

**NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY**

**September 28, 2015**

Grant Sawyer Building  
555 East Washington  
Room 4412  
Las Vegas, Nevada

And

Legislature  
401 South Carson Street  
Room 2135  
Carson City, Nevada

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**In Las Vegas:**

Kathleen Conaboy  
Robert McCord  
Adam Johnson  
Melissa Mackedon  
Elissa Wahl  
Marc Abelman  
Nora Luna

**In Carson City:**

None

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

**AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT:**

**In Las Vegas:**

Patrick Gavin, Director, State Public Charter School Authority  
Joan Jurgensen, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority  
Nya Berry, Education Programs Professional, State Public Charter School Authority  
Traci House, Business Process Analyst, State Public Charter School Authority

**In Carson City:**

Jessica Hoban, Administrative Services Officer, State Public Charter School Authority

Angela Blair, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority  
Kathy Robson, Education Program Professional, State Public Charter School Authority  
Katie Higday, Management Analyst, State Public Charter School Authority  
Danny Peltier, Administrative Assistant, State Public Charter School Authority

**LEGAL STAFF PRESENT:**

**In Carson City:**

Greg Ott, 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**

President Conaboy called the meeting to order at 9:05am with attendance as reflected above.

Member McCord asked for a motion for a flexible agenda. Chair Conaboy agreed and called for a motion for a flexible agenda. Member Van motioned for flexible agenda, Member McCord seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Agenda Item 1 – Public Comment**

John Hawk, Nevada State High School spoke in support of the early renewal policy being presented to the Authority and offered a few suggestions for further improvement. He said the Authority should consider working that will allow for future changes to the framework and accountability systems. He also offered some other edits that can be found as an attachment to these minutes.

Boone Kragen, Doral Academy, spoke about the charter school expansion policy. He said the testing requirements may contribute to burnout among students who are already asked to test a lot. He said the testing would also add financial burden to schools who may not be equipped to handle the financial increase in the budget. Member McCord asked if the amount of testing Mr. Kragen was claiming was in fact the amount of time students would be testing, or the amount of time the school would be proctoring. Mr. Kragen said the testing time was what students would actually be spending doing the tests.

Renee Fairless, Mater Academy, spoke in support of the Authority and its continued mission. She said that her parents and students were impressed with the professionalism of the Authority board and encouraged the Authority to continue to work on behalf of students in Nevada.

Steve Werlien, Nevada Connections Academy, spoke in support of the quarterly principals meetings among charter schools, which had begun the previous week. He encouraged all charter schools to continue their involvement in the meetings and said he hoped the schools could work together to address issues that were common amongst charter schools across the state.

Kit Kotler, Silver State Charter Schools, spoke in favor of Silver State Charter School. Her comments follow: Good afternoon. I am Dr. Kit Kotler, the new Executive Director, Academics, at SSCS. I hold a Masters in Teaching and Learning and a Doctorate in Education Administration. My area of expertise is in curriculum and instruction, specifically in school turnaround, and particularly in urban student achievement. In Detroit, our school won the Governor's Award for Academic Achievement when the plan I devised for increasing urban student achievement started at 22% proficient and grew to above 75% proficient in all grades and subjects tested, within three years' time. In Toledo, I turned around a High School Drop Out Prevention and Recovery School to the extent that their Performance Index (measuring Math and ELA improvement) increased by 12 points in less than 1 year. Meanwhile, across the nation the performance index increased during the same time period by only 1.5%---a huge difference. In May of this year I asked God/the Universal Force/Allah, or whatever term one prefers to use to send me to the school that needed me most---anywhere in the country. So...here I am at Silver State Charter Schools. Let me tell you what I know about Silver State Charter Schools in the five weeks I've been with the school:

- It is the oldest charter school in the state. SSCS opened in 2004.
- It is, I believe, the only charter school that busses students to and from school across several counties
- Our teacher to student ratio is 1:8-probably the best ratio in the state

- Many of our students graduate early which shows as a “drop out” under current report card statistics
- Our governing board has completely changed over in the past year. There is only one board member with more than one year’s experience
- The administration of the school has completely changed over the past two months, giving much opportunity for growth and improvement
- We have some of the most talented teachers I have ever seen in my 30 years in the field.

Let me tell you what I’ve heard about Silver State Charter Schools in the five short weeks I’ve been here:

- It consistently underperforms
- They have been allowed to run things into the ground for the past twelve years
- They are going to be closed

Being a researcher by nature and occupation, I decided to look into the allegations myself, using two sources: The 2013-2014 Nevada Report Card and our 2014 Accreditation Report. Here’s what I found (and this does relate directly to our request for the three amendments proposed, so thank you for your patience):

- Our special education population, at 23%, is more than twice as high as the state’s rate of 11.50%
- Our transiency rate of 70% is over 2 times that of the state’s rate of only 27%.
- Our credit deficiency rate is 16 times higher than the state’s rate in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and considerably higher than the state in grades 10, 11, and 12. This tells me that the achievement problem among our students started long ago, in traditional public schools-not as a result of attending our charter school.
- Yes, our graduation rate is considerably lower than that of the state due to the high number of “at risk” students we serve, although 90% of our students graduate with a standard diploma vs. the state rate of only 63%.

In terms of standards-based test performance...

- In Reading, the state showed 14% of students exceeding standards; our rate in the same category is only one point lower, at 13% of students exceeding Reading standards.
- In Writing, the state showed 3% of students exceeding standards; again, we showed just one point less at 2% of students exceeding standards.
- In Mathematics, we exceeded the state in meeting standards at 58% as compared to 54%.
- In Science, we met the identical rate as the state at 70% of students meeting standards.

So, rather than consistently labeling Silver State Charter Schools as “persistently underperforming” as I have heard from your organization on several occasions and as is indicated on the recommendation to the board on page 116 of the support documents, perhaps the facts could be considered. The facts support our allegation that we score as well as the state, in spite of the fact that we have twice the special education population as the state, twice their transient rate, and 16 times the state’s credit deficiency rate at 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

The facts support our allegation that Silver State Charter Schools manages to score relatively equivalent to the state academically, despite spending nearly \$2,000 less per pupil and with 90% of our students earning a standard high school diploma vs. the state’s rate of only 63%.

Finally, Nevada’s “star system” allots thirty points (almost a third of total points available) to “student growth,” yet neither of the two supposed measures of student growth listed are nationally accepted or

research-based and approved methods of actually measuring student growth. Three methods are nationally accepted and research-based: Student Growth Percentiles, Student Learning Objectives, and Value Added Measurements (Sanders & Rivers, 1996; Sherrer, 2011; Stronge, 2010; American Institutes of Research, 2014 & 2015; Silver State Charter Schools will pilot Student Learning Objectives in Term 2, beginning in mid-October. When you consider closing charter schools, please be very careful that the data you are relying on to make these decisions is both reliable and accurate. I submit that both are questionable at the present time. Your decisions can hurt children, as well as help them. Please be so very careful.

