Nevada Department of Education
2nd Floor Board Room
Las Vegas, Nevada

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Adam Johnson
Nora Luna
Stavan Corbett
Melissa Mackedon

In Carson City:

Jason Guinasso

Teleconference:

None

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Jacob Snow

AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Patrick Gavin, Director, State Public Charter School Authority
Brian Scroggins, Deputy Director, State Public Charter School Authority
Nya Berry, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority
Joan Jurgensen, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority

In Carson City:

Angela Blair, Education Program Professional
Tanya Osborne, Administrative Assistant III
Danny Peltier, Management Analyst I

LEGAL STAFF PRESENT:**In Las Vegas**

Robert Whitney, Deputy Attorney General
Greg Ott, Deputy Attorney General

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE:**In Las Vegas:**

Attendance Sheet Attached

In Carson City:

See attached

CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; APPROVAL OF AGENDA**Agenda Item 1 – Public Comment**

Pat Hickey, executive director of the Charter School Association of Nevada, updated the Authority regarding CSAN latest activities and welcomed the opportunity to be able to work with the Authority in the future. Chris O'Neil, board chairman of Athlos of Reno, thanked the board for the efforts and feedback from staff. He said they look forward to revising and resubmitting their charter application based on the feedback that was given. Patricia Lee spoke in opposition of the issuance of the notice of closure for Nevada Connections Academy. Chris **Orm** spoke about the Quest Academy/Tower Properties rent payment dispute. Rich Moreno, chair of Founders Academy, updated the Authority that Founders Academy was choosing to have a developer build a building as opposed to the school itself. Braxton Pacatte, parent of Doral student, expressed his displeasure with the Doral Academy Charter School in Las Vegas. Caitlin Droogermueller, student at NCA, spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA. Linda Mirkil, parent NCA, spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA. Jessica Mirkil spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA. David Mirkel, spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA. Laura Granier, attorney representing NCA, spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA. Steve Werlien, principal of NCA, spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA. Mathew Wicks, vice president of policy and data analysis Connections Education, spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA. Angela Smith, counselor at NCA, spoke in opposition to the issuance of a notice of closure for NCA.

Chair Johnson called for a flexible agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of the October 21, 2016, November 4, 2016 and December 12, 2016 SPCSA Action Minutes

The Authority had no discussion or questions regarding the item.

Vice Chair Mackedon moved for approval of the October 21, 2016, November 4, 2016 and December 12, 2016 SPCSA Action Minutes. Member Luna seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 6 - Consideration of the expedited renewal of Oasis Academy

Executive Director Gavin detailed the expedited renewal of Oasis Academy.

Member Corbett moved for approval of staff's recommendation to renew Oasis Academy's charter. Member Luna seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. Vice Chair Mackedon abstained.

Agenda Item 7 - Consideration of expedited renewal application of Imagine Mountain View

Executive Director Gavin detailed the expedited renewal of Imagine Mountain View.

Vice Chair Mackedon moved for approval of the renewal of Imagine Mountain View. Member Corbett seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 13 - Consideration and possible action of the Legacy Traditional Academy of North Las Vegas charter amendment request to add facilities

Executive Director Gavin detailed Legacy Traditional's request to add facilities. He discussed some of the reasoning why Legacy needed additional campuses and answered questions from Authority members.

Member Corbett moved for approval of staff recommendation to allow Legacy Traditional Academy to add additional facilities. Member Luna seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 - Consideration of Athlos Academy of Reno charter application

Executive Director Gavin gave his report regarding Athos Academy of Reno's charter application. He, along with members of Athos Academy's committee to form, answered questions from Authority members.

Member Luna moved for approval of staff's recommendation to deny Athos Academy of Reno's charter application and invite the committee to form to resubmit the application in 30 days. Member Corbett seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 - Consideration of Mater Academy of Northern Nevada's charter application

Executive Director Gavin detailed staff's recommendation. Members of Mater Academy of Northern Nevada's committee to form, Academica employees and current staff of Mater Academy of Las Vegas also discussed their plan for the school and answered questions the Authority had.

Member Corbett moved to accept staff recommendation for approval of Mater Academy of Northern Nevada's charter application with specific conditions listed in the recommendation report. Vice Chair Mackedon seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 10 - Discovery Academy issuance of notice pursuant to NRS 388A.330 (f)

Executive Director Gavin explained staff's recommendation report regarding Discovery and its inclusion on the Nevada Department of Education's under performing schools list. He answered questions from Authority members.

Member Guinasso moved pursuant to NRS 388A.330(f) and NAC 386.330 that directs SPCSA staff to issue a notice of intent to revoke the written charter agreement of Discovery Charter School based on the identification from the Nevada Department of Education's identification of the school performing in the bottom 5% of elementary and middle schools during the 2015-2016 accountability year. Member Corbett seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 14 - Quest Academy and Silver State Charter School receiver update

No action taken.

Chair Johnson left the meeting. Vice Chair Mackedon took over as chair.

Agenda Item 11 - Silver State Charter School issuance of notice pursuant to NRS 388A.330 (f)

No action taken.

Agenda Item 9 - Beacon Academy issuance of notice pursuant to NRS 388A.330 (e)

No action taken.

Agenda Item 8 - Nevada Connections Academy issuance of notice pursuant to NRS 388A.330 (e)

Executive Director Gavin discussed NCA's graduation rate as determined by the Nevada Department of Education and the reasoning why a notice of intent to terminate the charter contract would be needed. He then answered additional questions from Authority members.

Member Guinasso moved to direct SPCSA staff to issue a notice of intent pursuant to NRS 388A.330(e) and NAC 386.330 based on the Nevada Department of Education identification of Nevada Connections Academy failure to meet the 60% graduation rate. Member Corbett seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 15 - Kathleen Conaboy recognition of service to the State Public Charter School Authority board

No action taken.

Agenda Item 3 - Update on Applications received from Winter Application Cycle

No action taken.

Agenda Item 16 - Legislative Task Force

Executive Director Gavin detailed the reasoning by the SPCSA to appoint Authority members to a legislative task force to speak on behalf of the Authority during the 2017 legislative session.

Member Corbett moved for the appointment of Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Mackedon and Member Guinasso to serve on the legislative task force for the 2017 Legislative session. Member Guinasso seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Member Corbett left the meeting. There was no quorum upon his departure, but no other action items were heard by the Authority for the remainder of the meeting.

Agenda Item 12 – Update on regulation approval, Governor’s recommended budget and Bill drafts for the 2017 Legislative session

No action taken.

Agenda Item 18 – Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Vice Chair Mackedon adjourned at 2:59pm