



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Mark Modrcin, Director of Authorizing
Mike Dang, Management Analyst IV
Danny Peltier, Management Analyst I
SUBJECT: Doral Academy of Nevada –Amendment to Charter Contract
DATE: July 30, 2021

Background & Summary of Request:

Doral Academy of Nevada (Doral) is an arts integration school, which serves students in Kindergarten through 12th Grade. The school's first campus opened in 2013 and since then has expanded into a network of six different campuses in the Las Vegas area, which currently serve more than 5,700 students combined.

Doral is requesting to amend their current charter to include a Dual-Credit program in order to provide further educational opportunities to its communities. According to the amendment application, Doral's target community for this proposed program will be all current Doral students at the middle and high school level. This amendment will bring Doral into alignment with [NRS 389.310\(1\)](#) requiring Dual-Credit cooperative agreements, as the school hopes to provide students an enhanced educational experience, as per their mission.

Doral will enter into an MOU with the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) to facilitate their concurrent enrollment plan and this MOU will become effective upon approval by the State Public Charter School Authority and the State Board of Education. Any Doral students will be able to complete the course(s) they are enrolled in pursuant to the MOU at the time of the notice. Doral will offer certain approved 299 or lower-level college courses that qualify for CSN academic credit and fulfill Doral's high school graduation requirements. CSN will grant college credit toward earning a credential, certificate, or degree, as applicable, for a dual credit course when a Doral student satisfactorily completes the course.

According to the application, CSN will work together with Doral to formulate a steering committee that will meet at least once quarterly to review the policies and procedures outlined in this MOU and National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships Standards (NACEP) to ensure compliance. Required texts will be selected by CSN in accordance with the CSN approved adopted textbook list. CSN's academic departments will review teacher qualifications and determine eligibility based on the teacher's educational credentials,

knowledge in the course subject, and teaching experience. CSN lead faculty are responsible for conducting site observation visits per NACEP Standards to ensure that the CSN courses offered through the Jumpstart program are offered with the same quality and rigor as the courses offered on CSN's campus.

CSN will charge all courses via invoice and Doral will remit payment for fees for each student enrolled in CSN courses within 30 days of the start of the course. Doral does not foresee an impact to any existing Academic, Organizational, or Financial aspects of school, and the SPCSA's review confirms this assumption.

Legal Authority and Requirements Related to Amendment Requests

Existing charter schools that are sponsored by the SPCSA may submit a charter school contract amendment application to the SPCSA – which is reviewed by SPCSA staff and presented for SPCSA Board action – in order to, among other things, increase enrollment, add grade levels above and beyond what the charter school is approved to serve, or add a new campus.

While Doral is not seeking to expand its enrollment under this amendment, it is worth noting that only those existing charter schools that are meeting expectations in regard to academics (under both the Department of Education's Nevada School Performance Framework -- the "Star Ratings" -- and the SPCSA's Academic Performance Framework), are compliant in regard to the SPCSA's Organizational Framework, and are fiscally sound may be approved for expansion. Furthermore, the academic, organizational, and financial performance of other charter schools that contract with the same Charter Management Organization or Educational Management organization is taken into account when reviewing an expansion application.¹

Staff Recommendation: Approve

SPCSA staff finds that the proposed addition of a Dual-Credit program will enhance the academic programming at Doral Academy of Nevada, in addition to meet the requirements for all high schools in Nevada.

Proposed Motion: Grant Doral Academy of Nevada a Good Cause Exemption and approve their request, with the following conditions, to allow the school to:

- **Implement a dual credit program, with the condition that the school provide evidence that the governing body of Doral Academy of Nevada has applied and been approved by the State Board of Education, thereby permitting students to earn credits during the upcoming school year, and provide evidence of a final, signed, Memorandum of Understanding between Doral Academy of Nevada and the College of Southern Nevada.**

² Due to COVID-19, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) applied for and was granted a 2019 – 20 school year waiver from the US Department of Education for certain assessment, accountability, school identification, and reporting requirements established by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Accordingly, for the 2019 – 20 school year, Nevada statewide assessments were not administered and the NDE did not calculate Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) school ratings

The chart below provides the **current** Doral enrollment caps for each year of the current charter term:

School Year	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Cactus				
Grade Levels	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment	1,004	1,004	1,004	1,004
Fire Mesa				
Grade Levels	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Red Rock				
Grade Levels	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12
Enrollment	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
Saddle				
Grade Levels	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Pebble				
Grade Levels	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment	960	960	960	960
Total Enrollment	6,370	6,370	6,370	6,370

Doral Academy of Nevada Star Rating, Grade Structure, Historical Enrollment, and Demographics

