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ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Authority Board
FROM: Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III, SPCSA
SUBJECT: **Pinecrest Academy of Las Vegas – Charter Amendment Request to increase enrollment caps at the Cadence and Sloan Canyon campuses**
DATE: July 26, 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 Sloan Canyon and Pinecrest Cadence campuses to increase their enrollment caps for the 2024-25 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 network of campuses served 7902 students in grades K – 12. According to the amendment application, PAN is seeking to increase its enrollment caps at the Cadence and Sloan campuses for the 2024-25 school year. PAN notes that the request is a continuation to meet the needs of underserved students in the community. Both the Cadence campus and Sloan campus serve grades K – 12 and the network of PAN

campuses have already been approved to offer a 5x Free and Reduced lunch weighted lottery which was implemented at the start of the 2022 – 23 school year. Additionally, according to the amendment application, PAN seeks to support student populations such as (a) Economically Disadvantaged Students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (FRL), (b) English Language Learners (ELL), and (c) students with Disabilities (those with an Individual Education Program, or IEP) who have historically underperformed on statewide academic assessments.

The enrollment at PAN’s Cadence and Sloan Canyon campuses is 4,472 students. PAN is requesting an increase Cadence’s enrollment for the 2024-25 school year to 2,338 (currently 2,040) students and to increase Sloan Canyon’s enrollment to 2,271 (currently 2,025) students. These proposed enrollment requests represent a cumulative increase of 137 students or 3.06% of the current SPCSA-approved maximum enrollment for these two campuses based on the current enrollment at each campus which is at the 110% enrollment cap limit. Additionally, according to the amendment application, the Cadence campus currently has a waitlist of over 1,300 students while Sloan Canyon similarly has a waitlist of over 2,000 students.

According to the PAN, the implemented marketing techniques such as geo-fencing advertising, maintaining a presence at food distribution lines, and partnering with other community organizations such as 3 Square and Acelero Learning. The Cadence campus has also served as a food distribution location for the surrounding community and the Cadence administration has engaged in door-to-door marketing efforts in all government-subsidized and low-income housing surrounding the school to inform families of the resources available. Additionally, PAN expects the enrollment increase to be seen at the high school grades at the Cadence campus and across more grade levels, both upper and lower, and the Sloan campus.

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
Cadence									
Grade Levels	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12
Enrollment	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338
Sloan Canyon									
Grade Leves	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12	K – 12
Enrollment	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271

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, and as noted in the summary above, the requested increase is relatively limited when considering the overall total enrollment at each of the two campuses. Additionally, PAN has seen increases in sub-populations, specifically FRL, and staff expects this request to increase to the cap to help continue in that direction. Both campuses either met or exceeded standards in elementary, middle, and high school, under the SPCSA’s Academic Performance Framework and were rated no lower than 3-stars according to the 2022 – 23 data. As such, SPCSA staff recommends the Authority approve PAN’s request to increase the enrollment cap for the Cadence and Sloan campuses.

Proposed Motion: Grant the Good Cause Exemption Request and approve Pinecrest Academy of Las Vegas’ request to increase the enrollment caps at the Cadence and Sloan Canyon campuses for the 2024-25 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 Cadence and Sloan Canyon campus increase 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	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338	2,338
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	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271
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%
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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
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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	Cadence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star - High School: Not Rated Horizon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star Inspirada <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 5-star - Middle School: 5-star Sloan Canyon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A St. Rose <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star Virtual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A
2019 – 2020	Cadence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star - Middle School: 5-star - High School: Not Rated Horizon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary School: 4-star

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.

	<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
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

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

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 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

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

