

**NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY**

**January 26, 2018**

**Nevada Legislature  
401 South Carson St.  
Room 2135  
Carson City, Nevada**

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**In Las Vegas:**

Nora Luna  
Sheila Moulton  
Jeff Hinton  
Jason Guinasso  
Melissa Mackedon

**In Carson City:**

None

**Teleconference:**

David Gardner

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Stavan Corbett

**AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT:**

**In Las Vegas:**

Brian Scroggins, Deputy Director  
Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing  
Patrick Gavin, Executive Director

**In Carson City:**

Jennifer Bauer, Director of Finance and Operations  
Danny Peltier, Management Analyst I  
Tanya Osborne, Administrative Assistant III

**LEGAL STAFF PRESENT:**

**In Carson City**

Greg Ott, Deputy Attorney General

**In Las Vegas**

Ryan Herrick, General Counsel, State Public Charter School Authority

**AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE:**

**In Las Vegas:**

Joshua Carlson  
William Bressler  
Jennifer Hackett  
Amanda Buda  
Alonzo Williams  
Michael Muehle  
Ryan Shook  
Susan Fisher  
Jennifer Ranney  
Josh Kern  
Richard Holley  
Ryan Reeves  
Ben H.  
Yolanda Hamilton  
Tambre Tandrke  
Amanda Prest  
Tiffany Thomas  
Linda D.  
Dale Derbidge  
Carrie Buck  
Randall Walker  
Warren Kirch  
Kristy Sedlacek  
Julie Kich  
Deniece Noham  
John Haynal  
Amanda Kettleon

**In Carson City:**

Yvonne Nevarez-Goodson  
Rebecca Phipps  
Lori Lynch  
Andi Morency  
Chris McBride  
Ashley Perkins

**CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Guinasso is removing agenda item number 14 and 15 from the agenda.

**Member Moulton motioned to approve the agenda. Member Hinton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance****Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment**

Joshua Carlson spoke in behalf of Kemp, Jones and Coulthard regarding Quest not paying the lease on the Bridger Campus. The law office has reviewed the briefing memorandum and staff recommendation to the board.

**Agenda Item 3 - Approval of the October 23-25, 2017 and December 8, 2017 Action Minutes. The Authority will review and possibly approve the meeting minutes from the October 23-25, 2017 and December 8, 2017 Board meetings.**

Chair Guinasso mentioned that on item 13 for October 23-25 on page 3, to include, Chair Guinasso recused himself from consideration of this agenda item. Vice Chair Mackedon led the discussion. These changes will be made on the action minutes.

**Member Mackedon made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 23-25, 2017 and the December 8<sup>th</sup> minutes. Member Moulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 4 - Ethics Presentation. Yvonne Nevarez-Goodson, the Executive Director of the Nevada Commission on Ethics will provide the Board with an ethics presentation regarding Board Members' ethical duties and responsibilities as public officers.**

Yvonne Nevarez-Goodson gave a presentation on ethics regarding Board Member ethical duties and responsible.

**Agenda Item 5 - SPCSA Staff Report. Staff will provide an update regarding the following:**

- Athlos Academy of Reno (application previously approved with conditions); American Leadership Academy – Summerlin (application previously approved with conditions); New America School (application previously denied);
- 2018 Winter Charter Application Cycle Applicant (Primavera College Preparatory Charter School – Clark County); and
- Regulation 131-16. Recently-adopted charter school regulations related to multi-campus schools, pre-enrollment testing, the use of weighted lotteries, and other newly-adopted regulations.

Mark Modrcin spoke regarding the status of the previously-approved charter school application in regard to Athlos Academy of Reno, and American Leadership Academy – Summerlin. Mr. Modrcin also informed the Board that the deadline for New America School to resubmit its previously-denied application had passed without any such resubmission, and as a result this application was now closed. Finally, Mr. Modrcin informed the Board that only a single application had been received for the 2018

Winter Cycle, that application being Primavera Preparatory Academy. Mr. Modrcin stated that the Primavera Preparatory Academy application was being reviewed, and that Staff would provide the Board with an update at a future Board meeting.

Director Gavin provided the Board with a presentation regarding Regulation 131-16.

**Agenda Item 6 - Nevada State Performance Framework (Star Ratings). Recently issued charter school ratings related to the Department of Education's statewide system of accountability, including recently issued performance notifications required by Assembly Bill No. 49, and potential future accountability actions.**

Director Gavin spoke about Assembly Bill No. 49 and potential future accountability actions.

**Agenda Item 7 - Litigation Update. The Authority will review and discuss Staff's reports and recommendations, and review, discuss and possibly take action, including approving or denial of Staff's recommendations regarding the following pending litigation matters:**

- **Kern v. CSP-Bridger Ave., LLC, et al. (District Court Case No. A-16-736281-B – Clark County). Staff's recommendation to intervene in the pending litigation in order to address CSP-Bridger's pending motion requesting court oversight in regard to the Quest Preparatory Academy receivership.**
- **Nevada Commission on Ethics v. Hansen (Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 69100). Staff's recommendation to potentially file an *amicus curie* brief with the Nevada Supreme Court in support of the Commission on Ethics.**

Ryan Herrick stated that staff is seeking the boards approval for recommendation to intervene in the pending litigation in order to address Bridger's pending litigation. A hearing has been scheduled for February 12, 2018 regarding the hearing. Josh Kern the receiver for Quest and Richard Holley provide background on the judicial oversight motion.

