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ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Authority Board
FROM: Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III, SPCSA
SUBJECT: **Pinecrest Academy of Nevada – Charter Amendment Request to reduce enrollment caps at the Springs and Virtual campuses**
DATE: May 17, 2024

Summary of Request and Recommendation

Pinecrest Academy of Nevada (PAN) has submitted an amendment application requesting that the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) grant a Good Cause Exemption and approve the Pinecrest Springs and Pinecrest Virtual campuses the reduce their enrollment caps for the 2023-24 school year and beyond.

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

Background and Overview of the Amendment

Pinecrest Academy of Nevada (PAN) opened its first campus in 2012 serving students in Grades K-7. Today, the PAN network has grown to six campuses serving grades K-12 across the Las Vegas Valley.

According to the 2023 Validation day information the PAN Springs campus served 186 students in grades K – 3 and the PAN Virtual campus served 117 students in grades 6th – 11th.

According to the amendment application, PAN is seeking to reduce its enrollment caps at each of these campuses for the 2023-24 school year and beyond. PAN notes that the Springs campus was originally scheduled to serve up to 645 students in grades K-6 during its inaugural 2023-24

school year. The facility for the new Springs campus was originally to be located at 4000 Meadows Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 which was the former Sears store at the Meadows Mall. After the SPCSA approved the establishment of the Springs campus, however, PAN was unable to secure the purchase or lease of the original proposed facility. PAN thereafter secured approval from the SPCSA to further amend its charter in order to (a) reduce its projected enrollment for the 2023-24 school year from 645 students in grades K-6 to 257 students in grades K-3. Unfortunately, the Springs campus has experienced unexpected challenges to meet its planned enrollment projections as a result of these changes to both occupy a smaller temporary school facility approximately and the reduce grades levels to K-3.

Regarding the PAN Virtual campus, PAN explained in their amendment application that reduction in its planned enrollment based largely on the feedback the school received from the state during our 2022-23 school year evaluation as well as the Virtual school’s recent Star rating based on the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) score. Based on this feedback and assessment results, the team determined that instead of continuing to grow enrollment, it was paramount to prioritize student success and focus on solidifying the program's platform as well as educational supports such as intervention, mental health support, and attendance before adding additional student enrollment. With the virtual platform being extremely transient, the school felt having a good strong program foundation would not only increase the number of students staying with the program but would also increase students overall academic success.

If approved, the enrollment caps for the PAN Virtual and Springs campuses will be:

School Year	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32
Virtual									
Grade Levels	6-11	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12
Enrollment	120	135	140	140	140	140	140	140	140
Springs									
Grade Levels	K-3	K-4	K-5	K-6	K-7	K-8	K-9	K-10	K-11
Enrollment	184	266	346	421	496	571	647	725	803

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. When 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, SPCSA staff reviews the academic, financial and organizational performance of the applicant charter school. In the case of PAN, SPCSA staff finds the school to be meeting academic, financial and organizational performance expectations. The elementary, middle, and high school programs across the PAN network are operating at 4 and 5-star levels under the NSPF ratings for the 2022-23 school year with the exception of the Virtual Campus which earned 2-stars. Additionally, again with exception to the Virtual Campus which Did Not Meet Standards, all campuses either met or exceeded standards according to the 2022-2023 SPCSA Academic Performance results.

The school earned 94 points (out of 100) points under the SPCSA Organizational Performance Framework for the 2022 – 23 school year as approved by the Authority on March 1, 2024. As such, SPCSA staff finds the school to be ‘Meeting Standards.’ PAN has also been found to ‘Meeting Standards’ on the most recent 2022 SPCSA Financial Performance Framework.

SPCSA staff has reviewed the request submitted by PAN and is supportive. Overall, the school provided valid reasoning behind the requests for both campuses, and the network as a whole is strong. As such, SPCSA staff recommends the Authority to approve the requests of the PAN Virtual and Springs campuses.

