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## STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

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### ACTION MEMORANDUM

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<b>TO:</b>	SPCSA Authority Board
<b>FROM:</b>	Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III, SPCSA
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Sage Collegiate Public Charter School – Charter Amendment Request to Reduce Enrollment Cap</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	May 30, 2025

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#### Summary of Request and Recommendation

Sage Collegiate Public Charter School (Sage Collegiate) has submitted an amendment application requesting that the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) grant a Good Cause Exemption and approve the request to reduce its 2024-25 enrollment cap and the enrollment cap for the remainder of the charter term.

SPCSA staff has reviewed the application and recommends that the Authority grant the Good Cause Exemption and approve the amendment request. A proposed motion can be found on page 3 of this memo.

#### Background and Overview of the Amendment

Sage Collegiate is located at the 4100 W. Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, 89102. Sage Collegiate opened in August 2022 as a slow growth charter school and will continue to add a grade level each year until the school reached grades K-8<sup>th</sup>. As of Validation Day 2023, Sage Collegiate had 312 students enrolled.

According to the application, in Year 1, Sage Collegiate had a net loss of 45 students through the first year, in part due to delayed facilities, staffing shortages through the first trimester, and a lack of transportation. Sage Collegiate went on to explain that in Year 2, the school was underenrolled by more than 100 students for a variety of reasons, including families’ relocation out of the region; decisions to homeschool due to safety matters within the region and nationally; disagreement with policies (i.e., uniform, schedule; mandated reporting); staffing shortages and fluctuations through Trimester 1; and the lack of transportation (prior to January). Additionally, according to the amendment application, Sage Collegiate lost three-quarters of a Kindergarten class due to AB65, which was passed after the school year ended and took effect July 1, 2023. The bill affected the school community substantially, and several fully enrolled students whose birthdays just missed the cutoff for starting Kindergarten could not enroll. Sage Collegiate then explained that these challenges trickled down into Year 3 and the school continues to make up for the under enrollment in the first two years.

According to the amendment application, Sage Collegiate plans to address under enrollment by continuing to staff the Community Engagement Manager role, resuming work with the Bloomwell Group to support enrollment marketing, and featuring transportation as a part of marketing efforts.

To make up for the lower revenue due to under enrollment, Sage Collegiate consolidated two first grade classes and moved one of the first-grade teachers to third grade and released a third-grade teacher. Additionally, the school did not fill an Operations Coordinator role, nor did they hire for a Dean of Scholar Culture position.

If approved, Sage Collegiate enrollment cap for the remainder of its charter term would be:

<b>School Year</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2027-28</b>	<b>2028-29<sup>1</sup></b>
Grade Levels	K – 7	K – 8	K – 8	K – 8	K – 8
Total Enrollment	310	375	480	540	570

According to the amendment application, Sage Collegiate also reduced staffing by 5 position, the Executive Director took a voluntary 7% pay cut to support budget line items, and adjusted some operational budget line items, including custodial and non-instructional auxiliary services. These budget changes equated to about \$281,000 in reduction of costs.

### **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 – 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

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<sup>1</sup> Contingent on charter renewal

compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations and evidence relating to the academics, finance and organization of the charter school.<sup>2</sup>

### Analysis and Staff Recommendation

When reviewing an amendment application for RFA eligibility, SPCSA staff reviews the academic, financial and organizational performance of the applicant charter school. Sage Collegiate's elementary school was rated as 1-star and scored 20.4 points on the SPCSA's Academic Performance Framework, which did not meet standards. Sage Collegiate's middle school was rated as 1-star and scored 22.2 points on the SPCSA's Academic Performance Framework, which did not meet standards.

Sage Collegiate received 69.4 points of the SPCSA's Organizational Performance Framework, approved at the October 4, 2024, SPCSA Board meeting, which did not meet standards. Sage Collegiate was issued a Financial Notice of Concern at the March 1, 2024, SPCSA Board meeting as was required to develop and submit a financial improvement plan. The school was rated on the 2024 SPCSA Financial Performance Framework, but Notice issuance was tabled until the May 30, 2025, SPCSA board meeting.

SPCSA staff recommends the SPCSA board approve the request of Sage Collegiate to reduce its enrollment cap to 310 students for the 2024-2025 school year and reduce the enrolment cap through the remainder of the charter term.

**Proposed Motion: Grant the Good Cause Exemption request and approve Sage Collegiate's request to reduce its approved enrollment cap as detailed in the recommendation memo.**

If approved, Sage Collegiate's enrollment cap for its charter term will be:

School Year	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29 <sup>3</sup>
Grade Levels	K – 7	K – 8	K – 8	K – 8	K – 8
Total Enrollment	310	375	480	540	570

The current approved Sage Collegiate's enrollment cap for its charter is:

School Year	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Grade Levels	K – 7	K – 8	K – 8	K – 8
Total Enrollment	392	476	532	588

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<sup>2</sup> NAC 388A.400(8) and NRS 388A.276

<sup>3</sup> Contingent on charter renewal

**School Demographics since 2022 – Sage Collegiate**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>IEP</b>	<b>ELL</b>	<b>FRL</b>
<b>22-23</b>	205	3.4%	17.5%	43.4%	33.6%	0.0%	0.9%	0.9%	9.2%	10.2%	66.8%
<b>23-24</b>	241	3.7%	16.1%	18.2%	48.1%	0.0%	12.8%	0.8%	12.0%	17.8%	100%
<b>24-25</b>	312	1.2%	14.1%	32.3%	44.5%	0.0%	6.7%	0.9%	10.2%	23.0%	>95%

A – Asian

B – Black

C – Caucasian

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

**Financial Performance**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Rating</b>
2022 – 2023	Notice of Concern

**Organizational Performance – Not Rated**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Rating</b>
2022 – 2023	Meets Standard
2023 – 2024	Does Not Meet Standard

**Academic Performance**

<b>School Year</b>	<b>NSPF Rating</b>
2022 – 2023 Star Rating	Elementary School: 2-stars Middle School: N/A
2023 – 2024 Star Rating	Elementary School: 1-star Middle School: 1-star

**Sage Collegiate 2022-23 SPCSA Academic Performance Framework Results**

<b>Campus</b>	<b>2022-23 SPCSA Academic Framework Score</b>	<b>2022-23 SPCSA Academic Framework Rating</b>
Elementary School	60.6	MEETS STANDARD
Middle School	N/A	N/A

**Sage Collegiate 2023-24 SPCSA Academic Performance Framework Results**

Campus	2022-23 SPCSA Academic Framework Score	2022-23 SPCSA Academic Framework Rating
Elementary School	20.4	DOES NOT MEET STANDARD
Middle School	22.2	DOES NOT MEET STANDARD