In terms of Mr. Gavin's admirable goal to possess only a portfolio of "high performing charter schools" the reality is that the state's demographics prohibit a majority of school's (state or charter) from being categorized as "high performing" at this point in time. It will take a deep understanding of the challenges faced by Nevada's students-and a willingness to tackle those challenges with creativity and a sense of camaraderie around the state-among NDE, authorizers, the Governor's office, SPCSA, and others to resolve these issues. Rather than closing schools (unless you plan to close all of the state's schools that are scoring at the equivalent of SSCS), then my suggestion is that we all collaborate to solve problems, rather than punishing students who are at-risk and/or alternative students-which could reasonably be interpreted as discrimination.

#### **Agenda Item 2 - Approval of August 24, 2015 SPCSA Board Meeting Minutes**

Member Johnson motioned for approval. Member Luna seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Agenda Item 3 – Authority Update**

Prior to beginning the Authority Update, Chair Conaboy asked Deputy Attorney General Ott if she could include two agenda items scheduled later in the meeting in her report for time's sake. Mr. Ott said he saw no problem since both items were for information only.

Chair Conaboy said Member McCord had reached out to West Ed to assist the Authority in developing a process for the evaluation of the Executive Director. Chair Conaboy asked Member Abelman, Member Mackedon and Member Johnson to work with WestEd to begin the development process. She also spoke about the Request for Proposal that had been released by SPCSA staff for a consultant to assist staff with the organizational and operational functions of the agency. Chair Conaboy said the Authority is still planning to have the board retreat, but it would be revisited at a later time due to the amount of work currently being conducted. Chair Conaboy concluded that all of the reappointments have not been made for the Authority and until those are complete the Authority would not hold elections for Board officers.

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Director's Report**

Director Gavin said due to time, he did not have any items to discuss before the board.

#### **Agenda Item 11 - Update on Quest Academy Forensic Audit report and staff recommendation for action regarding possible additional oversight, further investigation, or other actions deemed necessary by the board as authorized by statute or charter contract**

Member Abelman recused himself from the discussion.

ADD QUEST REC REPORT

Chair Conaboy asked representatives of Quest Academy to speak about staff's recommendation report.

Deb Roberson, Jennifer Anlange, and Terri Barber spoke on behalf of Quest Academy. Ms. Barber began by speaking about the actions the current Quest board had undertaken in response to decisions made by previous governing board members. She said the current board is working with vendors, staff and other interested parties to help fix the financial mismanagement of the previous governing board members. She said the school had replaced Sprint with Cox Cable to save on the technology costs that would have been paid to Sprint. She said the school is also terminating leases at the Azure Business office along with adjusting leases at other properties Quest uses. She said the school had implemented a payment plan with PERS to make up the missing payments owed to the teachers. She said the current board has created a financial and audit subcommittee to assist in managing the changes in the financial management of the school. Ms. Barber said Deloitte representatives were happy with the progress the school had been made. Ms. Barber said the school is more than willing to work with the Authority to fix the problems the previous governing boards of the school. She said the school is in support of the school being placed under receivership to clean up the financial mistakes of the school.

Ms. Roberson said Quest is staffed by exceptional educators and continues to be staffed by dedicated people. She asked the Authority to allow the current governing board to clean up the problems the previous board had. She said she hopes the Authority would not need to place the school under receivership, which may impact the education the school provides. Member Wahl asked for clarification with regard to Quest's request not to be placed under receivership. Ms. Roberson says her hesitation was with the uncertainty of being placed under receivership and how that would impact the school. She said she was also concerned with the financial impact of the receiver would be for the school. Member Wahl asked Director Gavin to clarify the expectations of the receivership.

Director Gavin said the school would lose its autonomy and if the school was not placed under receivership, he would recommend the school be closed. Member Luna asked about the timeline of the receivership. Director Gavin said he would have a more defined timeline upon the implementation of the receiver. Director Gavin said the main responsibility of the receiver would be for them to ensure the school meets its academic responsibilities through the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year. Chair Conaboy asked if the receiver would be a CPA Director Gavin said he did not have the details on the receiver at the time of this meeting. Chair Conaboy asked how the interaction between the receiver and SPCSA staff would work. Director Gavin said the receiver would be the acting representative of the school and would interact with SPCSA staff in that capacity. Member Johnson asked Ms. Roberson is she was opposed to the concept of the receivership as opposed to the uncertainty it would bring. Ms. Roberson said the school was not opposed to a third party being brought in to assist the school with its financial management. Her main concern is the uncertainty of what the school would be asked to do under receivership. She was unclear if that meant the current board would be dissolved or if she would lose academic control if the school were placed under the receiver. Director Gavin said that at the current time the only guarantee he would be willing to make to Quest Academy would be that the receiver would ensure the school completes the 2015-2016 school year.

Member Mackedon asked if the receiver would have control over academic decision making. She envisioned a scenario where the receiver identified financial issues with academic content which could disrupt the academic implementation at the school. Director Gavin said that could be a possibility depending on the findings of the receiver.

Member McCord said he felt a timeline would be very important to clarifying what the receiver was expected to complete. He said this would provide clarity to both Quest's governing board and the Authority itself. However, he said the school had many problems in the past with financial management and it would be no guarantee the school would remain open or be allowed to end its receivership. He did

commend the school on the recent decisions made and hoped the school would continue to examine its deficiencies and recommend changes appropriately.

**Member Mackedon moved for approval of the two part recommendation of SPCSA staff:**

**Because the auditors received no cooperation from the CFEF entity which claimed it was not subject to auditors requests for information, but significant public money continues to flow from the school to this foundation that was established by former board members, staff is directed to forward the audit results to the Attorney General's public integrity unit for further investigation of any issues raised in the audit results and because the audit revealed a pattern of self-dealing transactions by past members of this schools board, and because the ramifications of those decisions continue to impact the school, staff is directed to take immediate actions to work with the school for the installment of a receiver as soon as possible.**

**Member McCord seconded. There was no discussion. The motion carried unanimously. Member Abelman abstained.**

**Agenda Item 10 - Silver State Amendment request pursuant to NAC 386.325**

Director Gavin said Silver State Charter School seeks approval to change the school schedule and operating structure of the school mid-year. The school, which is among the lowest performing in the state and has a written charter which is scheduled to expire at the end of the 2015-16 school year, is in receipt of Notices of Breach due to both academic and organizational performance. The school, which has a new leader, is seeking to move from a 4 day school week to a 5-day school week and is seeking to convert the school from an open campus program with a more flexible student schedule to a closed campus program with a more structured approach. There has been some staff and student objection to this mid-year change.

**Analysis:**

The school's history of poor performance in multiple domains is well documented and it has been evident for some time that the school needed to make dramatic changes to reverse its trajectory. From a general programmatic perspective, the proposed changes seem reasonable and, had they been implemented in prior years, might well have resulted in some improvement in the school's academic performance. It is important to note, however, that there will be little or no opportunity for the school to provide sufficient valid and reliable data on the impact of this change prior to any decision to close the school or to invite the school to submit a renewal application. The Authority must base both its staff recommendations and its Board decisions on clear and unambiguous results, not on last ditch efforts, however sincere and well-thought through. Consequently, it is unlikely that the disruption caused by such midyear changes will be mitigated by any impact the prospect of ongoing operation.

Conversely, the school's long track record of underperformance raises the specter of several hundred young people being under-served under the current academic model. To the extent that these changes can have some impact on the academic outcomes for the school's remaining student body, there is merit in implementing such changes.