Proposed Motion: Grant the Good Cause Exemption Request and approve Pinecrest Academy of Las Vegas’ request to reduce the enrollment caps at the Virtual and Springs campuses for the 2023-24 school year and beyond.

Pinecrest Current Enrollment Caps

School Year	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32
Cadence								
Grade Levels	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12
Enrollment	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040
Horizon								
Grade Levels	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5
Enrollment	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910
Inspirada								
Grade Levels	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090
Sloan Canyon								
Grade Levels	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12
Enrollment	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025
St. Rose								
Grade Levels	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010
Virtual Academy								
Grade Levels	6-11	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12
Enrollment	170	170	170	170	170	170	170	170
Springs								

Grade Levels	K-3	K-4	K-5	K-6	K-7	K-8	K-9	K-10
Enrollment	257	335	413	491	569	647	725	803

Pinecrest Proposed Enrollment Caps if the Springs and Virtual campus reduction in Enrollment is Approved

School Year	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32
Cadence								
Grade Levels	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12
Enrollment	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040	2,040
Horizon								
Grade Levels	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5
Enrollment	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910
Inspirada								
Grade Levels	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090
Sloan Canyon								
Grade Levels	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12	K-12
Enrollment	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025	2,025
St. Rose								
Grade Levels	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010
Virtual Academy								
Grade Levels	6-11	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12
Enrollment	135	140	140	140	140	140	140	140
Springs								
Grade Levels	K-4	K-5	K-6	K-7	K-8	K-9	K-10	K-11
Enrollment	266	346	421	496	571	647	725	803

School Demographic Change since 2017 – Pinecrest Academy

Pinecrest Cadence

Year	Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	1261	5.2%	6.5%	53.0%	25.3%	0.2%	8.5%	0.9%	11.4%	*	18.0%
18-19	1628	5.8%	7.2%	49.2%	26.9%	0.3%	8.7%	1.5%	11.6%	*	30.8%
19-20	1814	5.4%	7.2%	48.3%	27.9%	0.4%	8.9%	1.5%	12.5%	*	30.8%
20-21	1941	5.4%	7.7%	45.7%	28.9%	0.5%	9.5%	2.0%	12.1%	*	28.8%

21-22	2078	5.5%	6.0%	44.5%	30.6%	0.4%	10.6%	2.1%	13.7%	*	32.3%
22-23	2209	6.6%	6.3%	42.1%	32.0%	0.3%	10.4%	1.9%	13.1%	*	31.7%
23-24	2299	6.8%	5.7%	41.3%	34.0%	0.3%	9.6%	1.9%	12.0%	*	32.5%

Pinecrest Horizon

Year	Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	866	3.8%	8.1%	55.1%	25.2%	0.3%	6.0%	1.1%	11.2%	*	17.6%
18-19	703	4.5%	5.1%	51.6%	29.8%	0.2%	7.8%	0.7%	10.2%	*	27.7%
19-20	771	3.6%	7.2%	47.4%	31.6%	0.3%	8.6%	0.9%	12.0%	*	31.1%
20-21	816	3.9%	7.1%	45.7%	33.3%	0.3%	8.7%	0.8%	9.9%	*	32.3%
21-22	871	3.5%	6.7%	45.5%	33.2%	0.2%	9.4%	1.1%	11.1%	*	32.3%
22-23	871	2.7%	6.7%	45.5%	34.0%	0.1%	9.7%	0.9%	11.7%	*	33.0%
23-24	901	2.9%	6.2%	44.8%	34.1%	0.0%	10.5%	1.2%	13.4%	*	40.7%

