



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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

2080 East Flamingo Road Suite 230
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119-5164
(702) 486-8895 • Fax (702) 486-5543

ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Mike Dang, Manager, Financial and Organizational Performance
Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing
SUBJECT: **Las Vegas Collegiate Charter School**
Request to Expand Enrollment in Existing Grade Levels and Request to Relocate Facility
DATE: January 22, 2021

Summary of Request and Recommendation

Las Vegas Collegiate Charter School (LVC) is requesting that the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) approve a Good Cause Exemption request to take action on a formal request to allow the school to expand enrollment in existing grades, relocate its facility temporarily, and to expand the territory in which the facility may be located beginning in the school year 2021-2022 if they are unable to locate within the 89106 zip code.

SPCSA staff has reviewed the application and recommends that the Authority grant the school's request for a Good Cause Exemption and approve the school's amendment proposal to expand enrollment and relocation of its campus.

Background

LVC was conditionally approved by the SPCSA to open its doors to students beginning in the fall of 2020 for 162 students in grades K-1. This approval occurred on December 17, 2019. On April 24, 2020, the Authority approved the school's requests to lease a different facility in the 89106 zip code, specifically located at 1072 W. Bartlett Avenue, reduce the enrollment cap for the 2020 – 2021 school year to 135 students, down from 162 students, and provide transportation to students beginning in the 2020 – 2021 school year.

At the May 29, 2020 SPCSA Board Meeting, the Authority approved LVC's request to defer its opening year from the Fall of 2020 to the Fall of 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. This delay did not impact the other approvals for reduced enrollment and transportation.

LVC is now requesting approval of this new amendment request. As LVC stated in the amendment application, the difficult decision to delay the opening of the school to the Fall of 2021 allowed the school more time to find

a facility that would be supportive of their Year 1 operation. LVC partnered with an experienced developer and through that partnership, the facility developer has done extensive work in the community to find a facility that can support housing a school. According to the amendment application, in searching for a facility that would meet its needs, LVC exhausted all options for a facility in the approved 89106 zip code. As such, the school is requesting to expand its search for a possible facility to within 1.5 miles of the 89106 zip code. Per the application, this would allow the school to seek additional options for location, while still maintaining a close distance to the 89106 zip code.

As stated in the application, LVC is still committed to serving the 89106 community and will provide transportation to ensure they enroll children from the targeted community. The budget is inclusive of required, accompanying expenses. Additionally, the school received grant funding (see Attachment 3 in the RFA) to ensure providing transportation for students is financially feasible.

LVC has narrowed its facility options down to two locations. Those locations are 2705 W Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, 89032 and 310 South 9th St, Las Vegas, NV 89101.

The 2705 W. Lake Mead location is a former dollar store and stand-alone building situated within a shopping center. This location is less than 250 feet from the 89106 zip code.

The 310 S. 9th location currently has a school operating at it, which will be ending operation at the end of this school year. This location is 1.4 miles from the 89106 zip code.

Both locations being considered will be temporary and LVC states in its application that it will continue to consult with their facility developer to find a permanent location.

The final component of this amendment request is to expand enrollment from the amended 135 students back to 162 students which was the enrollment proposed in the original, approved, charter application. LVC states in their application that they are requesting this re-amended enrollment back to 162 students because the proposed facilities will both be able to accommodate the original enrollment that LVC proposed in its original application. If this proposed enrollment increase is approved, the applicant states they will hire one additional Kindergarten teacher to fill the position of the new kindergarten class.

The enrollment changes are proposed as follows:

Current Enrollment Cap

Year	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
Enrollment	135	216	297	378	459	486

Proposed Enrollment Cap

Year	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
Enrollment	162	243	342	405	486	486

Applicant Eligibility

When reviewing any RFA, SPCSA staff and board typically review the academic, financial and organizational performance of the applicant charter school. LVC will be opening this fall for its first school year so

documentation of this nature will be created beginning this fall. Thus far, the school has timely completed its pre-opening requirements. At this time, then, staff finds LVC in compliance with SPCSA requirements.

Summary and Recommendation

Based on the findings above staff recommends the Board approve this request, subject to the below additional conditions and submissions to be formalized in a contract amendment to be executed by both parties.

- Notification to SPCSA staff of the location for Las Vegas Collegiate for the 2021 – 22 school year no later than April 1, 2021;
- Submittal of copy of actual enrollment breakdown including zip codes of students enrolled at a mutually agreed-upon deadline with SPCSA staff; and
- Completion of the SPCSA Pre-Opening process for new charter schools, including those pertaining to student transportation.

Proposed Motion:

Approve the request of the Las Vegas Collegiate Charter School to:

- Grant the School a Good Cause Exemption to Request; and

- Approve for one year, with conditions outlined above, Las Vegas Collegiate Charter School request to temporarily lease a facility within the 89106 zip code, or within 1.5 miles of the 89106 zip code for the 2021-2022 school year only.

If approved, the enrollment cap for Las Vegas Collegiate for the charter contract will be as follows:

School Year	2021 - 22	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025 – 26	2026 – 27
Total Enrollment Cap	162	243	324	405	486	486
Grade Levels	K – 1	K – 2	K – 3	K – 4	K – 5	K – 5