**Recommendation:**

Based on the potential for some positive academic impact on the students enrolled at the school, however limited, staff recommend that the Board approve this amendment request with the provision that no last minute initiative, however laudable, will influence the Board's evaluation of the school's performance for

the purposes of upholding any Notice of Closure or arriving at a decision to renew or not renew the school.

Chair Conaboy asked Dr. Kotler to speak on behalf of Silver State Charter School. Ryan Russel, Silver State Charter School's attorney also spoke on behalf of the school. Dr. Kotler explained the past decisions of both the Authority and Silver State Charter School's governing board and why they had decided to amend the instructional for the school. She said last summer the Authority approved an amendment permitting teachers to work four nine-hour days. Upon Dr. Kotler's arrival, she noted the schedule to be that on Mondays, although teachers were on site, they were not scheduled to teach any classes; students were required to attend one half day on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. The teachers take every Friday off. This is not conducive to improving student achievement. For reasons already stated in the support documents Dr. Kotler wrote, she requested that SSCS be permitted to open the school Mondays through Fridays for instruction and student support, teacher training, etc. The improved programming will permit SSCS to immediately diagnose deficiencies in mathematics and reading and provide content to bring student's up to grade level. It also allows low readers to have text read to them that they cannot read for themselves. These are among the improvements SSCS will make this year, if approved. SSCS also joined Western Nevada College's "Jump Start" program so our eligible students can graduate with a two-year college associate's degree as well as a high school diploma.

Dr. Kotler also noted that rather than this being a "last ditch" effort to improve scores among a majority "at risk" population (as is suggested in your support documents), it is a continuation of an observation-research-planning-and modification of programming-system that she was employing to better meet student learning needs.

In addition, the original mission and vision statements stated that SSCS primarily serve "at risk" and "alternative" education students. Dr. Kotler's understanding is that the school was "talked out of" leaving those items in and they were stricken from the statements. The school revised the mission and vision statements. The approved mission statement, as shown in the Authority's support documents, may be incorrect if it is not reflective of the approved minutes. It should read:

Member Pilant made a motion to approve the minutes of September 8, 2015 with an amendment to the mission statement to satisfy NRS 386.520 (4)(b) such that the mission statement reads: *"Silver State Charter Schools promotes a safe, supportive, alternative learning environment to support the unique needs of our students for the purpose of improving the academic achievement of at risk and general education pupils."*

Chair Conaboy asked about the staff support discrepancy between what SSCS says and what was contained in the SPCSA staff recommendation. Dr. Kotler said staff reaction has been split and about half of the staff is still aligned with the previous administration and due to that support their reaction to this plan has been negative. Chair Conaboy asked if this request may cause the school to lose students who might have already enrolled. Dr. Kotler said she felt the school would be gaining students due to this policy change because of the positive feedback she had received from students and parents.

Director Gavin disagreed with the star rating claim made by SSCS. He said that SSCS is currently the only one star school in the SPCSA's portfolio. He said the school's request to change the mission statement would not receive the support from SPCSA staff at the current time, and recommended the school include that change during the renewal of the charter contract.

Discussion continued between the Authority and Dr. Kotler regarding the staffing of the school if the amendment was approved. Dr. Kotler said there would be no need to change the staffing level if this



amendment was approved because she would be adjusting the electives offered by the school therefore freeing up time from individual teachers to concentrate more on core subject teaching. Member Abelman said he was concerned with such a large change occurring after school had already started. Dr. Kotler said she appreciated the concern, but felt the change would have a positive impact on the students. Member Mackedon said changing the mission of the school may include statutory requirements that she wasn't sure the school had looked into. She said by changing to an at-risk designation would require the school to meet more rigorous reporting requirements than they may be used to.

Chair Conaboy clarified that the amendment request for the meeting today was a programmatic school and the mission change was not to be included in the vote. Director Gavin agreed with Chair Conaboy regarding the amendment request. Ryan Russell also agreed that the only request that should be voted on today would be the programmatic change and the discussion regarding closure or renewal be discussed when it was properly agendaized.

**Member Wahl moved for approval of Silver State Charter School's amendment request pursuant to NAC 386.325. Member Johnson seconded. There was no further discussion. The vote passed 6 – 1, with Chair Conaboy voting against the motion.**

### **Agenda Item 5 - Follow-up and possible action on Criteria and Process for High Stakes Review of Charter Contracts and Criteria for Closure, Reconstitution, or Restart of a Charter School**

Director Gavin said within some statutory limits, the SPCSA Board has and should retain broad discretion regarding whether to reconstitute or to revoke/terminate a school and then subsequently restart it or not. To inform the SPCSA Board of all appropriate options, ensure that the process is effective at improving the overall performance of Authority schools, and that all SPCSA students have access to a high quality public school choice, as defined by state law and the SPCSA performance framework, staff recommends the following supporting policies and processes:

Adopt Policy Codifying SB509 Low-Performing Schools: Pursuant to SB509 (and aligned language in SB92), schools are low-performing if they do not meet any one of a number of academic performance thresholds defined in law and regulation. To ensure alignment with SB509, staff recommends that schools which currently fail to meet any academic performance threshold set forth in statute or regulation be subject to a Notice of Closure under the Authority intervention process and subject to reconstitution or revocation/termination followed by possible restart as early as the 2015-16 academic year.

Contractual Disclosure and Reconstitution Limitation Policy: All schools which are scheduled for renewal or have received a Notice of Concern, Breach, or Closure will be required to submit a list of all contracts in excess of \$25,000. The submission will identify the contracting parties, the reason for the contract (including if it is a contract with an EMO), the annual amount, the expiration date of the contract, and any exit or termination clause. Staff recommends that any school which the Authority determines has a management contract which does not comply with the SB509 termination requirement in the event of reconstitution be ineligible for reconstitution. This is a critical component of both the Closure Decision-making Process and the Reconstitution and Restart Review Cycle.

Policy Providing for Notice of Closure to Trigger Reconstitution RFP Process: To maximize the opportunity for current Nevada schools and out-of-state CMOs to provide a seamless transition for students and families, staff recommends that the SPCSA Board authorize staff to begin a Reconstitution RFP process immediately following a staff determination that a school must be served with a Notice of Closure pursuant to law, regulation, or policy as well as immediately following any Board action to

exercise its own authority to serve a school with a Notice of Closure absent staff action, *e.g.* in the event that the Board votes to revoke or terminate as a result of a high stakes review identified in a charter contract. In the event that the policy preventing reconstitution in the case of non-compliant management agreement ultimately precludes reconstitution, SPCSA staff will work with respondents to the RFP to determine if restart under a new lease in the same building or a nearby facility is a viable option which it can recommend to the SPCSA Board. This is a critical component of both the Closure Decision-making Process and the Reconstitution and Restart Review Cycle.

Policy Providing for Rescission of a Vote to Revoke or Terminate in Favor of Reconstitution with a The Board of a New School or a CMO and for Rescission of a Vote to Reconstitute in Favor of a Vote to Revoke or Terminate: In the event that the SPCSA Board determines that a viable, high quality operator is able to take over a school before it ceases operation or in the event that a previously identified operator is unable to follow through on a reconstitution, the SPCSA Board must reserve the right to rescind its previous vote and replace it with the alternate high stakes intervention. This is a critical component of the Reconstitution and Restart Review Cycle.

Policy Providing for Expedited Renewal: While significant attention must be paid to those schools in the portfolio which are failing to meet academic, financial, or organizational targets, we also have a number of schools which are performing well in all three domains. The performance framework, approved in 2013, references the opportunity for high achieving schools to request expedited renewal. The resource constraints of the SPCSA have limited the Authority's ability to plan for such an eventuality, but it is important to note that there are multiple schools which currently meet or exceed all the criteria identified in the "Go Decision" column above which will be up for renewal over the next several years. These include Somerset, Oasis, and Nevada State High School. The latter, which is up for renewal this year, has already made inquiries about the possibility of submitting an application for and receiving renewal by the end of the calendar year. Staff strongly recommends that the SPCSA adopt a policy permitting such an expedited renewal review and approval for the highest achieving schools in the portfolio beginning in the 2015-16 academic year. Consistent with SPCSA Board guidance, this process would be aligned with the written charter renewal process outlined on page **Error! Bookmark not defined.** and the charter contract renewal process discussed on page **Error! Bookmark not defined.** This process would require a qualifying school to submit a one-page letter requesting expedited renewal, a copy of its current school improvement plan, and a copy of a plan for disseminating the best practices it has successfully implemented to other charter schools in Nevada and around the country.

Policy Providing for Revision and Technical Changes to the Performance Framework: The academic portion of the SPCSA Performance Framework is considered a national model for charter school academic accountability. It is weighted heavily towards academic growth and it rates schools based in large part on the impact they have on students versus the impact of each student's zoned school in their district of residence on their own students. As the Board is aware, the complications of the SBAC rollout will result in not one, but at least two years without any growth data. This will significantly hamper the SPCSA's efforts to comply with its statutory obligation to issue an academic framework on an annual basis. SPCSA staff are in ongoing discussions with NDE leadership, NACSA staff, and other state agencies to devise an appropriate short term solution. The general approach being explored by NDE involves delegating responsibility to districts and schools to develop multiple measures. This presents challenges for a small statewide authorizer, and it is contrary to the Authority's own guidelines regarding mission-specific metrics, which mandates that they be rigorous, valid, and reliable. This effectively excludes most teacher or school created assessments. Moreover, the likelihood that the Authority's existing and new, legislatively approved staff can effectively oversee, support, and analyze the implementation and results up to 23 different third party assessments is highly unlikely unless there is a

dramatic shift in our statutory responsibilities or a significant increase in our legislatively approved budget. Based on a historic review of the performance frameworks and performance management policies from other authorizers which have experienced similar disruptive changes in state testing, including those which have similar resource constraints due to appropriation limitations, staff recommend the expansion of the Authority's current additional assessment, the ACT Aspire, which was incorporated into the Performance Framework as a high school measure, to measure student outcomes in grades 3-10. This assessment, which is aligned with the statewide college and career readiness assessment, the ACT, can be obtained without resorting to an additional lengthy procurement and has the advantage of being supportable by existing staff without additional training or adding significant additional headcount to the Authority. Staff seeks board approval to implement this change to the performance framework and to continue to seek all necessary approvals to purchase this assessment through an expanded contract.

### **Additional Federal Considerations**

Federal policy identifies the mechanisms we define in statute as reconstitution and restart as school improvement methods which are particularly appropriate to charter school authorizers and to portfolio LEAs like the SPCSA, as they do not require the level of day-to-day authorizer/LEA support that the more common turnaround and transformation models more frequently used by school districts. The latter two models assume, for example, that the LEA is the direct employer of school staff and that it has the capacity and authority to terminate or reassign staff. This is also consistent with the types of improvement interventions outlined in SB92. The state's NCLB waiver also recognizes the distinctions between these models.

Under the current statute and agency mandate and resourcing, the SPCSA's authority to support the more district-oriented interventions is constrained to a degree which may make low-performing SPCSA charter schools less competitive applicants for federal school improvement grants and other discretionary federal dollars allocated to low-performing schools. Both federal law and the NCLB waiver assume a robust, district-driven improvement process. Staff is continuing to work with NDE and the Governor's finance office to address the tensions between our statutory and appropriation constraints and the broader set of federal expectations for LEAs versus our statutory mandate to implement and model best authorizing practices. In the long term, however, it is likely that this tension will only be resolved by a statutory change which would make SPCSA charter schools their own LEAs, much like the charter schools to be authorized by the Achievement School District. In the interim, however, it is important to note that the new statutory powers granted by SB509 and other legislation may also provide the SPCSA with the opportunity to access these competitive dollars for the purpose of supporting the reconstitution and restart of schools in the portfolio, including the engagement of external experts to evaluate school performance and make appropriate recommendations regarding the criteria for approving RFP respondents. Consequently, staff request SPCSA Board approval to directly compete for such federal grants in the future and to seek NDE approval to amend the grant applications submitted on behalf of schools the SPCSA Board chooses to close to support this crucial work.

Chair Conaboy asked how the star rating freeze would affect the SPCSA's ability to measure the school's progress. Director Gavin said there were discussions about that would be addressed with an implementation of the ACT test for grades 3 – 10 being possible solution. Member Luna asked which schools would be eligible for the alternative framework. Director Gavin said until the alternative framework was finalized it would not be known which schools would be eligible for alternative framework inclusion.

Chair Conaboy asked for clarification regarding the expedited renewal and if that renewal would only necessitate a one page letter to the Authority requesting the expedited renewal. Director Gavin said he had received feedback that schools that have exceeded the terms in their contracts should not be asked to run through hoops in order to receive and renewed charter contract. Discussion continued regarding dissemination money from federal grants that the SPCSA or NDE may receive for replication of high quality charter operators. Chair Conaboy said she felt schools who were of high quality had a responsibility to the state to give back and provide resources to allow for replication of their models. Member Mackedon said she would have to think about the replication idea more, because it may put undue burden on schools who may not be interested in replicating their model across the state. She said she was more than willing to provide any and all resources her school could, but would withhold final judgement until a more concrete plan was released. Member Johnson added that he felt it would be a benefit to encourage schools to replicate while not burdening the current operation in order to provide quality education to as many students in Nevada as possible. Director Gavin agreed with Member Johnson and said that charter law in Nevada was not meant to create islands of success without providing incentives to replicate that success in other areas across the state.

Director Gavin asked that the board approve the expedited renewal application and approve the contract authority to allow for SPCSA staff to meet state mandated deadlines for approval to spend money on testing, possibly the ACT Aspire. Member Mackedon asked if there would be allowance for changes to the ACT contract in the event schools provide different solutions that may not include the ACT Aspire test. Director Gavin said there would be opportunities to change the testing vendor, and that this request was for staff to be able to pursue the funding authority to enter into a contract with ACT or other vendors if schools so desired.

Caroline McIntosh, Nevada Virtual Academy, disagreed with the SPCSA's staff recommendation to pursue the ACT Aspire test. She said she was the state representative for ACT, but felt the test would not be able to meet the needs of the schools and the Authority. She said her school had implemented the ACT test and had a lot of trouble with the implementation. She also disagreed with Director Gavin's decision stating that she felt there was not enough discussion with charter school operators. Ms. McIntosh requested that the Authority pause the vote until more stakeholders were included in the discussion. Member Wahl asked how the implementation failed NVVA and what the Authority should do in the absence of valid testing data during the star rating freeze. Ms. McIntosh said the administration of the test caused many problems for students, parents and teachers.

Chair Conaboy asked if the approval for funding procurement would mean ACT would be the only option for testing. Director Gavin said this approval was only for the authority to procure the funding to enter into a contract with a vendor regarding testing. Director Gavin also added that he had numerous conversations with schools regarding this request and although some schools may disagree with the recommendation that should not be construed as a lack of communication with interested stakeholders.

**Member Mackedon moved for approval of the expedited renewal policy with changes included from Dr. Hawk's first and second policy recommendations. Member McCord seconded. The vote was unanimous.**

The Authority then considered the second recommendation contained within the Agenda Item 5 recommendation report regarding Authority staff's needed approval from the Authority Board for procurement of funds for ACT Aspire or other testing vendor if ACT was not chosen.

**Member Wahl moved for approval of Authority staff to pursue necessary requirements to meet state deadlines in order for the Authority to be given the approval to contract with ACT or another vendor as determined by the Authority. Member Abelman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 9 – Timeline, Criteria and Process of Fall 2015 Charter amendment cycle plan pursuant to NAC 386.325**

Director Gavin began by speaking about SB509, which provides that the SPCSA must adopt criteria for evaluating amendment requests to add new facilities. In contrast to historic regulatory language, it also requires that the Authority evaluate both the track record of the school which is seeking the amendment in the areas of academic, financial, and organizational performance, and it requires that the Authority assess the capacity of the school to operate a high quality multi-site school network. Authorizers are increasingly concerned with issues like consistency of implementation, student equity and outcomes, and the capacity of boards and organizations to meet the challenges that accompany significant changes in scale. Recognizing the crucial role of governance in driving exemplary performance, the Authority is continuing to engage in ongoing discussions with NACSA and Board on Track (aka the High Bar) regarding this evolving area of authorizer practice both via research and through participation in discussions with the new National Charter School Governance Institute. Through that research, SPCSA staff has identified a compelling metaphor, the Capability-Maturity Model, which may have significant implications for how we will come to evaluate the effectiveness of boards and schools and determine their capacity of boards to take on new challenges. Based on lessons learned from other industries, including defense, software development, and social enterprise, the Capability-Maturity Model may also have implications for how the SPCSA ultimately organizes and deploys its own authorizing and performance management functions and processes.

***Current Process:***

The current amendment process for adding an additional facility is both opportunistic and ad-hoc. SPCSA staff frequently learns that a school is contemplating adding a new facility after receiving a call or an email from a school inquiring about the next board agenda. This results in a last minute scramble to accommodate schools and evaluate the request. As we have observed, expanding to additional facilities can be a high risk endeavor both for the Authority and for schools. Opportunistic expansion can strain resources, expose systemic weaknesses, and lead to significantly diminished performance across all domains. It is also evident that the current process set forth in NAC requires additional scaffolding in the form of policy and process to provide appropriate clarity to schools, SPCSA staff, and the Board. In this area, it is clear that the SPCSA itself is functioning at the lowest tier of the Capability-Maturity Model. Based on our new statutory responsibility and experience with the current process, it is clear that we need to make significant changes.

Member Mackedon asked about the timeframe for the amendment cycles and if the proposed dates would interfere with the new applicant cycles that happen around the same time. Director Gavin said the submissions would not interfere with the application cycles in either fall or winter cycles.

Ryan Reeves spoke in favor of the timeframe recommendation contained within the recommendation report.

**Member Mackedon moved for approval of bi-annual facility expansion policy. Member Abelman seconded. There no further discussion. The vote was unanimous.**

Director Gavin then discussed the Expansion Amendment Request format as a means of improving the process and increasing the quality of new site expansion across Nevada or authorize staff to publish it with the technical changes and corrections requested by the Board during this meeting. He said the goal was to maximize the flexibility currently contained with NAC while keeping national best practices. He said the goal of the expansion policy would be to limit unrestricted growth while allowing for an avenue for high quality charter schools to expand their instruction to other parts of Nevada.

Chair Conaboy had to leave the meeting at 1:30 pm, but asked to have comments regarding the aforementioned agenda item included in the record. She asked if each school that was replicating would have a board for each site, or if it would be one governing board for all of the sites. Chair Conaboy also reiterated her support for charter schools to define their mission-specific goals. She said she hoped schools would be collaborating with one another regarding offering the Special Education full continuum, but was going to withhold an opinion until she had heard more from charter schools. Chair Conaboy also spoke about transportation at the charter schools and if it would be required by the Authority in the future.

#### **CHAIR CONABOY LEFT THE MEETING AT 1:20 PM. VICE CHAIR WAHL TOOK OVER AS CHAIR OF THE MEETING**

Chair Wahl asked Director Gavin to discuss the expansion policy in more detail. Director Gavin explained the proposals contained in the new policy and the reasoning behind their inclusion. To be eligible to submit an expansion amendment in the fall 2015 expansion amendment cycle, a school must be in good standing in all three domains of the Authority's academic, financial, and organizational performance frameworks and it must not be considered a low-performing school or otherwise ineligible according to any definition set forth in law or regulation. Ineligible schools include, but are not limited to those schools which operate an elementary, middle, or high school rated below the three star level; schools which operate an elementary, middle, or high school program that is a priority or focus school; schools which operate high schools with graduation rates below 60 percent; and schools rated at the approaches, unsatisfactory, or critical level on the Authority Performance Framework either in aggregate or at the elementary, middle, or high school level.

A school which does not have at least one independent financial audit and one year of academic performance data in the Nevada system of accountability is ineligible to apply for an expansion amendment unless the school was approved by the Authority as an EMO replication of a high performing charter school in another state or the operator applied as a CMO applicant and has replicated a high performing charter school model from another state. In such cases, the school will be required to submit updated academic, financial, and organizational performance data in all three domains from the replicated EMO school or CMO school network. Such schools are also encouraged to submit, rigorous, objectively verifiable internal assessment data which demonstrates that the Nevada-based charter school is making progress similar to that of the schools in other states with similarly rigorous academic standards and statewide assessment systems and evaluative criteria. Such non-Nevada schools must be continuing to meet the academic, financial, and organizational performance targets which made them eligible for replication in Nevada for the Authority to consider utilizing their results as a proxy for the performance of a Nevada replication school utilizing the same model. It is also important to note that the Authority will only favorably consider internal assessment results for Nevada campuses which meet or exceed those of schools utilizing the same model in such states. Put simply, such data must, in the Authority's sole discretion, support the finding that the Nevada replication school is on track to perform as well or better than the replicated school on a rigorous, statewide assessment. In the event that the Authority mandates a system-wide assessment to supplement the statewide test and provide for additional data in the event of a

testing irregularity or a change in state testing provider, schools should expect that data from that assessment will outweigh data provided from a school's internal assessment system.

