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**STATE OF NEVADA**

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**BRIEFING MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** SPCSA Board  
**FROM:** Melissa Mackedon  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director Report  
**DATE:** April 18, 2025

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**School Highlight**

One of the most notable strengths of Discovery Charter School Sandhill is its improved star rating. According to the 2023-24 Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF), the school has achieved a three-star rating, marking a considerable improvement of twenty index points from the previous year. The school's pooled proficiency rate has also seen a commendable increase, rising from 19.7 to 32.6. In the Growth Indicator Measure, the school's performance has increased from earning 22 out of 35 points to an impressive 32 out of 35, and in the Closing Opportunity Gaps Indicator, from 9 out of 20 to a promising 15 out of 20. These improvements have propelled the school from a two-star rating to a three-star rating, a testament to the school's dedication and progress.

Additionally, we have seen a noticeable improvement in compliance under their new leadership.

**Delinquent PERS Update**

Delinquent PERS payments as of 3/31/25. For a full accounting of payments, please reference the "Outstanding Charter Contribution Balance" sheet provided by PERS and included in the board material.

<b>School</b>	<b>Delinquent as of 2/28/25</b>	<b>Status</b>
NV Prep	<b>\$176,928.63</b>	PERS approved monthly payment plan
Equipo Academy	<b>\$93,835.97</b>	PERS approved monthly payment plan
Sage Collegiate	<b>\$73,782.57</b>	

## **School Closure Update**

March

Eagle:

We discovered in January that Eagle's payroll system contained inaccurate information. As a result, the W2s generated by the payroll system were also inaccurate. We spent much of the last month fixing the information in the payroll system so that corrected W2s could be sent to former employees. We also had to correct and resubmit the Employer's Quarterly Federal Payroll Tax Reports (941s). We are now updating the school's books to reflect the corrected amounts so that we can send accurate information to CLA (auditor). Additionally, we are in the process of calculating adjusted payments to vendors. Unfortunately, PERS denied Eagle's appeal to waive the penalty at last week's Board meeting. We will continue to work with PERS to find a mutually agreeable compromise.

TEACH

TEACH has the statement of work (scope of work) for the closeout audit and we have the procedures in place to audit the opening balance. (The audit of the opening balance is necessary because we are not auditing SY 23-24.) We are in the process of responding to the initial set of audit requests. Most of the audit procedures will happen in March and April. We are hoping to make the Closeout Audit period 7/1/24-2/28/25 though this might get pushed back to 3/31/25. Unfortunately, PERS denied TEACH's appeal to waive the penalty at last week's Board meeting. We will continue to work with PERS to find a mutually agreeable compromise.

April

All the required tax forms (e.g., 940s and 941s) that were either incorrectly filed or not filed last year have now been filed. Unfortunately, the audits had to be paused until these forms were filed because payments (i.e., liabilities) to the government take priority over all other creditors. As of April 9, 2025, all of those issues have been resolved, and the audit process will be restarted. Correcting the payroll issues at Eagle has been especially challenging. Hopefully, this is the last material issue from last year that we will need to address as part of the wind-down process.

## **Organizational Performance Framework Quality Indicators**

The SPCSA board approved a new Organizational Performance Framework in July 2024 to be in effect during the 2024—25 school year. The new framework included Quality Indicators in the Education Program and Governance and Reporting to be introduced during the 2025—26 school year. SPCSA staff has now developed those quality indicators that schools and boards will be rated on.

**Education Program Description:** The Education Program assesses the school’s adherence to the material terms of its proposed education program and will be primarily measured by an on-site evaluation. To define educational program accountability, the SPCSA will consider whether the information would be appropriate and essential to deciding whether to renew, non-renew, or revoke a charter. In addition to capturing the material terms of the education program, this section also captures certain aspects of an education program that are required by law (e.g., content standards, assessments, special education requirements, attendance, reenrollment, etc.).

- The quality indicator will include the reenrollment rate, calculated by SPCSA staff.
- Additionally, if a school has a deficiency identified during the site evaluation, it will be included in the quality indicator. The site evaluation team will share any deficiencies that remain in place at the end of a school year with the OPF team to include in the Education Program Quality Indicator.
- Two examples are included below:

ABC Charter School	
Reenrollment Rate	Site Evaluation Deficiencies
68%	ABC Charter School is expected to provide a sound educational program for students to maximize student achievement. ABC Charter School has been identified as a one-star school at both the elementary and middle school levels. According to the Policy Achievement Level Descriptors within the Nevada School Performance Framework technical guide, a one-star school identifies a school that has not met the state's standard for performance. Students and subgroups are inconsistent in achieving performance standards. A one-star school has multiple areas that require improvement, including an urgent need to address areas significantly below standard.
75%	No deficiency was identified at ABC Charter School’s most recent Site Evaluation on April 12, 2024.

**Governance and Reporting Description:** A charter school must practice sound governance and adhere to the reporting requirements of the SPCSA and other responsible entities. In this section, the SPCSA sets forth expectations of the charter board’s compliance with governance-related laws as well as the board’s own bylaws and policies. Additionally, this indicator includes a measure to evaluate the extent and quality to which the board oversees the individuals or organizations to which it delegates the duties of implementing the academic, financial, and organizational aspects of the program.

- Based upon [SPCSA Governance Standards](#).

- Each board will be asked to submit a meeting recording for the fall (with a November 15 deadline) and spring (with a May 1 deadline).
- The OPF team will watch those meetings and consider the boards other agendas and minutes. They will give each board a rating in the following areas, aligned to the SPCSA Governance Standards.
- This method identifies both high performing and low performing boards.

	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards	Does Not Meet Standards
Focus on Student Growth, Achievement, and Social and Emotional Well-Being			
Ensure an Effective and Well-Run Organization			
Manage Financial Resources Responsibly			
Commit to Long-Term Success			
Ensure Strong Leadership and Effective Partnerships			
Operate in Service of School Community			

The Organizational Performance Framework technical guide will be updated for the 2025—26 school year to include these quality indicators.

## Legislative Update

The SPCSA’s bill is [AB39](#). It was introduced in Assembly Education on February 18, 2025, and was well-received. Both the City of Henderson and North Las Vegas supported the bill. The bill passed unanimously out of committee on March, 18, 2025. We are hopeful it will have a hearing in Senate Education in late April, early May.

Additionally, the SPCSA presented its budget on February 11, 2025, to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means and Senate Committee on Finance, Subcommittees on K-12 Education. The same committee held a budget closing for the SPCSA on April 7, 2025. The full committee held the budget closing on Saturday, April 12, 2025. The majority of our requested positions were approved.