Year	NSPF Rating
2020 ²	Pebble elementary: 5 stars Pebble middle: 5 stars Cactus Campus elementary: 5 stars Cactus Campus middle: 5 stars Fire Mesa elementary: 5 stars Fire Mesa middle: 5 stars Red Rock elementary: 5 stars Red Rock middle: 4 stars Red Rock high: NR Saddle elementary: 4 stars Saddle middle: 5 stars
2019	Pebble elementary: 5 stars Pebble middle: 5 stars Cactus Campus elementary: 5 stars Cactus Campus middle: 5 stars Fire Mesa elementary: 5 stars Fire Mesa middle: 5 stars Red Rock elementary: 5 stars Red Rock middle: 4 stars Red Rock high: NR Saddle elementary: 4 stars Saddle middle: 5 stars

² Due to COVID-19, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) applied for and was granted a 2019 – 20 school year waiver from the US Department of Education for certain assessment, accountability, school identification, and reporting requirements established by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Accordingly, for the 2019 – 20 school year, Nevada statewide assessments were not administered and the NDE did not calculate Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) school ratings

2018	Pebble elementary: 5 stars Pebble middle: 4 stars Cactus Campus elementary: 4 stars Cactus Campus middle: 5 stars Fire Mesa elementary: 3 stars Fire Mesa middle: 4 stars Red Rock elementary: 5 stars Red Rock middle: 5 stars Red Rock high: NR Saddle elementary: 4 stars Saddle middle: 3 stars
2017	Elementary: 5 stars Middle: 5 stars
2016	Elementary: 5 stars Middle: 3 stars
2015	Elementary: 5 stars Middle: 3 stars

Historical Enrollment and Demographic Information (as of Validation Day each year)

Doral Cactus Campus

Year	Total Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	997	9.5%	4.4%	53.4%	17.9%	0.1%	12.8%	1.7%	7.9%	^	^
18-19	1002	10.4%	4.5%	51.6%	17.0%	0.0%	13.6%	2.3%	7.6%	^	8.2%
19-20	995	9.6%	4.6%	50.0%	18.3%	0.1%	14.7%	2.4%	8.8%	^	12.7%
20-21	988	10.9%	4.7%	48.3%	19.5%	0.1%	13.9%	2.3%	8.9%	^	14.1%

^ indicates count data are suppressed to protect student privacy, because rate is in extreme value (<5 or >95)

Doral Fire Mesa Campus

Year	Total Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	985	6.1%	10.1%	44.7%	28.8%	0.1%	8.4%	1.5%	9.3%	^	14.9%
18-19	981	5.0%	8.9%	41.8%	33.0%	0.1%	9.2%	1.6%	9.8%	^	28.0%
19-20	973	4.2%	9.9%	38.3%	35.8%	0.1%	9.8%	1.6%	10.1%	^	34.5%
20-21	985	4.2%	10.5%	35.9%	37.4%	0.2%	10.1%	1.4%	10.7%	^	31.0%

^ indicates count data are suppressed to protect student privacy, because rate is in extreme value (<5 or >95)

Doral Red Rock Campus

Year	Total Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	1423	8.9%	4.1%	55.6%	19.3%	0.4%	9.4%	2.1%	9.4%	^	^
18-19	1637	8.1%	4.1%	54.9%	20.8%	0.4%	9.2%	2.1%	9.5%	^	14.5%
19-20	1814	8.7%	5.1%	54.4%	21.1%	0.5%	8.4%	1.5%	10.1%	^	14.3%
20-21	2012	8.6%	5.8%	52.0%	22.2%	0.4%	9.2%	1.4%	11.2%	^	19.7%

^ indicates count data are suppressed to protect student privacy, because rate is in extreme value (<5 or >95)

Doral Saddle Campus

Year	Total Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	972	11.1%	8.1%	46.2%	19.9%	0.2%	12.2%	2.0%	9.4%	^	^
18-19	995	12.9%	8.5%	43.1%	20.7%	0.2%	12.1%	2.3%	7.6%	^	16.4%
19-20	986	13.5%	9.6%	40.9%	21.9%	0.1%	11.4%	2.3%	8.2%	^	18.6%

20-21	997	13.6%	9.9%	37.7%	23.0%	0.4%	13.3%	1.9%	8.0%	^	27.2%
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Doral West Pebble Campus

Year	Total Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	796	16.9%	6.2%	41.3%	22.7%	0.1%	9.7%	2.7%	5.2%	^	^
18-19	920	17.3%	7.0%	40.8%	22.7%	0.1%	9.5%	2.2%	6.1%	7.2%	22.7%
19-20	978	19.5%	9.1%	37.6%	21.8%	0.0%	10.1%	1.7%	7.7%	7.2%	25.7%
20-21	987	19.5%	10.8%	35.4%	20.4%	0.0%	12.3%	1.3%	7.3%	6.2%	24.6%

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- A – Asian
- B – Black
- C - White
- H – Hispanic
- I – American Indian/Alaskan Native
- M – Two or more races
- P – Pacific Islander
- IEP – Individualized Education Plan –A student with a disability/special education student
- ELL – English Language Learner
- FRL – A student who qualifies for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch