

STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Authority Board

FROM: Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III, SPCSA

SUBJECT: Sage Collegiate – Charter Amendment Request to Reduce Enrollment Cap

DATE: April 12, 2024

Summary of Request and Recommendation

Sage Collegiate has submitted an amendment application requesting that the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) grant a Good Cause Exemption and approve the request to reduce its 2023-24 enrollment cap.

SPCSA staff has reviewed the application and recommends that the Authority grant the Good Cause Exemption and approve the amendment request. A proposed motion can be found on page 3 of this memo.

Background and Overview of the Amendment

Sage Collegiate is located at the 4100 W. Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, 89102. Sage Collegiate opened in August 2022 as a slow growth charter school and will continue to add a grade level each year until the school reached grades $K-8^{th}$. As of Validation Day 2023, Sage Collegiate had 241 students enrolled.

According to the application, Sage Collegiate lost about 75 students did not report to school in the first week and did not respond to outreach in the first two weeks of school, which caused the school to not meet the 10% threshold for its 2023-2024 school year enrollment cap.

Sage Collegiate noted in their amendment application that they have taken steps to ensure they can meet enrollment projections for the 2024-25 school year. According to the amendment application, Sage Collegiate has hired an engagement coordinator increase recruitment, started offering transportation in January 2024, returned to successful Y0 practices related to student recruitment and community outreach, including marketing, home/community visits, and community events, and adjusted the daily schedule based on feedback from students and families.

If approved, Sage Collegiate enrollment cap for the remainder of its charter term would be:

School Year	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Grade Levels	K – 6	K – 7	K – 8	K – 8	K – 8
Total Enrollment	225	392	476	532	588

According to the amendment application, Sage Collegiate also reduced staffing by 5 position, the Executive Director took a voluntary 7% pay cut to support budget line items, and adjusted some operational budget line items, including custodial and non-instructional auxiliary services. These budget changes equated to about \$281,000 in reduction of costs.

Legal Authority

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. determining whether to approve an amendment request, the sponsor considers the charter school's compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations and evidence relating to the academics, finance and organization of the charter school. (See NAC 388A.400(8) and NRS 388A.276).

Analysis and Staff Recommendation

When reviewing an amendment application for RFA eligibility, SPCSA staff reviews the academic, financial and organizational performance of the applicant charter school. Sage Collegiate's elementary school was rated as 2-stars and scored 60.6 points of the SPCSA's Academic Performance Framework, which met standards.

Sage Collegiate received 81.3 points of the SPCSA's Organizational Performance Framework,

approved at the March 1, 2024 SPCSA Board meeting, which Met Standard. Sage Collegiate was issued a Financial Notice of Concern at the March 1, 2024 SPCSA Board meeting as was required to develop and submit a financial improvement plan.

SPCSA staff recommends the SPCSA board approve the request of Sage Collegiate to reduce its enrollment cap from 308 students to 225 students for the 2023-2024 school year.

<u>Proposed Motion: Grant the Good Cause Exemption request and approve Sage Collegiate's request to reduce its approved enrollment cap for the 2023-24 school year.</u>

If approved, Sage Collegiate's enrollment cap for its charter term will be:

School Year	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Grade Levels	K – 6	K – 7	K – 8	K – 8	K – 8
Total Enrollment	225	392	476	532	588

The current approved Sage Collegiate's enrollment cap for its charter is:

School Year	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Grade Levels	K – 6	K – 7	K – 8	K – 8	K – 8
Total Enrollment	308	392	476	532	588

School Demographics since 2022 - Sage Collegiate

Year	Enrollment	A	В	C	Н	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
22-23	205	3.4%	17.5%	43.4%	33.6%	0.0%	0.9%	0.9%	9.2%	10.2%	66.8%
23-24	241	3.7%	16.1%	18.2%	48.1%	0.0%	12.8%	0.8%	12.0%	17.8%	100%

A - Asian

Financial Performance

Year	Rating
2022 – 2023	Notice of Concern

B – Black

C-Caucasian

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

^{* -} Suppressed data due to n-count

$Organizational\ Performance-Not\ Rated$

Year	Rating
2022 – 2023	Meets Standard

Academic Performance

School Year	NSPF Rating
2022 – 2023 Star Rating	Elementary School: 2-stars

Sage Collegiate 2022-23 SPCSA Academic Performance Framework Results

Campus	2022-23 SPCSA Academic Framework Score	2022-23 SPCSA Academic Framework Rating
E1		MEETS STANDARD
Elementary School	60.6	MEETS STANDARD