



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

3427 Goni Rd, Suite 103  
Carson City, Nevada 89706-7918  
(775) 531-3384 · Fax (702) 486-5543

500 E. Warm Springs Rd, Suite 116  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119-4301  
(725) 281-1367 · Fax (702) 486-5543

---

**ACTION MEMORANDUM**

---

|                 |                                                                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>TO:</b>      | SPCSA Board                                                                       |
| <b>FROM:</b>    | Katie Broughton, Director of Authorizing<br>Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III |
| <b>SUBJECT:</b> | Elko Institute for Academic Achievement – Charter Renewal Recommendation          |
| <b>DATE:</b>    | November 14, 2025                                                                 |

---

**Background and Summary**

Elko Institute for Academic Achievement (EIAA) submitted an application to renew its charter contract as the current charter contract expires on June 30, 2026. EIAA is a brick-and-mortar public charter school that currently serves 395 students in kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade on one campus in Elko County.

After a thorough review of the historical data and charter renewal application, SPCSA staff recommends that the Authority approve the charter renewal of Elko Institute for Academic Achievement for a eight-year term, beginning July 1, 2026.

**The Process Related to Renewal Applications and the Standards Under Which an Application for Renewal of a Charter Contract Will be Granted**

The first step in the renewal process is the submission of a renewal report by SPCSA staff to the charter school<sup>1</sup>. Specifically, on or before June 30 immediately preceding the final school year prior to expiration of a charter school's charter contract, the SPCSA submits to the governing body a report regarding renewal. The EIAA renewal report was sent to the school leader and board chair on June 26, 2025, and can be found within the supporting documentation for the item.

The renewal report summarizes the performance of the charter school under the terms of the charter contract, identifies any deficiencies related to performance of the charter school that might lead to non-renewal of the charter contract, sets forth the requirements of the renewal application, and identifies the criteria that the sponsor will apply when making a renewal determination. The charter school may submit a response to the renewal report<sup>2</sup>.

Next, the governing body of the charter school must submit a written notice of intent to submit an application for renewal to the SPCSA 45 days prior to submitting a renewal application<sup>3</sup>. EIAA submitted its notice of Intent to Renew its charter contract on June 3, 2025, and the notice of intent to renew can be found with the supporting documents.

---

<sup>1</sup> [NAC 388A.415\(2\)](#) provides for an expedited and streamlined renewal process for high-performing charter schools. Generally, charter schools qualifying for expedited renewal review are those charter schools that are consistently rated as four-and five-star schools under the NSPF and have received no notices on the performance framework

<sup>2</sup> [NRS 388A.285\(1\)](#) and [NRS 388A.285\(2\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> [NAC 388A.415\(1\)](#)

The window to submit the actual renewal application is October 1 through October 15. The application for renewal must include, without limitation<sup>4</sup>:

- (a) The requirements for the application identified by the sponsor in the performance report prepared by the sponsor;
- (b) A description of the academic, financial and organizational vision and plans for the charter school for the next charter term;
- (c) Any information or data that the governing body of the charter school determines supports the renewal of the charter contract in addition to the information contained in the performance report prepared by the sponsor and any response submitted by the governing body; and
- (d) A description of any improvements to the charter school already undertaken or planned.

EIAA submitted its renewal application, which can be found with the supporting documents, on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Elko Institute of Academic Achievement renewal application describes the key design elements of the school. EIAA is a K-8 public charter school. The shared actions of teachers and staff provide students with an academic environment that is devoted to creating passionate life-long learners. The school is active with teachers in professional development opportunities focused on data-based decision making to create authentic learning opportunities for students. EIAA focuses on students taking agency in their own learning based on personal abilities and interests to establish academic goals for the year.

Decisions to renew a charter school contract or deny a renewal application are made and based upon Nevada's charter school statutes and regulations; the collective record of a school's academic, financial, organizational frameworks; findings from the site evaluation process; and all data and information provided by the Department of Education<sup>5</sup>. It is important to note that no factor may be given more weight than the academic performance of pupils at the charter school<sup>6</sup>. As such, the academic performance of the charter school is the touchstone of any renewal decision.

In making its recommendation to the Authority regarding a renewal application, SPCSA staff considers the past performance of the charter school, including information contained in the application for renewal, any site evaluations, the academic achievement of pupils, and any other information that is determined to be relevant to whether the charter contract should be renewed, including financial and organizational performance<sup>7</sup>.

When determining whether to grant an application for renewal of a charter contract, the Authority Board considers the foregoing factors and any other information that the Authority Board determines is relevant to whether the charter contract should be renewed. The Authority Board will consider the "totality of the evidence" presented to it when making a renewal decision<sup>8</sup>. Again, as stated above, no factor is to be given more weight than the academic performance of pupils at the charter school.<sup>9</sup>

The Authority Board may accept or reject, in whole or part, the recommendation of the Executive Director<sup>10</sup>. At its sole discretion, the Authority Board may renew a charter contract for a term of three (3) to ten (10) years or deny the renewal application<sup>11</sup>. Alternatively, the Authority Board may deny the renewal application for the purpose of reconstituting the governing body of the charter school or restarting the charter school and issuing a new charter contract pursuant [NRS 388A.330](#)<sup>12</sup>.

