Charter School Transportation in Nevada
Why Transportation Matters

To be equitable, schools must be accessible.

When transportation is barrier, school choice is a privilege, not a right.
Why Transportation Matters

“The bus was a lifesaver. I could not make it to work in the morning and send my kids to NV Prep without the bus stop near our home.”

– Founding parent
State of Transportation

N.R.S. 388A.246.22

Charter applications in Nevada must include:

A statement of whether the charter school will provide for the transportation of pupils... If the charter school will not provide transportation, the application must include a statement that the charter school will work with the parents and guardians...to develop a plan for transportation to ensure that pupils have access to transportation...
State of Transportation

Charter schools receive NO transportation funding.

CCSD receives more than $146 Million per year in transportation funding (see Feb. 2022 PCFP data).

Based on the 2018-2019 Fast Facts report, 141,000 CCSD students were eligible for transportation. This means the average investment in transportation-eligible students may be ~$1,000.
Bus #1 began operating in October 2018. The founding bus driver was also a founding parent.

Bus #2 began operating in August 2019. The bus driver is also an NV Prep parent.

Buses #3 and #4 are scheduled to launch in August 2022.
NV Prep Transportation

Prior to school launch, NV Prep chose bus stop locations based on student applications and interest forms. This allowed families to commit to the school before a campus was secured.

In 2018-19, bus #1 operated at full occupancy from day 1.

In 2019-20, both buses operated at full occupancy until Covid-19 campus closures in March 2020.
NV Prep
Bus Stops

More than 50% of NV Prep scholars have always traveled to and from school on a school bus.

(Marker sizes represent relative popularity of bus stops.)
Requests & Recommendations

Advocacy Help! Student transportation cannot be one school’s passion project. We need more partners, and our charter authorizer, advocating with us for systemic solutions.

Awareness and Honesty! Public charter schools cannot champion equity until we address student transportation inequity.
Requests & Recommendations

Level Playing Field! Until public charter schools receive transportation funding at the same level as school districts, school transportation will likely remain uncommon in charter schools.

Guts! Doing what’s right isn’t always good for the bottom line. Transportation is expensive. It is a lot of work. But students deserve our best efforts.