

**BRIAN SANDOVAL**  
*Governor*

**STATE OF NEVADA**

**PATRICK GAVIN**  
*Executive Director*



**STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY**

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

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**BRIEFING MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** SPCSA Board  
**FROM:** Patrick Gavin, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 8: Mater Academy, Equipo Academy, Silver Sands Montessori, Founders Academy, and Nevada Connections Academy  
**DATE:** February 16, 2018

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As the Authority is aware, Mater Academy, Equipo Academy, Silver Sands Montessori, and Founders Academy all recently received Assembly Bill 49 notifications as a result of low academic performance. For each school, this is their first year rated as a 1 or 2 Star school. All of these charter schools have complied with the requirements imposed by AB 49. Pursuant to the definition of persistently underperformance adopted by the Department of Education in NAC 386.332 pursuant to NRS 388A.330(1)(a)(4), two additional consecutive ratings at the 1 or 2 Star level would result in these schools being considered as having persistently underperformed. Given that none of these schools meet the requirements to receive a notice of intent to revoke their charter contract, Staff recommends that the SPCSA Board delegate to Staff the authority to issue notices of concern to these schools under the Authority's intervention ladder.

Additionally, Nevada Connections Academy also received an Assembly Bill 49 notification from the Authority due to its having a 1 or 2 Star elementary school rating for two consecutive ratings periods. In the event that the school receives an additional 1 or 2 Star rating next year, the school would be eligible to have its charter contract terminated by the Authority. Due to the serious risk to the school in the event that it receives a third consecutive rating and the failure to meet basic levels of performance set by the Department constitutes a breach of the charter contract, staff recommends that the SPCSA Board delegate to Staff the authority to issue a notice of breach under the Authority's intervention ladder to ensure that the school is well aware of the potential consequences of continued underperformance.

***Recommendation:*** Approve SPCSA Staff Recommendation to Issue Notices of Concern, Notice of Breach, or other Accountability Measures.