

# EXPLORE ACADEMY

To the Members of the Nevada State Public Charter School Authority,

The purpose of this letter is to formally request a Good Cause exemption from the SPCSA for an amendment to the school's existing charter contract. Explore Academy is in the planning stages of launching its operations for the fall of 2020. Through the last several months, the founders, board members, and school leader have conducted an exhaustive search of the zip codes in which the school has been determined (and contracted) to serve. This search has left the school with no options for inhabiting a building to commence operations in the fall, including facilities that would serve a temporary purpose in allowing the school to launch in the fall along its proposed timeline.

The school has thus been forced to look at a construction project on vacant parcels of land; however, the timelines associated with a custom-build project push well beyond the timeline for launch in the fall. As a result, the school's personnel has been tasked with identifying a facility that could serve as a temporary site during the period in which construction on its permanent site can be completed. This search has yielded no prospective facilities that could meet the requirements set forth to allow for school use, with the exception of a facility that was discovered outside of the approved zip codes that the school is contracted to serve.

The purpose of this letter is to request an amendment to the school's charter contract to allow for the school to temporarily operate within a facility outside of its contract zip code, or expand the zip code range, for a period of one year. After operating in this temporary facility for one year, the school will return to its predetermined zip codes (89030, 89031, 89032) where its permanent facility will be located and completed, ready for operations beginning in the fall of 2021.

The temporary facility the school is proposing to occupy is located in the 89130 zip code, approximately 1.8 miles away from the 89032 boundary, where the school's permanent facility will be located. This facility has been occupied by a school in the past, and thus holds all the necessary certifications for use by a school without any changes to zoning, permitting, etc. As such, it is available for school use immediately.

Being adjacent and close in proximity to one of its target zip codes, this temporary site should not significantly influence the school's ability to recruit and serve students from its intended geographic range, and as such, the school's leadership feels a Good Cause exemption to occupy this facility for the 2020-21 school year is merited. We ask that you consider this request so the school may continue its marketing efforts and continue along its timeline to commence operations in August of 2020.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Larsen  
Explore Academy Head  
Administrator