



## **NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY**

**Friday, June 27, 2025  
9:00AM**

The State Public Charter School Authority board meeting was conducted in-person and virtually.

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair Dr. Holmes-Sutton  
Vice Chair Thigpen  
Member Dr. Aldaba  
Member Haddad Bennett  
Member Shantee Rosales  
Member Whitaker  
Student Representative Birru

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIRTUALLY**

Member Richards  
Member Salcido  
Member Stern

#### **AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT IN-PERSON OR VIRTUALLY**

Melissa Mackedon, Executive Director  
Samantha King Powell, Esq., General Counsel  
Katie Broughton, Director of Authorizing  
Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III

#### **PRESENTER/PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY**

Karla Severson	Rudy Pamintuan	Annette Dawson	Alanna Jackson
Danielle Ranney	Olivia Carbajal	Joshua Kern	

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**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order and Roll Call**

Dr. Holmes-Sutton, Chair of the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA), called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment #1. Public Comment in person or telephonically provided by:**

Public comment regarding Agenda Item 5d:

- |                   |                    |                   |                   |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Rudy Pamintuan | 2. Annette Dawson  | 3. Karla Severson | 4. Kara Hendricks |
| 5. Shubham Pandey | 6. Megan Tulasamma |                   |                   |

Public Comment sent in writing is posted with the meeting materials on the SPCSA website.

**Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda**

- a. May 30, 2025, SPCSA Board Meeting Action Minutes.
- b. Approval of Transportation Plans for:
  - i. CIVICA Nevada Career and Collegiate Academy
  - ii. Pinecrest Academy of Nevada
  - iii. Western Youth Leadership, Engagement & Empowerment School (WYLESS)
  - iv. Democracy Prep at the Agassi Campus (DPAC)

**Motion on Consent Agenda Item 3:** Member Haddad Bennett made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Shauntee Rosales seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion was approved.**

**Agenda Item 4 – SPCSA Charter School Governing Body Governance Standards.**

Member Salcido reviewed Governance Standard #2, “To ensure an effective and well-run organization”. To successfully have an effective and well-run organization the Board of Directors of the school must understand the organizational performance expectations. They need knowledge and awareness of the “bigger” picture, by reviewing reports and applying them to the standard expectations. Making sure you are aware of Nevada’s Open Meeting Law. Encourage all board members to attend the required board governance trainings.

**Agenda Item 5 – Executive Director’s Report**

Melissa Mackedon, Executive Director, provided the Authority Board with the Executive Director’s report.

- a. School Highlight – Elko Institute for Academic Achievement. As reported by SPCSA staff, the school leader, Ashley Perkins is very responsive in her leadership role and communications to our staff. Ashley was very engaged in the recent Legislative Session.
- b. Review of delinquent schools PERS contributions.
- c. Provided Legislative Update and offered appreciation to other partners that support the charter schools. Highlighted bills that significantly impact charter schools. Also, highlighted requirements for the composition of the SPCSA board members. Executive Director Mackedon provided a road map of the requirements for current board members. New requirements are effective July 1, 2026. Samantha King Powell, SPCSA General Counsel, provided Legislative Updates that directly affect Charter Schools. Provided a written report summary of over 48 bills.
- d. Announced the new schools opening 2025-26 school year.
  - a. Do & Be Arts Academy of Excellence
  - b. WYLESS
  - c. NV Classical Academy Elko
- e. Reviewed and highlighted changes to the New Charter School Amendment Application. SPCSA contracted with an external reviewer to streamline the amendment process.

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- f. SPCSA Student Representative, Matthew Birru. Matthew thanked the board for the opportunity. He stated that it was helpful having this experience on his college applications. SPCSA board members congratulated Matthew on being the first Student Representative to sit on the SPCSA board and wished him well with his future endeavors.

**Agenda Item 6 – Battle Born Academy (BBA) – Voluntary Surrender of Charter Contract.** Executive Director Mackedon provided details regarding the school closure. SPCSA staff recommended that the SPCSA Board approve the plan. Mr. Joshua Kern has been identified as the administrator in charge of the wind down and closure of Battle Born Academy.

**Motion on Agenda Item 6 –** Member Aldaba made a motion to accept the recent action by the BBA board to surrender their charter contract and close the school, approve the appointment of Joshua Kern to be the administrator overseeing the BBA closure process, approve the closure plan as submitted by Joshua Kern, and direct the SPCSA staff to work with Joshua Kern to ensure all closure requirements are met. Member Shantee Rosales seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion was approved.**

**Agenda Item 7 – Competency-Based Pilot Program Update** from Mater Academy. Danielle Ranney, Olivia Carbajal and Alanna Jackson provided details about their work. They explained the processes and focus of their work, and how they've been impacted thus far. They spoke about the different Phases, creating surveys for students to provide feedback, and developed an Action Plan for the next school year.

**Agenda Item 8 – SPCSA Board Elections** pursuant to NRS388A.153(7). The Board elected a new Chair and Vice Chair from its members to serve a two-year term. Executive Director Mackedon publicly thanked Dr. Holmes-Sutton for all of her contributions as Board Chair to the SPCSA.

**Motion on Agenda Item 8 –** Member Haddad Bennett made a motion to elect Kurt Thigpen as Chair. Member Whitaker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Member Aldaba made a motion to elect Member Haddad Bennett as Vice Chair. Vice Chair Thigpen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion was approved.**

**Agenda Item 9 – Long-Range Calendar.** The SPCSA board reviewed and discussed the Long-Range Calendar.

**Agenda Item 10 – Public Comment #2.**

1. Kara Hendricks
2. Nuvia Ramos
3. Annette Dawson Owens

**Agenda Item 11 – Adjournment at 10:25 am.**