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To: [SPCSA Public Comment](#)
Subject: Discovery Charter School Public Comment December 16
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My name is Barbara Caballero and I am a third grade teacher at Discovery Charter School. Discovery Charter School is seeking an amendment to increase enrollment by 99 students at our Hillpointe campus.

I have been a teacher at Discovery Charter School since 2016 and a parent since 2013. I have seen the school steadily grow and evolve and I am proud of the changes I have seen. I have students from all over the valley who take long commutes (many times with the help of extended family) to come to our school. It is an extremely diverse school because we have so many people coming from all over the valley. Our after school program thrives because so many of our families need the additional care as they work all over Las Vegas. Many of the students in my classroom are from single family households and the after school program allows the students to come to Discovery. We are fortunate to know many grandparents, aunts and uncles and friends of families because they are quick to help one another with transportation. Many parents sacrifice time and ease or convenience to bring their children to Discovery. There are many perks to our little school such as smaller class sizes, less classes overall so staff really knows the students regardless of grade level. We pride ourselves on being a close knit group who truly care for one another. While we want to increase our school size, rest assured it is not by an overly large amount and we would still maintain a small close knit community. We would just be able to offer our amazing students more convenience in their day. An indoor space for lunch, as well as PE in the hot spring, summer, and early fall months would be such an asset for Discovery. As would a larger space for our growing SPED program. I would like to share some things about our school that are not obvious on state reports.

Reasons why it should be approved:

- Demographics are and GROWING:
 - 30% FRL
 - 16% IEP
 - 60% Non white

- Over 37 zip codes represented
- We provide a bus for our 35 middle schoolers from our 89121 campus to the Hillpointe campus. We keep our school community together. This 89121 campus is growing.
- Enrollment
 - 2019-20 380
 - 2020-21 452
 - 2021-22 466
 - 2022-23 499
- Facilities
 - 3 classrooms must instruct outside
 - All specialists are on a cart
 - SPED is operating out of closet/hallway/former office space
 - Cafeteria is outside
 - Every class is occupied during instructional hours
 - After school program averages 60 students per day and operates outside for the majority of the time due to after school programs Mon-Thur
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No additional conference, office or storage for additional services such as counseling, planning

- Waitlist continues to grow for middle school and kindergarten

Finally, as we get ready for winter break and I work on report cards and look at the data from our recent winter assessments I am even more inspired to want more for our wonderful students. I have seen growth like I have never seen in my nineteen years of teaching. These kids are working so hard to fill in gaps that happened with school closures and online learning. We worked hard during the Covid years and even though I met students daily online and worked hard to help there are gaps. These kids have stepped up and are showing us how amazing they are. They are dealing with divorce, death, poverty and yet they are thriving. I hope you will give us a chance to show what we can do with more resources to help all of our students thrive. We don't care where they live or what their background is. What matters is that we are a community who works together. Our kids belong at Discovery whatever their zip code is.

Please give us the opportunity to service more kids and in turn provide more opportunities for all of our students.

Sincerely,

Barbara Caballero



Public Comment