Schools are advised that fiscal or organizational issues which are discovered during the review process, including issues related to or raised in the annual independent audit which is due to the Authority on December 1, 2015, will result in denial of the expansion amendment request.

Chair Wahl asked how the current charter schools are servicing special student populations. Director Gavin said Pursuant to State and federal law, SPCSA schools are required to serve the needs of all students in special populations. Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the State of Nevada will switch to a weighted formula for special education. For the first time, this will provide for equitable special education funding across all Nevada public schools. Over time, this will necessitate current SPCSA-sponsored charter schools moving from a defined continuum of service to a broader continuum of services. All operators submitting amendment requests to the SPCSA after the conclusion of the 2015 Legislative Session should plan on offering students a broad continuum of services that will expand to the full continuum if the school will grow to serve more than 1,500 students as a result of this amendment request.

The SPCSA operates under the following principles with regards to special populations of students: SPCSA schools serve all eligible students. SPCSA schools do not deny the enrollment of any student based on needs or disability.

Member Mackedon had reservations regarding charter schools entering into MOU's with the school districts in which they operate. She said she would be in full support of schools offering the full continuum, but charter schools need to have access to equal funding both in student funding and facility funding to allow for school to provide the full continuum of service. Ryan Reeves also added he had the same concerns regarding funding equity for charter schools.

Member Mackedon also asked about the expansion of 3 star schools and whether that would still be in effect moving forward. Director Gavin acknowledged inconsistencies within the expansion policy, but did say he believed the more a school wants to expand, the more successful they should be in order to spread high quality education across the state, as opposed to growing for the sake of growth.

Chair Wahl asked Director Gavin to explain the micro-schooling contained within the policy proposal. Director Gavin said micro-schooling was programs that exist within operational schools, and the operational school incubates the micro schooling program until it is ready to operate as its own charter school. Equipo Academy was incubated within the Clark County School District and has had success in becoming a standalone charter school. Member Wahl asked why micro-schooling was included in the expansion document. Director Gavin said schools may need to be required to incubate new programs if they consider growing beyond agreed upon levels. This would allow for the schools to increase the diversity of its student populations. Chair Wahl had reservations about requiring schools to host micro schools and if that was going to put undue burden on high quality schools. Director Gavin said schools would not be forced to host micro schools unless they were planning on expansion. Member Johnson asked what type of support would be provided to schools who may host a micro school. Director Gavin said staff would continue to work with schools on a case-by-case scenario to provide as much support as possible. Member Mackedon felt the application itself was too burdensome and hoped the application could be scaled back. Director Gavin said a lot of the information schools would be asked to submit would already be created and it would be a matter of consolidating data from other reporting requirements the schools already had. Director Gavin also added the reason for a more in depth expansion application

was to prevent schools from over-expanding beyond their capacity and to force the schools to think strategically about the decisions they were making.

**Member Johnson moved for approval of the Expansion Policy Application as submitted by Director Gavin. Member Luna seconded. Discussion continued.**

Member Mackedon asked if the motion included the Special education portion of the application. Member Johnson said his motion was for approval of the application and approval of the opt-in Special Education provisions. Ryan Reeves spoke in support of the motion including the opt-in provision for the Special Education requirements. Bob Beers, treasurer of Founders Academy, hoped the board would take more time to consider the application before them. He said speed of decisions in government without the proper vetting of the document being decided upon may lead to problems in the future. Member Luna asked for Member McCord's opinion on the matter. He said he was in full support of diversification of charter schools across the state.

Member Johnson restated his motion:

**Member Johnson moved for approval of the Expansion Policy Application as submitted by Director Gavin. Member Luna seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-1 with Member Mackedon voting no. Chair Conaboy was absent.**

The Authority then began discussion of item four contained within the criteria for expansion policy proposal. The proposed recommendation from SPCSA staff was to require schools that seek to operate larger multi-site schools to commit to key initiatives essential to diversifying the non-White, ELL, Special Education, and free and reduced priced lunch populations on their campuses through a menu of required and optional initiatives. Discussion revolved around moving the Special Education provision, committing schools to serving the full continuum at 1,500 students, from a requirement to being optional until school budgets can be updated with the new expenditures. Director Gavin said he was okay with the change and would work with the Authority to clarify the Special Education provision.

**Member Luna moved for approval of the SPCSA staff criteria for expansion option 4 with the change to require schools to Supplement, and, as necessary, supplant social media and online marketing in favor of comprehensive grassroots outreach plans targeted at communities of color, families living in poverty, families whose home language is not English, and families of students with disabilities to attract and retain a student population which is reflective of the surrounding zoned schools, choosing 3 of the remaining initiatives which will remain optional . Member Abelman seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Conaboy was absent.**

Director Gavin then asked if Member Wahl would allow for agenda item 4 to be reopened for an announcement he had just received. Member Wahl agreed to allow Director Gavin to open the agenda item.

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Director's Report**

Director Gavin announced the SPCSA long with the Nevada Department of Education had been awarded \$16 million for the Charter School Start Up Grant from the United States Department of Education.

#### **Agenda Item 6 - Charter School Closure Overview and Procedures**



Director Gavin gave an overview of the charter school closure process. Both the NRS and current NAC contemplate a closure process whereby most of the responsibility for unwinding the affairs of a school which is not renewed or has had its written charter revoked, its charter contract terminated are delegated to the governing body and staff of the school. While there are some penalties for non-compliance with the closure expectations set forth in law and regulation, these primarily fall on the shoulders of the licensed personnel required to serve on the board of the charter school. It is unclear how enforceable such provisions would be, especially in cases where the licensed persons resigned prior to the closure of the school. Moreover, while the delegation of such tasks to the governing body and staff makes sense in the context of Nevada's philosophy of small government, it is unclear whether parties who proved unable to effectively and accountably operate a charter school which met the academic, financial, and organizational performance expectations necessary to merit ongoing operation would suddenly see the error of their ways and conduct an orderly and accountable wind-down of the academic program, operations, and business affairs of the school following a Notice of Closure. It is important to note that the addition of the receiver provision in SB509 was intended, in part, as an authorizer-directed mechanism to appropriately safeguard pupil welfare, public assets, and public funds in the event that the school board and leader proved inadequate to the task. There was no discussion with the board as the item was meant for information only.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Update on Fall 2015 Charter School Applications received**

Director Gavin said the Authority had received four charter applications for the Fall 2015 Application Cycle. One application was deemed administratively incomplete as was asked to submit during the Winter Application cycle.

