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ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Authority Board
FROM: Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III, SPCSA
SUBJECT: **Western Youth Leadership, Engagement, and Empowerment School (WYLEES)– Charter Amendment Request to Occupy a Temporary Facility**
DATE: July 25, 2025

Summary of Request and Recommendation

Western Youth Leadership, Engagement, and Empowerment School (WYLEES) has submitted an amendment application requesting that the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) grant a Good Cause Exemption and approve the request to occupy a temporary facility for the start of their first school year.

SPCSA staff has reviewed the application and recommends that the Authority grant the Good Cause Exemption and approve the amendment request. A proposed motion along with conditions can be found on page 2 of this memo.

Background and Overview of the Amendment

WYLEES was approved by the Authority at the August 23, 2024, board meeting. WYLEES will be opening for the 2025-26 school year and serve grades 6 – 8. The school is approved to operate at 3634 Maryland Parkway, Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89169. According to the amendment application, WYLEES is requesting the option to occupy a temporary facility while the permanent facility is completed.

According to WYLEES, the permanent facility is close to completion, but the school cannot be certain at this time that all required inspections will be completed and that a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) or Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) will be issued in time for WYLEES' scheduled first day of school on August 4, 2025. Though WYLEES is optimistic that a CO or TCO will be issued by this date, the school decided to submit this amendment request out of an abundance of caution to ensure that

WYLEES' students, families, and staff are able to begin school as currently scheduled.

Additionally, according to the amendment application, WYLEES has made arrangements with the Cambridge Recreation Center, located at 3930 Cambridge St, Las Vegas, NV 89119 (.8 miles from WYLEES' permanent campus), for a week-to-week lease of space for WYLEES' 204 enrolled students. With a daily rate of only \$460 and space for students only needed for four days per week (per the submitted and approved details of our school model), this equates to only \$1,840 per week, which, according to the school, is well-within its available budget. Furthermore, this temporary situation is only expected to be in place for 2-3 weeks at a maximum, with a relatively high likelihood that WYLEES will not need to utilize this contingency location at all.

There is no change to the enrollment cap and the cap for WYLEES will remain at:

School Year	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Grade Levels	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8
Enrollment Cap	272	329	399	461	496	501

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 compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations and evidence relating to the academics, finance and organization of the charter school.¹

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. WYLEES has not started operating yet and therefore does not have performance results to analyze. However, SPCSA staff does not have concern regarding WYLEES' performance during the pre-opening process.

Regarding the amendment request, SPCSA staff is recommending approval. SPCSA staff would note that this request is a proactive contingency plan to ensure minimal disruption to students and families in case the school is unable to secure the Certificate of Occupancy. WYLEES communicated with SPCSA staff early, and often, and also communicated with families about this possibility. The temporary facility is very close to the permanent facility and staff does not expect there to be significant issues in the event WYLEES does have to operate in the temporary facility for two or three weeks. SPCSA Staff recommends approval with condition.

Proposed Motion: Grant WYLEES Good Cause Exemption request and approve WYLEE's request to occupy a temporary facility with the following conditions:

- **If the temporary facility is needed, work with SPCSA staff to identify and complete relevant pre-opening requirements.**

¹ NAC 388A.400(8) and NRS 388A.276

The approved enrollment cap for WYLEES is:

School Year	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Grade Levels	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8
Enrollment Cap	272	329	399	461	496	501

Historical Performance, Demographic Information, Academic, Financial, and Organizational Performance – Not Applicable