

NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

July 29, 2016

Legislative Building
Room 2135
Carson City, Nevada

And

Grant Sawyer Building
Room 4400
Las Vegas, Nevada

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Adam Johnson
Melissa Mackedon
Nora Luna
Jacob Snow
Stavan Corbett

In Carson City:

Kathleen Conaboy

Teleconference:

Jason Guinasso

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Robert Whitney, Deputy Attorney General
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:

Danny Peltier, Management Analyst I, State Public Charter School Authority
Tanya Osborne, Administrative Assistant, State Public Charter School Authority

LEGAL STAFF PRESENT:**In Las Vegas:**

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

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

Attendance Sheet Attached

In Carson City:

Attendance Sheet Attached

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

Chris Orme an attorney at Hutchison and Steffen spoke about representing a company called Tower Distribution Center, which is the landlord for Quest Academy. Noah Stevens talked about Coral Academy of Science and will be the principal the new school Centennial Hills Campus. Tamara Hammer spoke as a parent at Coral Academy of Science and would love to see an expansion. Zachary Hammer is a student at Coral Academy and enjoys going to school there. Ben Salkowe spoke as the principal of Equipo Academy and wanted to share some information about the school. Yolanda Flores, principal at Coral Academy, Sandy Ridge Campus to talk about being thankful for consideration on the expansion.

Member Mackedon moved for a flexible agenda. Member Luna seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 11 – Consideration and possible action of the Founders Academy charter contract amendment request to add one or more Educational Management Organizations.

Director Gavin spoke about what defines an educational management organization as for-profit business, organization or other entity that provides services related to the operation and management of charter schools and achievement charter schools.

Member Guinasso moved to table this agenda item to the next scheduled meeting. Member Conaboy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 – Update and discussion of the NACSA agency recommendations

Elisa Westapher the Director of Authorizer Development and Larry Stanton with NACSA spoke about the visit with staff and talked about the strategic plan for SPCSA.

Member Mackedon moved to approve NACSA’s recommendation regarding staffing changes including those specifically required by statute and direct staff to appeal to the governor’s office for consideration of these investments in the agency budget question. Member Conaboy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 16 – Authorization for the Agency to budget and charge up to 2 percent to support NACSA business findings and ongoing discussions regarding Agency budget request.

Director Gavin talked about the agency budget.

Member Luna moved to approve and go ahead and authorize the agency to budget and charge up to 2 percent to support NACSA’s business findings. Member Snow seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Items 5 – Consideration and possible action on the America Leadership Academy charter application

Eric Makli Scholer, Megan Curtis and Melissa Hartman all board members spoke for American Leadership Academy and opening the school.

Member Mackedon moved to approve with conditions to be addressed prior to the execution of the charter contract. Member Snow seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 6 - Consideration and possible action on the Nevada Academy of Sciences and Arts charter application.

Director Gavin has asked for denial from the board.

Chair Johnson made a motion that the Authority follow staff recommendation for denial. Member Luna seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 7 – Consideration and possible action of the Nevada State High School Meadowood charter application.

Director Gavin spoke in approving with conditions to be addressed with staff.

Member Mackedon moved to approve the application under the condition that items discussed are worked out with staff prior to executing the contract. Member Snow seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 8 – Consideration and possible action on the Nevada State High School Sunrise charter application.

Director Gavin spoke in approving with conditions to be addressed with staff.

Member Mackedon moved to approve the campus with conditions being met and approved by staff before executing the contract. Member Conaboy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 9 – Consideration and possible action on Coral Academy of Science Expansion Amendment application.

Director Gavin would like to recommend approval of amendment.

Member Mackedon moved to approve staff’s recommendation, approve with conditions. Member Snow seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 10 – Consideration and possible action on the Somerset Academy amendment request.

Director Gavin would like to approve the amendment.

Member Snow moved to follow staff’s recommendation for approval subject to any conditions. Member Conaboy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 12 – Quest Academy and Silver State Charter School receiver update.

Josh Kern spoke about Quest Academy and Silver State Charter School receiver and a brief update on both schools.

Agenda Item 13 – Update and possible action regarding staff discussions with Nevada Connections Academy regarding school's plan for improvement. The Board will receive an update on and may discuss the status of discussions between SPCSA staff and School officials and attorneys regarding the school's efforts to develop a plan of improvement. The Board may register approval or disapproval of the plan or direct staff to take further action or require adjustments to the plan.

Director Gavin spoke about a plan that was presented by the school, updated metrics and measurements for each year of the next several years.

Member Mackedon moved to recommend the approval of these goals contingent upon the school entering into a charter contract which contains terms agreeable to both parties. Member Corbett seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 14 - Update and possible action regarding staff discussions with Beacon Academy regarding school's plan for improvement. The Board will receive an update on and may discuss the status of discussions between SPCSA staff and School officials and attorneys regarding the school's efforts to develop a plan of improvement. The Board may register approval or disapproval of the plan or require adjustments to the plan.

Director Gavin spoke about the staff report related to Beacon’s graduation rate improvement plan.

Member Luna moved that we approve staff's recommendation as stated. Member Corbett seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Consent Approval

Information concerning the following consent agenda items has been provided to Board members for study prior to the meeting. Unless a Board member has a question concerning a particular item and asks that it be withdrawn from the consent list, items are approved through one action.

(Adam Johnson, Chair, SPCSA) (*Information/Discussion/Action*)

- Possible Approval of the ACT Aspire Contract
- Possible Approval of the Charter Application Timeline

Director Gavin spoke regarding the consent approval.

Member Mackedon moved to approve the consent agenda items. Member Conaboy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of the June 24, 2016 SPCSA Action Minutes

Member Mackedon moved to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2016 SPCSA Action minutes. Member Corbett seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 15 - Update, discussion and possible action regarding the State Public Charter School Authority's Strategic Plan

Director Gavin spoke about the strategic plan and the goals for 2020.

Member Mackedon moved to approve goal number one. Member Luna seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 17 – Public Comment #2

None

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at: 2:45.