



Site Evaluations 2023-2024 School Year

Presentation to SPCSA Board

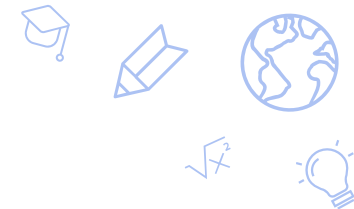
July 26, 2024





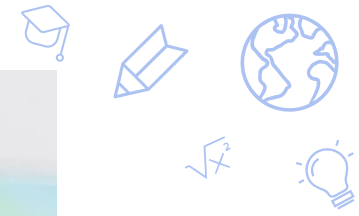
Overview

- Introduction of Site Evaluation Team
- Review of Site Evaluation Requirements, Purpose, and Focus
- Site Evaluation Overview
- Common Trends from the 2023-2024 School Year
- Moving Forward



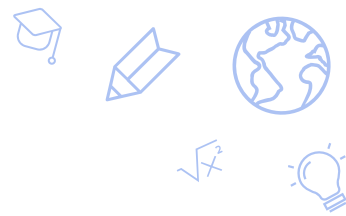
Introduction of Site Evaluation Team

- Dr. Selcuk Ozdemir, Manager of Academic Performance
- Karen Gordon
- Dr. Denise Shaw
- John Pilotin
- Gretchen Pfahler



Site Evaluation Requirements, Purpose, and Focus

Site Evaluation Legal Requirements

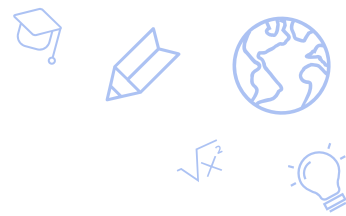


As approved by the Legislature [[NRS-388A.150](#)], the Authority is to “*provide oversight to the charter schools that it sponsors to ensure that those charter schools maintain high educational and operational standards, preserve autonomy and safeguard the interests of pupils and the community.*”

Additionally, [NRS 388A.223](#) outlines the monitoring responsibilities of the SPCSA, including the legal requirement to conduct site evaluations of each campus of a charter school it sponsors during the first, third and fifth years after entering or renewing a charter contract.

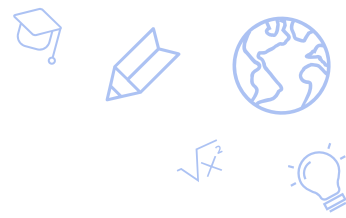
“*Such evaluations must include, without limitation, evaluating pupil achievement and school performance at each campus of the charter school and identifying any deficiencies relating to pupil achievement and school performance. The sponsor shall develop a plan with the charter school to correct any such deficiencies*” ([NRS-388A.223i](#)).

Site Evaluation Purpose



- To exercise oversight, gather formal and anecdotal evidence
- Enhance the SPCSA's monitoring of sponsored schools
- Document strengths of schools, progress toward goals and opportunities to improve
- Leverage best practices of well-established, highly recognized authorizers
- Inform high-stakes recommendations such as renewals and amendments

Site Evaluation Focus



- Academic Performance and delivery of instruction
- Organizational effectiveness of the school
- Adherence to the approved charter, contract with the Authority and applicable laws and regulations



Site Evaluation Overview





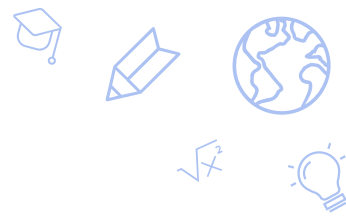
Comprehensive (Years 1, 3, 5)

- Year 1
 - Full Site Evaluation
- Year 3
 - Full Site Evaluation;
Abbreviated for 4 - and 5 - Star schools
- Year 5
 - Full Site Evaluation

Targeted Site Evaluation (Years 2, 4, 6)

- Previous Deficiency or Strong Recommendation
- 1- or 2-Star
- Operating under an academic or organizational notice

Site Evaluations



- **Site Evaluations are one half day to one full day**
 - School needs/star ratings
 - Compliance concerns
 - Previously issued Notices (Concern, Breach, Intent to Terminate)
 - High-stakes decision on the horizon
- **Site Evaluation teams are made up of two to four team members**
 - Allows multiple qualitative datasets
 - Enhances the validity of trends
 - Collaboration of focus group commentary and alignment of direct quotes
- **Require some pre-work from schools**
 - Gathering of documents not available in Epicenter
 - Schedule and attend virtual pre-site meeting
 - Outreach, with support from SPCSA, to prepare focus groups, leadership presentation
- **Final reports and findings pull from the analysis of multiple sources**
 - Focus group responses, data collection, observation of classroom instruction and operations
 - Grounded in common best practices of leading authorizers

2023-2024 - Site Evaluations



Nevada Virtual Charter School
Freedom Classical
Doral Cactus
Doral Fire Mesa
Doral Saddle
Doral W. Pebble
Doral Red Rock
Doral Academy Northern Nevada
Imagine Schools at Mountain View
Mater Academy Northern Nevada
Explore
Quest Academy
Eagle Nevada
Southern Nevada Trades High Schools
Alpine
Nevada Preparatory
Nevada Connections Academy
Oasis
Legacy Cadence ES

