

STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board FROM: Melissa Mackedon

SUBJECT: Executive Director Report

DATE: June 27, 2025

School Highlight

SPCSA staff would like to highlight the Elko Institute for Academic Achievement (EIAA). EIAA is an independent charter school. The school opened in 2009. They educate students in grades K-8 and serve just under 200 students. The school recently purchased a building and provides transportation. We want to acknowledge the school leader, Ashley Perkins. Multiple teams at the SPCSA have commented about how responsive and dependable Ashley is. Ashley was very engaged during the legislative session, which can be challenging to do from so far away and as an independent school.

Delinquent PERS Update

Delinquent PERS payments as of 5/1/25. For a complete accounting of payments, please refer to the "Outstanding Charter Contribution Balance" sheet provided by PERS and included in the board materials.

NV Prep

As of	Total Estimated Amount Due		
12/31/2023	\$477,305.47		
2/12/2024	\$466,966.09		
3/31/2002	\$501,862.79		

5/1/2024	\$481,609.99			
5/31/24	\$353,263.60			
6/30/24	\$332,565.80			
7/31/2024	\$375,643.40			
9/3/2024	\$411,635.51			
11/1/2024	\$373,726.56			
1/2/2025	\$238,856.91			
2/28/2025	\$191,590.18			
3/31/2025	\$176,928.63			
5/1/2025	\$175,455.90			
6/2/2025	\$135,087.38			

Sage Collegiate

As of	Total Estimated Amount Due			
2/28/2025	\$72,527.09			
3/31/25	\$73,782.57			
5/1/2025	\$71,861.50			
6/2/2025	\$70,357.58			

Equipo Academy

As of	Total Estimated Amount Due			
5/31/24	\$384,299.83			
6/30/2024	\$340,741.73			
7/31/24	\$216,164.78			
9/3/2024	\$215,393.17			
11/4/2024	\$179,076.14			
12/2/2024	\$158,089.08			
1/2/25	\$147,049.18			
2/28/25	\$107,169.92			
3/31/2025	\$93,835.97			
6/2/2025	\$73,929.39			

Legislative Update

The $83^{\rm rd}$ Session of the Nevada Legislature was successful for the charter school sector. Accomplishments include:

• Passage of AB39. The SPCSA's clean-up bill.

- Passage of <u>AB 398</u>. This bill allocates \$19,314,297 each year of the biennium for charter school teacher raises.
- Passage of <u>SB460</u>. Originally, this bill was very problematic for the SPCSA, but working collaboratively with the Majority Leader, chairs of the education committees, Governor Lombardo's Office, the Nevada Department of Education, CSAN, and other charter school advocates, the bill was improved significantly.
- Passage of <u>SB468</u>. This bill increased transportation funding. The SPCSA staff was proactive and got the application out to schools in the spring. As a result, schools will be able to start the school year with transportation in place.
- Passage of <u>AB571</u>. This bill appropriated \$1,307,938 each year of the biennium to offset the Title II dollar miscalculation.
- Passage of <u>SB500</u> (education budget). Through collaboration with the Nevada Department of Education and the Governor's office, the SPCSA was able to ensure a last-minute change to the methodology used for distributing state special education funds. As approved in the joint education subcommittee, charter schools would have had a decrease of over \$600 per pupil in their special education funding. NDE will have to submit a proposal of their allocation methodology to IFC for approval; however, staff believe the outcome will be better than what was initially approved by the subcommittee.

Charter School Teacher Raises

With the passage of AB 398, the SPSCA will be allocated \$19,314,297 each year of the biennium for charter school teacher raises. Similar to transportation dollars, all charter schools, regardless of sponsor, are eligible for these funds.

By June 15, 2025, all charter school sponsors reported to the SPCSA a count of teachers and education support professionals at each charter school on October 1, 2024. This count will be used to determine the allocation that each school is eligible for. The SPCSA will report this information to the Interim Finance Committee by July 15, 2025. By August 15, 2025, each charter school will submit its plan to increase teacher and education support staff salaries for the coming school year. The SPCSA will compile and submit this information to the Interim Finance Committee and will appear before the committee, hopefully in October, to obtain approval for those plans. These dollars must be used to supplement, not supplant, salaries. Charter schools will be required to create a separate fund in their budgets to track these dollars and report on how the money was spent.

New Charter Schools Opening in 2025-2026

SPCSA staff would like to congratulate Do and Be Arts Academy of Excellence, Western Youth Leadership, Engagement, & Empowerment School (WYLEES), and Nevada Classical Academy, Elko, for successfully reaching the June 1, 2025, enrollment targets established as a condition of opening.

Two schools did not meet the pre-opening requirements, including the June 1, 2025 enrollment targets, and as a result will not be opening. Those schools are Rooted and Pioneer Technology & Arts Academy of Nevada.