Pinecrest Inspirada

Year	Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	1017	10.4%	3.9%	52.0%	18.5%	0.6%	12.8%	1.4%	9.6%	*	*
18-19	1099	10.6%	4.5%	50.3%	19.1%	0.3%	13.2%	1.6%	8.4%	*	11.0%
19-20	1193	12.0%	4.5%	49.8%	18.4%	0.4%	12.9%	1.7%	9.0%	*	9.8%
20-21	1224	12.7%	4.2%	47.7%	19.9%	0.3%	13.2%	1.7%	8.3%	*	12.5%
21-22	1186	13.4%	3.7%	45.9%	21.0%	0.3%	13.3%	2.0%	9.1%	*	13.3%
22-23	1197	14.2%	3.7%	45.3%	22.1%	0.1%	12.4%	1.8%	9.1%	*	13.7%
23-24	1191	15.5%	3.6%	43.7%	21.4%	0.0%	13.4%	2.1%	9.0%	*	14.4%

Pinecrest St. Rose

Year	Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	982	12.0%	5.2%	44.7%	23.0%	0.4%	10.4%	4.0%	7.3%	*	8.2%

18-19	992	13.2%	5.0%	42.1%	23.8%	0.2%	11.6%	3.8%	8.5%	*	19.5%
19-20	980	15.8%	6.6%	34.1%	27.5%	0.2%	12.6%	2.9%	8.5%	*	26.0%
20-21	1007	15.0%	7.7%	33.5%	28.0%	0.1%	11.8%	3.5%	8.1%	*	26.0%
21-22	1008	13.9%	8.1%	34.8%	27.1%	0.1%	12.7%	2.8%	7.3%	*	28.0%
22-23	1023	14.2%	6.2%	33.6%	29.8%	0.0%	13.0%	2.9%	8.1%	*	31.0%
23-24	1025	14.8%	6.5%	31.1%	30.2%	0.5%	13.3%	3.3%	7.1%	*	31.3%

Pinecrest Sloan Canyon

Year	Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
18-19	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
19-20	1236	14.0%	4.9%	38.4%	25.8%	0.1%	14.4%	2.1%	8.8%	*	17.0%
20-21	1473	15.1%	4.4%	37.2%	25.9%	0.3%	14.7%	2.1%	9.0%	*	17.5%
21-22	1706	15.8%	5.0%	36.2%	25.3%	0.2%	14.8%	2.2%	10.0%	*	17.3%
22-23	2048	15.2%	5.7%	35.8%	26.3%	0.1%	14.4%	2.2%	10.3%	*	19.7%
23-24	2183	16.3%	5.0%	35.7%	26.2%	0.2%	13.8%	2.4%	9.7%	*	20.9%

Pinecrest Springs

Year	Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
18-19	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
19-20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
20-21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
21-22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
22-23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
23-24	186	8.6%	14.5%	16.1%	48.3%	0.0%	10.2%	2.1%	9.1%	14.5%	54.3%

Pinecrest Virtual

Year	Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
17-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
18-19	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
19-20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
20-21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
21-22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
22-23	78	5.1%	5.1%	29.4%	32.0%	1.2%	21.7%	5.1%	12.8%	0.0%	24.3%
23-24	117	4.2	10.2	31.6	29.9	0.0	22.2	1.7	15.3%	*	37.6%

A – Asian

B – Black

C - White

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

Pinecrest Academy Charter School Financial Performance

Year	Rating
2019 – 2020	Meets the Standard
2020 – 2021	Meets the Standard
2021 – 2022	Meets the Standard
2022 – 2023	Meets the Standard

Pinecrest Academy Charter School Organizational Performance

Year	Rating
2019 – 2020	Meets the Standard
2020 – 2021	Meets the Standard
2021 – 2022	Meets the Standard
2022 – 2023	Meets the Standard

Pinecrest Academy Academic Performance

School Year	NSPF Rating ¹
2018 – 2019	<p>Cadence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star - High School: Not Rated <p>Horizon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star <p>Inspirada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 5-star - Middle School: 5-star <p>Sloan Canyon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A <p>St. Rose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star <p>Virtual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A
2019 – 2020	<p>Cadence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star - High School: Not Rated <p>Horizon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star <p>Inspirada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 5-star - Middle School: 5-star <p>Sloan Canyon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A <p>St. Rose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star <p>Virtual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A

¹ Due to COVID-19, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) did not calculate Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) school ratings for the 2019-20 or 2020-21 school years and instead applied NSPF school ratings from the 2018-2019 school year to both the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years. For the 2021-22 school year, the NDE assigned NSPF index scores but did not provide corresponding star ratings.

