

Joe Lombardo
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

Melissa Mackedon
Executive Director



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

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

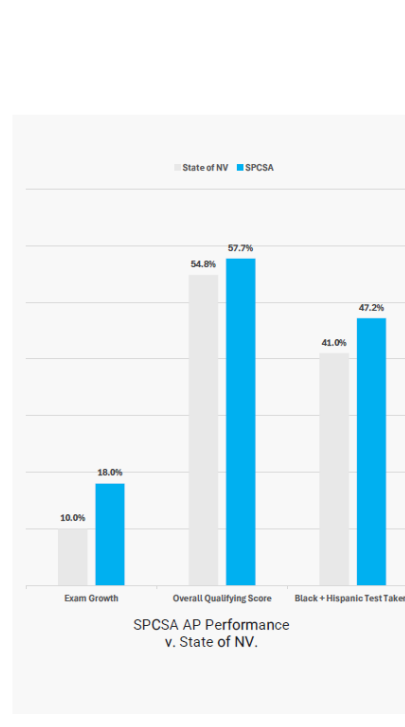
TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Melissa Mackedon
SUBJECT: Executive Director Report
DATE: November 15, 2024

School Highlight

AP Performance SPCSA v. Nevada

- SPCSA Schools saw **8 percentage point more growth** in exams than did the State of Nevada
- SPCSA Schools had **47% of test takers identify as Black or Hispanic** v. 41% across the State of NV
- Students in the SPCSA earned qualifying scores on **57.7%** of AP exams v. **54.8%** of exams in Nevada
- Qualifying score performance **increased by 7.8% in the SPCSA** v. **5.7% in Nevada**

Data is sourced from College Board's Integrated Report dated 10.2024



Delinquent PERS Update

Delinquent PERS payments as of 10/31/24. For a full accounting of payments, please reference the “Outstanding Charter Contribution Balance” sheet provided by PERS and included in the board material.

School	Delinquent as of 10/31/24	Status
NV Prep	\$373,726.56	PERS approved monthly payment plan
Explore Academy	\$319,590.46	PERS approved monthly payment plan
TEACH Las Vegas	\$39,301.30	PERS payment is part of the school closure process being handled by Josh Kern.
Equipo Academy	\$179,076.14	PERS approved monthly payment plan.
Eagle Charter Schools	\$16,911.89	PERS payment is part of the school closure process being handled by Josh Kern.

School Closure Update

TEACH: TEACH will begin the financial audit of the wind-down as soon as Vegas Vista pays Teach Las Vegas for the furniture and equipment. The second installment is past due, and the final installment is due November 5, 2024.

Eagle: Eagle will begin the financial audit of the wind-down as soon as we resolve the CSP receivable. We have prepared a memorandum for CSP's consideration.

Both TEACH and Eagle continue to manage requests from families and vendors concerning the wind-down efforts. Ten Square looks forward to providing another update in January 2025.

Legislative Update

SPCSA staff has worked closely with Governor Lombardo's office over the past six months to establish our legislative priorities for the upcoming legislative session. Legislative priorities include ensuring all charter school sponsors serve as the Local Education Agency of the schools they sponsor, removing limitations for SPCSA board members regarding annual ratings of schools they may work at, enabling public charter schools to receive transportation via auxiliary service as traditional public schools do, and minor revisions to the charter school renewal process are all part of the SPCSA legislative agenda. Additionally, the Department of Motor

Vehicles is helping ensure that charter schools are granted the same exemptions when registering vehicles as other public entities receive.

The SPCSA will establish a fiscal note working group to support us as we have the last two sessions. This group is critical to ensure we provide accurate fiscal impacts to charter schools relating to different legislative proposals.

Board Governance: Open Meeting Law Training

The effectiveness of charter school governing boards is closely linked to their school's academic and fiscal success. Effective boards provide strong leadership, setting clear goals for academic performance and fiscal responsibility. They ensure the school's mission and vision align with strategies for achieving high educational outcomes, supporting teachers and administrators in delivering quality instruction. Additionally, effective boards practice sound financial oversight, securing resources, and managing budgets wisely to enhance learning environments. When boards are engaged, knowledgeable, and responsive, they create a foundation that enables schools to thrive academically and remain financially stable, benefiting students and the broader school community.

As the first step in supporting our schools' governance, the SPCSA provided three opportunities to attend Open Meeting Law (OML) training in October (10/15, 10/29, and 10/30). SPCSA staff are committed to offering at least one training session after business hours, which we did on October 29. Schools with three or more OML concerns in the previous school year were required to participate in the training by either attending one of the training sessions or by agendaizing the training and showing it during a board meeting. A recording of the training was uploaded to the SPCSA website.

SPCSA staff will, as the next step, provide a best practice training in early in 2025.

Performance Framework Update

SPCSA staff offered five training sessions to schools and their boards regarding the Performance Framework, which the Authority Board approved in July 2024. The training occurred on 9/9, 9/25, 10/8, 10/17 (after business hours), and 11/1.

NACSA Conference

Members of the SPCSA staff, along with Member Aldaba and Member Haddad Bennett, were able to attend the National Association of Charter School Authorizers annual conference in Houston. Participants attended sessions on evaluating founding charter school teams, recent research in authorizing, determining when charter schools are ready to expand, assessment and accountability, and mergers and acquisitions to name a few.