Legacy N. Valley ES
Silver Sands
Discovery Hillpointe
Discovery Sandhill
CIVICA
Equipo
Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas (CASLV) Sandy Ridge
CASLV Eastgate
CASLV Centennial
CASLV Tamarus
CASLV Windmill
CASLV Cadence
CASLV Nellis
Learning Bridge
Signature Prep
Elko Institute of Academic Achievement
TEACH Las Vegas



2023-2024 Site Evaluation Data

- All schools with a charter contract in years 1, 3, or 5 were evaluated as scheduled. Follow-up site evaluations were conducted for schools with strong recommendations and/or deficiency.
- A total of **34** Site Evaluations were conducted during the 2023-2024 school year.
- A total of **804** classrooms were observed.
- An average of **24** classrooms observations were conducted per school.
- Evaluations took place between September 2023 and April 2024.
- Available reports are on the SPCSA website for public access. For more information, please visit <https://charterschools.nv.gov>

Sample Site Evaluation Schedule #1		
<u>Date</u>		
<u>Time</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Room</u>
7:50-8:00	SPCSA Team arrives and settles into designated space. SPCSA Team observes morning arrival and entryway common spaces and classrooms. SPCSA Team visual checks – fire extinguishers, nurse’s facility, food permit, student & faculty file location, elevator permit.	
8:00-9:30	Classroom Observations	
9:30-10:15	Leadership presentation of SPCSA slides	
10:15-11:00	Leadership Focus group	
11:00-11:15	Break	
11:15-12:00	Student Focus Group	
12:00-12:30	SPCSA Team Debrief/Lunch	
12:30-1:15	School Board Focus Group	
1:15-1:45	Family Focus Group	
1:45-3:00	Classroom Observations	
3:00-3:45	School Staff Focus Group	
3:45-4:15	Break/SPCSA Team Debrief and record evidence in the report	
4:15-4:45	SPCSA Debrief with School Leaders	

Sample Site Evaluation Schedule #2		
<u>Date</u>		
<u>Time</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Room</u>
7:20-7:30	SPCSA Team arrives and settles into designated space. SPCSA Team observes morning arrival and entryway common spaces and classrooms. SPCSA Team visual checks – fire extinguishers, nurse’s facility, food permit, student & faculty file location, elevator permit.	
7:30-8:15	Staff Focus Group	
8:15-9:45	Classroom Observations	
9:45-10:30	Leadership presentation of SPCSA slides	
10:30-11:15	Leadership Focus group	
11:15-11:25	Break	
11:25-12:10	Student Focus Group	
12:15-12:45	SPCSA Team Debrief/Lunch	
12:45-2:00	Classroom Observations	
2:00-2:45	School Board Focus Group	
2:45-3:30	Family Focus Group	
3:30-4:00	Break/SPCSA Team Debrief and record evidence in the report	
4:00-4:15	SPCSA Debrief with School Leaders	

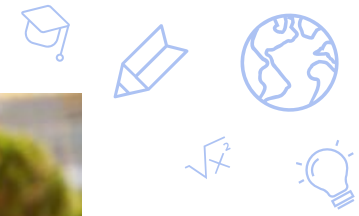


Site Evaluation Experience



- The SPCSA aims to provide a high-quality site evaluation experience by:
 - Utilizing effective communication
 - Providing meaningful feedback
 - Building strong relationships with stakeholders

The SPCSA site evaluation team strives to meet each of these by weaving in the three expectations through each step of the site evaluation process; pre- site evaluation, during the site evaluation, and post site evaluation.



2023-2024 School Year Common Trends

Common Trends from the 2023-2024 School Year



Areas of Strength	Opportunities for Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wait lists growing at established/consistent high-flying charters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under-enrollment in less established schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families express a desire for a high school at established k-8 schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of family engagement and participation in newer schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diverse representation amongst faculty and staff that mirror the student population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow your own - Career pathway opportunities implemented at school sites for faculty and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher turnover and retention
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families appreciative of bussing opportunities some schools were able to utilize 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic Absenteeism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families with students' special needs and the contrast in care, attention, and needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intentional PD for targeted student achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families with students learning English as a new language reported having a positive experience and feeling connected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newer school challenges upon opening



Moving Forward



Moving Forward



- Team members are excited to improve our practice of conducting site evaluations this coming school year. We are currently working on the 24-25 site evaluation schedule which the board will receive once it is finalized.
- The site evaluation team yearly reviews feedback from the SE surveys, anecdotal notes, and data collected from school leadership teams, when considering changes to the site evaluation process.
- The team is in process of revising the handbook and reviewing forms. The site evaluation team will present these proposed changes at the August board meeting.
- The site evaluation team informs school leaders and stakeholders of changes and revisions to the site evaluation process and handbook once approved. We offer virtual workshops for new schools, new school leaders, and any schools desiring to review the process.

Thank you!

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