**Member Mackedon moved to approve staff recommendation that the State Public Charter School Authority intervene in the pending CSP litigation for the limited purpose of addressing CSP request for judicial oversight. Member Moulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

Ryan Herrick spoke about Nevada Commission on Ethics v. Hansen and staff's recommendation to potentially file an amicus curie brief with the Nevada Supreme Court.

**Member Moulton moved that the State Public Charter School Authority staff file a amicus brief with Nevada Supreme Court. Member Luna seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 12 - Learning Bridge Charter School's Charter Contract Amendment Request (Relocation). The Authority will review and discuss Staff's report and recommendation, and review, discuss and possibly take action, including approving (or possible conditional approval) or denial of Learning Bridge Charter School's request to amend its charter contract to allow relocation of its campus without increasing enrolment or grade levels (2018-19 school year).**

Mark Modrcin talks about a Learning Bridge Charter School and the school would like to submit a facility amendment the contract for 2018-2019 school year. Kristy Sedlacek and Julie K. spoke about the schools history.

**Member Mackedon made a motion to approve Learning Bridges amendment request to relocate its facility as outlined in staff's recommendation. Member Moulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 8 - Nevada Connections Academy. Chris McBride, Principal of Nevada Connections Academy, will provide the Board with an update regarding the status of the school and progress under Nevada Connections Academy's new charter contract and implementation of the proposed cures related to the deficiencies previously identified by the Authority.**

Chris McBride spoke in behalf of Nevada Connections Academy gave an update on the cure and the new contract. The projections are looking good and possible graduation rate may be in the low fifty percent range.

**Agenda Item 9 - The Honors Academy of Literature Charter Contract Renewal Request. The Authority will review and discuss Staff's report and recommendation, and review, discuss and possibly take action, including approving (or possible conditional approval) or denial of The Honors Academy of Literature's request to renew its charter contract.**

Mark Modrcin talks about the contract renewal request for Honor Academy. Staff from Honors Academy spoke in behalf of their school.

**Member Mackedon moved to approve the Honors Academy of Literature Charter contract renewal request with staffs recommendations. Member Moulton seconded the motion. The motioned carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 10 - Pinecrest Academy of Nevada's Charter Contract Renewal Request. The Authority will review and discuss Staff's report and recommendation, and review, discuss and possibly take action, including approving (or possible conditional approval) or denial of Pinecrest Academy of Nevada's request to renew its charter contract.**

Mark Modrcin talks about the contract renewal request for Pinecrest Academy. Staff from Pinecrest Academy spoke in behalf of their school.

**Member Moulton moved to renew the contract renewal request by Pinecrest Academy of Nevada with conditions. Member Luna seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda 11 - Pinecrest Academy of Nevada's Charter Contract Amendment Request (Expansion / New Campus). The Authority will review and discuss Staff's report and recommendation, and review, discuss and possibly take action, including approving (or possible conditional approval) or denial of Pinecrest Academy of Nevada's request to amend its charter contract to allow for an additional campus (2019-2020 school year).**

Mark Modrcin talked about the contract amendment request to allow a new campus.

**Member Moulton motioned the Pinecrest Academy of Nevada may open a new school for 2019-2020 with recommendations and conditions that staff has placed. Member Mackedon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 13 - Legacy Traditional School Charter Contract Amendment Request – Southwest and Cadence Campuses (Expansion / New Campus). The Authority will review and discuss Staff’s report and recommendation, and review, discuss and possibly take action, including approving (or possible conditional approval) or denial of Legacy Traditional School’s request to amend its charter contract to allow expansion and an additional campus (2019-2020 school year).**

Chair Guinasso recused himself from consideration of this agenda item. Vice Chair Mackedon led the discussion

Mark Modrcin spoke regarding Legacy Traditional School’s amendment request. Representatives of Legacy Traditional School also spoke in favor of Legacy Traditional School’s amendment request.

**Member Moulton made a motion to approve the opening of Legacy Traditional School – Southwest campus to open for the 2019-2020 school year, and allow for an increase in enrollment at the Legacy Traditional School Cadence campus. As a condition to this approval, the Board resolved that Legacy Traditional School may not submit any further amendment requests until such time as the Department of Education issues its ratings pursuant to the Statewide System of Accountability (“Star Ratings”) for the 2018-2019 school year, at which time the Board may consider inviting Legacy Traditional School to submit further amendment requests. Member Hinton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 16 - Discovery Charter School Receiver Update. John Haynal, Receiver, or designee.**

Representatives of the Receiver provided the Board with an update regarding Discovery Charter School.

**Agenda Item 17 – Long -Range Board Calendar. The Board will review and discuss its Long-Range Calendar.**

The Board and staff discussed the long-range board calendar.

**Agenda Item 18 - Public Comment**

None

**Agenda Item 19 – Adjournment**

**Member Mackedon moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Moulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Adjournment 4:15 pm**