2020 – 2021	<p>Cadence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star - High School: Not Rated <p>Horizon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star <p>Inspirada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 5-star - Middle School: 5-star <p>Sloan Canyon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A <p>St. Rose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star <p>Virtual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A
2021 – 2022 Index Score	<p>Cadence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 83.0 - Middle School: 71.0 - High School: 87.2 <p>Horizon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 80.5 <p>Inspirada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 92.7 - Middle School: 97.2 <p>Sloan Canyon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 92.5 - Middle School: 84.4 - High School: N/A <p>St. Rose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 83.5 - Middle School: 94.4 <p>Virtual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A
2022 – 2023 Star Ratings	<p>Cadence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 5-star - Middle School: 3-star - High School: 5-star <p>Horizon</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 5-star <p>Inspirada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star <p>Sloan Canyon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 5-star - Middle School: 4-star - High School: Not Rated <p>St. Rose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 5-star - Middle School: 5-star <p>Virtual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Middle School: 2-star - High School: Not Rated
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Pinecrest Academy of Nevada 2021-22 SPCSA Academic Performance Results²

Campus	2021-22 SPCSA Academic Framework Score	2021-22 SPCSA Academic Framework Rating	2021-22 NSPF Index Score
Pinecrest Cadence ES	82.8	EXCEEDS STANDARD	83.0
Pinecrest Cadence MS	77.6	MEETS STANDARD	71.0
Pinecrest Cadence HS	85.3	EXCEEDS STANDARD	87.2
Pinecrest Horizon ES	71.3	MEETS STANDARD	80.5
Pinecrest Inspirada ES	85.6	EXCEEDS STANDARD	92.7
Pinecrest Inspirada MS	90.3	EXCEEDS STANDARD	97.2
Pinecrest Sloan Canyon ES	86.5	EXCEEDS STANDARD	92.5
Pinecrest Sloan Canyon MS	81.6	EXCEEDS STANDARD	84.4
Pinecrest Sloan Canyon HS	Not Rated	Not Rated	N/A
Pinecrest St Rose ES	81.1	EXCEEDS STANDARD	83.5
Pinecrest St Rose MS	88.6	EXCEEDS STANDARD	94.4

² The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) calculated NSPF index scores for the 2021-22 school year but did not calculate corresponding star ratings (shown as N/A). 2021-22 NSPF details and rules can be found at: <http://nevadareportcard.nv.gov/DI/MoreDownload?filename=Nevada%20School%20Performance%20Framework%20Manual%202021-22%20School%20Year.pdf>

Pinecrest Academy of Nevada 2022-23 SPCSA Academic Performance Results

Campus	2022-23 SPCSA Academic Framework Score	2022-23 SPCSA Academic Framework Rating
Pinecrest Cadence ES	88.1	EXCEEDS STANDARD
Pinecrest Cadence MS	74.6	MEETS STANDARD
Pinecrest Cadence HS	86.6	EXCEEDS STANDARD
Pinecrest Horizon ES	89.2	EXCEEDS STANDARD
Pinecrest Inspirada ES	68.3	MEETS STANDARD
Pinecrest Inspirada MS	89	EXCEEDS STANDARD
Pinecrest Sloan Canyon ES	83.3	EXCEEDS STANDARD
Pinecrest Sloan Canyon MS	66.6	MEETS STANDARD
Pinecrest Sloan Canyon HS	Not Rated	Not Rated
Pinecrest St Rose ES	84.6	EXCEEDS STANDARD
Pinecrest St Rose MS	90.6	EXCEEDS STANDARD
Pinecrest Virtual MS	29.6	DOES NOT MEET STANDARD
Pinecrest Virtual HS	Not Rated	Not Rated