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ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Rebecca Feiden, Executive Director
SUBJECT: National Association of Charter School Authorizers Leadership in Action Cohort
DATE: January 27, 2023

Background

The National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) is a national membership organization for charter school authorizers/sponsors. The organization describes itself as “an independent voice for thoughtful charter school authorizing practices and policies that lead to more great public schools.”¹ As a member of NACSA, the SPCSA has access to numerous resources and training opportunities.

Leadership in Action Cohort

NACSA has invited authorizers from across the country to participate in the ‘NACSA Leadership in Action Cohort’ which will allow representatives from authorizers to work together on reviewing and implementing authorizing practices, with a focus on new charter school application strategies. This 12-18 month opportunity, scheduled to begin in early 2023, will include regular virtual meetings with NACSA staff and other authorizers, as well as semi-annual in-person convenings. Throughout the Leadership in Action Cohort, participants will:

- Review current new charter school application practices and gather data regarding the new charter school application process;

¹ <https://www.qualitycharters.org/>

- Compare new charter school application practices and data with other authorizers;
- Plan and implement changes to the new charter school application process;
- Learn about the practices used by other authorizers;
- Help identify emerging authorizing practices;
- Collaborate with NACSA to document learnings;
- Share work with authorizers in other states; and
- Have ongoing support from NACSA.

There is no cost for participation in the virtual and in-person meetings. However, if the SPCSA participates in this program, the agency will be responsible for travel costs.

Recommended Motion

The Executive Director and/or her designee participate in the NACSA Leadership in Action Cohort beginning in 2023.