

Teresa Potter

From: Zarinah Washington <zarinahwashington@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 8:30 PM
To: SPCSA Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment - Item #9

WARNING - This email originated from outside the State of Nevada. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Members of the Board,

As a parent, my deepest desire is to provide my children with the best possible foundation to grow, thrive, and succeed. When I became a parent to five amazing children in 2022 now ages 5 through 14, I quickly recognized the glaring gaps in our traditional school district—especially when it comes to nurturing creativity, emotional intelligence, and resilience.

My own journey as a youth wasn't easy, but everything changed when I was accepted into a performing arts school. It was there that I found my voice, developed confidence, and learned how to process and express my emotions in healthy, constructive ways. The arts gave me life-changing tools—and now, they are doing the same for my children.

That's why I am deeply invested in the success and expansion of Do & Be Academy. The arts-based approach at DBAE isn't just enrichment—it's essential. I've seen firsthand how it empowers young minds, and I know my children can truly flourish here. Expanding to include 4th, 5th, and especially 8th grade is critical. My rising 8th grader is standing at the threshold of high school—a time filled with both opportunity and pressure. She needs the supportive, expressive, and rigorous environment that DBAE offers to prepare for what lies ahead.

Please support the expansion of these key grades. Our children deserve more than a standardized path—they deserve the chance to do and be their full selves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Zarinah T. Washington, LMSW

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers
702/ 273-4146 cell

Las Vegas, Nevada stands on NUWU- Southern Paiute Land.

"Do work that matters. Vale la pena" — Gloria E. Anzaldúa