#### **Agenda Item 8 - Winter 2016 Charter Application Cycle implementation plan**

Director Gavin explained the Winter 2016 Charter Application Cycle. Staff recommended that the following changes be made to the winter cycle:

1. Notice of Intent deadline of either December 1 or December 15 to allow additional time to work with state purchasing and the finance office to recruit and contract with external reviewers
2. The deadline for Applications: January 15
3. Depending on the option chosen by the Board, staff could proceed on several paths:
  - a. Option 1: Utilize the same RFP templates with minimal changes based on staff and applicant feedback with application going live by October 1. This would keep the same general timeline and process in place, though the additional timeline flexibility offered by SB509 would permit additional time for review
    - i. This would likely result in capacity interviews in mid-February and staff recommendations to the Board by March 31.
  - b. Option 2: Use the new authority under SB509 to bifurcate the process:
    - i. Round 1: An initial submission window where experienced applicants and schools with EMOs submit only their performance data and novice applicants without EMOs submit their governance and academic plans along with a short, conceptual budget. Applicants would be selected to move to Round 2 based capacity interview, track record, and strength of plan by February 15.
    - ii. Round 2: Invitational round where applicants submit full applications and possibly a follow-up interview. Applications would be due March 15 with recommendations to the board by April 30.
  - c. Option 3: Stick with Option 1 for the Winter Cycle and continue redesign of process to more closely resemble Option 2 for the new Summer Round with a contemplated June 1 Notice of Intent and a July 1 Application deadline. This has the advantage of not switching things up on applicants who may already be planning to submit in the winter.

- d. Option 4: To be combined with any of the preceding three options: Provide for priority review of top-tier experienced CMO applicants (Track D) and top-tier replication models (Track C), i.e. Charter School Growth Fund portfolio members and Building Excellent Schools fellows supported by Opportunity 180 to apply on a rolling basis with a staff commitment to review and make a recommendation to the Board within 75 days.

Member Luna asked about the training staff would be able to provide to potential applicants. Director Gavin said that staff capacity at the current makes it difficult to provide the robust training he would like to see. Until budget approvals for new positions are approved, training will likely be limited in the short term.

**Member McCord moved for approval of Option 3 in the 2016 Winter Charter Application Cycle Implementation Plan. Member Johnson seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Conaboy was absent.**

### **Agenda Item 12 - Beacon Academy update with meeting enrollments targets set at the July 13, 2015 SPCSA Board meeting**

Tambre Tondryk spoke on behalf of Beacon Academy. She provided the following information regarding the enrollment target. Ms. Tondryk said it was important to note that the data for the 2015-2016 school year is incomplete and will change to reflect new enrollments, missing transcript and high stakes testing information.

The preliminary data presented:

- 551 Total student enrollment on 9/25/2015
- 43% Free and Reduced Lunch
- 13% Special Education or 73 students
- # students in each cohort
- 2019- 40 students
- 2018 – 104 students
- 2017 – 150 students
- 2016 – 180 students
- 2015 and earlier: 77 adult students

Ms. Tondryk said that 54% of all students in the school are credit deficient, not including 9<sup>th</sup> graders and 62% of new students are credit deficient, not including 9<sup>th</sup> graders.

### **Agenda Item 13 - Nevada Virtual Academy update with meeting enrollments targets set at the July 13, 2015 SPCSA Board meeting**

Caroline McIntosh and Ben Gerhardt spoke on behalf of Nevada Virtual Academy. Ms. McIntosh said the school was down around 356 students from the previous school year. Mr. Gerhardt added that each year the school has a large turnover of students who decide to enter back into a regular brick and mortar schools. He said the school did not track why those students left, but was now actively following up with students to see why they withdrew from NVVA. Discussion continued between the Authority and NVVA regarding the enrollment policies and the changes that had been made over the course of the past few years.

Member Wahl asked about the language that was used on NVVA's website and if it may be misleading parents. Ms. McIntosh said she would look into how enrollment policies were described on the site and work with her IT staff to ensure there was no misleading language included. Member Mackedon asked

why messages she had received on social media were saying NVVA would be enrolling K-11 and not K-12. Ms. McIntosh said the school had made a decision to stop enrolling new 12 graders until the school had a more robust credit recovery program. Member Wahl asked if a district brick-and-mortar school could limit its enrollment and not accept 12 graders. Director Gavin said a district school, along with charter schools, could not limit enrollment and not accept 12 graders. Member Wahl added it would be difficult to measure NVVA versus other online schools with regard to graduation rate because it had limited accepting new 12 graders while other online schools had not. Ms. McIntosh said the NVVA board had not meant anything disingenuously and ensured the board that NVVA would look into these policies and rectify the situation.

Member Wahl asked why the NVVA website said enrollment was closed for the 2015-2016 school year and whether that was legal or not. Director Gavin said it was not allowed, a school could say the additional students would be placed on a waiting list, but a school could not say enrollment was closed. Member McCord asked if the school tracks the records it requests as a way to see where students are going once they leave NVVA. Mr. Gerhardt said they do track that information, and Ms. McIntosh added that many times the students did not have a learning coach or the program was too rigorous. Discussion continued between the Authority and representatives of NVVA. Director Gavin asked if NVVA had moved into the additional facility that had been approved at during the last amendment request. Ms. McIntosh said they had not moved in yet but hoped to be doing so soon. Director Gavin also asked if the school would be undergoing a fire drill at the facility they currently operate at. Ms. McIntosh said they would be doing a fire drill at the end of the week. Member Wahl asked if the school would have any financial issues since they had not reached their target enrollment. Ms. McIntosh said the school would be able to make its financial commitments and there would be no issues with the school financially.

#### **Agenda Item 14 - Update regarding new Open Meeting Law provisions passed at the 2015 Legislative session**

Deputy Attorney General Ott spoke about the changes that were made to the Open Meeting Law and how it would affect the Authority. He said it would affect the Authority very little, while Mr. Peltier would have a few additional items he would have to monitor.

#### **Agenda Item 17 – Next Board Meeting**

The Authority Board will meet October 26, 2015

#### **Agenda Item 18 – Public Comment**

There was no public comment in either Las Vegas or Carson City

Member Wahl called for a motion for adjournment.

**Member McCord moved for adjournment. Member Luna seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Conaboy was absent.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

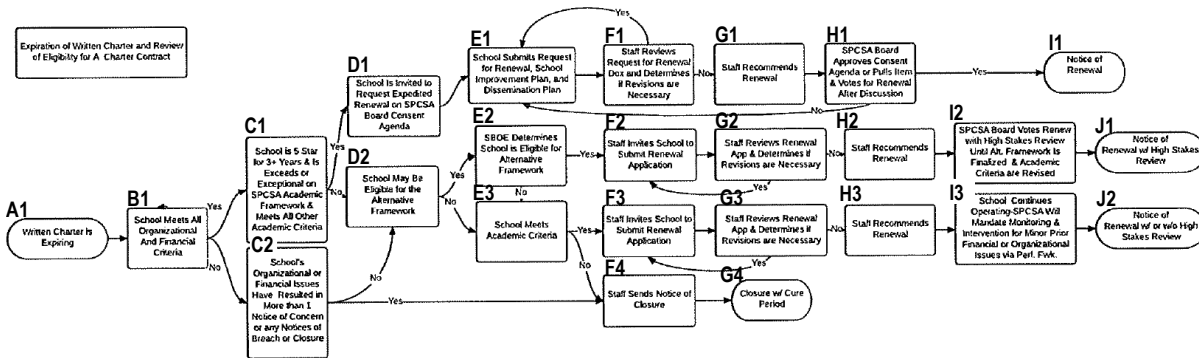
# NEVADA State High School

September 28, 2015

Mr. Patrick Gavin, Executive Director  
State Public Charter School Authority  
1749 N Stewart Street; Ste 40  
Carson City, NV 89706-2575

Dear Mr. Gavin:

Nevada State High School is offering the following comments and recommendations regarding item 5 on the agenda for the State Public Charter School Authority meeting for M: 9/28/2015. Specifically, numbered page 36 of the Authority's final support documents regarding *Recommended Business Processes: Renewal of Written Charter* that is accompanied by the following flowchart (see below).



