

**BRIAN SANDOVAL**  
*Governor*

**STATE OF NEVADA**

**STEVE CANAVERO**  
*Director*



**STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY**

**1749 North Stewart Street Suite 40  
Carson City, Nevada 89706-2543  
(775) 687 - 9174 · Fax: (775) 687 - 9113**

February 15, 2013

Dear Ms. Dukek,

The State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) received on December 6, 2012 the application for renewal of the Nevada Connections Academy (NCA) charter which is set to expire on May 5, 2013. Thank you. In the course of reviewing the submitted application staff at the SPCSA generated a few areas in need of clarification.

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and Sarah Ault, Director of Schools to discuss our questions and provide further clarification of the items appearing below. Any items identified below that appear as ~~strikethrough~~ indicates that you and Ms. Ault were able to clarify the question and no further action by Nevada Connections Academy is necessary. Items that do not appear with ~~strikethrough~~ language, please submit responses to the Authority on or before our mutually agreed upon deadline of February 22, 2013.

- 1) Does NCA still wish to amend its charter to reflect new goals (Section 5.7 and 5.7(a))?
- 2) Certain language appearing in the application is in need of clarification or additional documentation.
  - a. Page 3 "A particular weakness of almost all incoming students concerns their mastery of math..."
    - i. Please clarify how and by what measure NCA uses to substantiate this observation.
  - b. Page 3 "NCA is impacted even more than many schools since its growth results in many more students who are new to the school but still counted in NCA's evaluated population, even though most of their schooling was in another environment."
    - i. Please clarify this statement.



2. Jamie Castle appears to have been board president since the school's inception.
- iii. Information provided under the heading "NRS 386.549 membership category..." needs clarification: The membership categories are educator (2 required positions), parent, person with knowledge and experience in accounting, financial services, law, or human resources (2 required positions).
- iv. The bylaws (art. 3, sec. 3(b)) need updating to reflect the current membership requirements of NRS 386.549

Sincerely,



Steve Canavero, Ph.D.

Director, State Public Charter Authority

Cc: Jamie Castle, President NCA Governing Board