## **Silver State Charter Schools**

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April 25, 2017

Dear Mr. Gavin:

Please accept this letter on behalf of Silver State Charter Schools (alternatively "Silver State or School") as the School's formal request to change its name from Silver State Charter Schools to Argent Preparatory Academy.

As you know, Silver State went through a charter revocation proceeding last year. Although the charter revocation proceeding was eventually resolved with my appointment as receiver for Silver State, the public process has tarnished the school's reputation in the community. As a result, the School is finding it difficult to recruit quality faculty and staff for next year. The School's current administration frequently receives this negative feedback from prospective parents, students, faculty and staff citing nothing more than a vague understanding of the events of last year.

Over the last several months, Silver State has made many significant improvements to its personnel, policies, and operations. The School has an entirely new administrative team, including a new principal, academic advisor, dean, and chief financial officer. Additionally, the School has successfully concluded a long-standing litigation matter with the Nevada Teachers' Union and received an extension on its facility note with Bank of America. The School completed a major student data cleanup effort that, among other things, resulted in a much improved student graduation rate. Finally, just last week the School was recommended for accreditation to the Northwest Accreditation Commission Board.

The school also has undergone an extensive review of its program. The completed comprehensive performance audit of the School examined several key factors in school performance including; student achievement and accountability measures, staffing structures and processes, instructional and academic programs, enrollment, and operations and compliance systems.

Based on this completed performance audit, Silver State is in the beginning stages of completing a charter amendment application that will address certain aspects of the School's mission, vision, program, curriculum, and attendance policy. As part of that process the School continues to research other high performing online and distance education models. We hope to submit the charter amendment application to the SPCSA this fall.

The primary reason for requesting the name change now is to avoid the negative publicity and tarnished image of the School during the faculty and student recruitment season. If the SPCSA approves this request, or deems that it is not required to approve the request, then the School will immediately submit the request to the Court to the extent court approval is required.

If the name change is approved, the School will change the exterior sign, letterhead, website, and other public relations materials to reflect the new name. We anticipate the total cost for all of these changes to be relatively small--between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours.

Joshua Kern

Court-Appointed Receiver, Silver State Charter Schools