**General support comments** related to the flowchart above and information on page 36 including:

1. Expedited renewal will incentivize all schools to perform better on the expectations of the Authority;
2. Expedited renewal will allow more time for schools to spend with students and families;
3. Expedited renewal will provide time for Authority staff to work on projects with highest priority;
4. Allowing schools to supplant their previous charter application with a new, streamlined document during an annual non-material revision period is an excellent suggestion.

Nevada State High School supports an expedited renewal and offers the following **recommendations** to the Authority specifically based on the numbered flowchart above before final action including:

1. Box C1: Consider wording that will allow for future changes to the framework and accountability systems "~~School is 5 Star for 3+ Years & Is Exceeds or Exceptional on SPCSA Academic Framework & Meets All Other Academic Criteria~~" **School shows 3+ years of exceeding sponsors performance framework outcomes and state measures of accountability**
2. Box D1: School is invited to Request Expedited Renewal on SPCSA Board Consent Agenda **or a school may submit a letter of interest followed by an invitation by SPCSA for Expedited Renewal.**
3. Box E1: School Submits Request for Renewal, School Improvement Plan, and ~~Dissemination Plan~~ **Highlight Areas of Best Practice to Disseminate.**

Regards,

Dr. John Hawk, *Chief Operations Officer*

# State Public Charter School Authority

## Board Meeting

Carson City

9-28-2015

| Name             | Representing                 | Email Address for SPCSA List serve |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Jim Endres       | KIVA/K12, INC                | JENDRES@MEWAW.COM                  |
| Joe Thomas       | NCA                          | jathomas@connectionseducation.com  |
| Steve Werlein    | NCA                          | SWerlein@connectionseducation.com  |
| Linné Zelen      | SCKS                         | zelen@eckan.net                    |
| Tami Winter      | NCA                          | t.winter@spcau.com                 |
| Bob/Kit Kotler   | Silver State (C)             | SKKotler@ssks.org                  |
| Krystal Hoefling | Silver State Charter         | khoefling@sshs.org                 |
| J-Lynn Vanfelt   | Honors Academy of Literature | m.j.lynn@academyoflit.org          |
| Russell          | SSCS                         | Russell@collisonmakers.com         |
| Denna Wix        | NDE                          |                                    |



# State Public Charter School Authority

## Board Meeting

Las Vegas

9-28-2015

| Name                            | Representing                      | Email Address for SPCSA List serve |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| BOONE CRATON                    | DOBAC ACADEMY                     | BOONE.CRATON@DOBAC.ACADEMY.NV.BE   |
| Victoria Carreon                | Gunn Center for Policy/Priorities | vcarreon@gunncenter.org            |
| Andrea Damore                   | Bacon Academy                     | andrea.damore@bacon.org            |
| Teresa Barber                   | Guest Academy                     | t.barber@guestlv.com               |
| Dana Parker                     | Guest Academy                     | d.parker@guestlv.com               |
| Aly Roberson                    | Guest Prep Academy                | a.roberson@guestlv.com             |
| <del>Andy</del> <del>Ally</del> | West Prep Academy                 | j.carlago@westprep.org             |
| Janire Tondrik                  | Bacon Academy                     | janire.tondrik@bacon.org           |
| Caroline McIntosh               | Nevada Virtual Academy            | cmcintosh@nvacademy.org            |

|                   |                         |                                  |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Shawn Progan      | Recom Academy           |                                  |
| John Hawk         | Nevada St. HS           | jhawk@earlycollegewv.com         |
| Ticky Menden      | Founders Academy        |                                  |
| Graig Stevens     | CCSD                    | gstevens@psbert.ccisd.wv         |
| Rebecca Fryer     | Academica               | rbfryer@academica.wv             |
| Fegan Reeves      | Academia                | Fegan.Reeves@academica.wv.com    |
| Colin Brughurst   | Academia                | colin.brughurst@academica.wv.com |
| Ericon Anydogda   | CAARLV                  | eraydogda@caarlv.org             |
| Michelle Hall     | NCA                     | mhall@connectionseducation.com   |
| Kymbre LeGron     | Quest Academy           | k.legron@questiv.com             |
| Nick Sarsohn      | Coral Academy           | nick@corlacademylv.org           |
| Talicia Blake     | Leadership Academy      |                                  |
| Marlo Teachlyanna | Silver Sands Montessori | msmarto@silversandsmt.sos.org    |
| Clinton Blakett   | Easthill High School    | Clintonblakett2@gmail.com        |



VISITOR'S C/

Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

Meeting

Welcome... PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY all information in full that we may maintain accurate records.

Date 9-28

Name MRS. TERRY BARBER #1

Title DIR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Address

Phone No.

Representing QUEST

Subject FORENSIC AUDIT

I Request To Speak

I am a scheduled speaker

I am a visitor



VISITOR'S CARI

Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

Meeting

Welcome... PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY all information in full so that we may maintain accurate records.

Date 9-28

Name DEB ROBERSON #3

Title ADMINISTRATOR

Address

Phone No.

Representing QUEST

Subject REQUEST OF SPESA

I Request To Speak

I am a scheduled speaker

I am a visitor





VISITOR'S CARD

Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

Meeting

Welcome... PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY all information in full so that we may maintain accurate records.

Date 01/28/2015  
Name Renee Fairless  
Title Principal, Water Academy  
Address 3445 Mt. Vista Las Vegas NV 89121  
Phone No. 702-985-2400  
Representing Water Academy  
Subject SPCSA Support

- I Request To Speak
 I am a scheduled speaker
 I am a visitor



VISITOR'S CARD

Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

Meeting

Welcome... PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY all information in full so that we may maintain accurate records.

Date 9/28/15  
Name Mrs Boone Crain  
Title DONAL ACADEMY BOARD CHAIR  
Address 7871 SREH LN, LAS VEGAS  
Phone No. 702-285-7857  
Representing DONAL ACADEMY  
Subject CHARTER SCHOOL EXHIBIT

- I Request To Speak
 I am a scheduled speaker
 I am a visitor



**VISITOR'S**  
Nevada State Public Charter School Authority  
Meeting

Welcome... PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY all information in full so that we may maintain accurate records.

Date 9-28  
 Name JENNIFER ANLAGE #2  
 Title BOARD VICE CHAIR  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Representing QUEST  
 Subject BOARD ACTIONS

- I Request To Speak
- I am a scheduled speaker
- I am a visitor



**VISITOR'S CARD**  
Nevada State Public Charter School Authority  
Meeting

Welcome... PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY all information in full so that we may maintain accurate records.

Date 9/28/2015  
 Name John Hawk  
 Title Chief Operations Officer  
 Address 233 W. Stephanie St.  
Henderson NV 89044  
 Phone No. 702-332-2593  
 Representing Alvin, St. HS.  
 Subject Item 5 pg 34.

- I Request To Speak
- I am a scheduled speaker
- I am a visitor