---

<sup>4</sup> [NRS 388A.285\(3\)](#).

<sup>5</sup> [NRS 388A.285](#)

<sup>6</sup> [NAC 388A.415\(10\)\(b\)](#)

<sup>7</sup> [NAC 388A.415\(9\)](#)

<sup>8</sup> [NAC 388A.415\(9\)](#)

<sup>9</sup> [NAC 388A.415\(10\)](#). With regard to a second renewal, the Authority is required to place an even greater weight on academic performance than was assigned to it on the first renewal.

<sup>10</sup> [NAC 388A.415\(10\)\(a\)](#) and [NAC 388A.415\(11\)\(b\) and \(c\)](#)

<sup>11</sup> [NRS 388A.285\(6\)](#) and [NAC 388A.415\(11\)](#)

<sup>12</sup> [NAC 388A.415\(11\)\(d\)](#)

## Analysis

### Academics

Elko Institute for Academic Achievement currently offers instruction at the elementary and middle school levels, grades K-8, at one campus. Their academic performance has been rated on the Nevada School Performance Framework and SPCSA Academic Framework three times during this charter term, both the elementary and middle schools have been above or exceeded state and SPCSA academic standards.

As the Authority is aware, NSPF school ratings and accountability for the 2019–2020 and 2020–2021 school years were carried over from the 2018–2019 reporting year. Star ratings were not calculated for the 2021–2022 school year due to lack of data brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic as approved by the U.S. Department of Education<sup>13</sup>, but the Nevada Department of Education published index scores<sup>14</sup>.

The Authority adopted its own Academic Performance Framework in 2019<sup>15</sup> and most recently revised in July 2025. Full results for EIAA’s NSPF and SPCSA Academic ratings through the entirety of the charter term can be found below.

|                                                                         |                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2021–2022 NSPF Index Score</b>                                       | Elementary: 78.3<br>Middle: 93.8                                       |
| <b>2021–2022 SPCSA Academic Performance Score / Rating</b>              | Elementary: 84.9 / Exceeds Standard<br>Middle: 96.2 / Exceeds Standard |
| <b>2022–2023 NSPF Index Score / Star Rating</b>                         | Elementary: 86.1 / 5-star<br>Middle: 94.4 / 5-star                     |
| <b>2022–2023 SPCSA Academic Performance Score / Rating</b>              | Elementary: 88.6 / Exceeds Standard<br>Middle: 95.6 / Exceeds Standard |
| <b>2023–2024 NSPF Index Score / Star Rating</b>                         | Elementary: 78.3 / 4-star<br>Middle: 90.5 / 5-star                     |
| <b>2023–2024 SPCSA Academic Performance Score / Rating</b>              | Elementary: 86.9 / Exceeds Standard<br>Middle: 93.3 / Exceeds Standard |
| <b>2024–2025 NSPF Index Score / Star Rating</b>                         | Elementary: 74.4 / 4-star<br>Middle: 91.1 / 5-star                     |
| <b>2024–2025 SPCSA Academic Performance Score / Rating<sup>16</sup></b> | Elementary: 80.8 / Exceeds Standard<br>Middle: 81.6 / Exceeds Standard |
| <b>CSI, ATSI, or TSI Identification</b>                                 | Elementary: None<br>Middle: None                                       |

---

<sup>13</sup> Page 72 of the [NSPF Technical Manual](#).

<sup>14</sup> According to the NSPF technical guide released by the Nevada Department of Education, star ratings were not calculated for the 2021–2022 school year in accordance with flexibility offered in the U.S. Department of Education’s addendum to Nevada’s consolidated state plan due to COVID-19. Star ratings will resume in 2023.

<sup>15</sup> Despite being adopted in 2019, results under the SPCSA Academic Performance Framework were not adopted for the 2019–2020 and 2020–2021 school years due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the lack of NSPF scores. 2021–2022 was the first academic year with reported scores.

<sup>16</sup> Preliminary until SPCSA board action on November 14, 2025.

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <b>Four-Year Graduation Rate</b> | N/A |
|----------------------------------|-----|

### *Organizational*

The SPCSA's Organizational Performance Framework was adopted by the Authority in the summer of 2019 and most recently revised in July 2024. The organizational health and performance of the school has been strong over the current charter term. EIAA was rated as 'Meets Standard' or 'In Compliance' on all SPCSA Organizational Performance Framework cycles throughout the current charter term.

#### SPCSA Organizational Framework Findings:

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Findings &amp; Framework Results</b> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 2021 – 2022 | Meets the Standard                      |
| 2022 – 2023 | Meets the Standard                      |
| 2023 – 2024 | Meets the Standard                      |
| 2024 – 2025 | In Compliance                           |

### *Financial*

The SPCSA Financial Framework was adopted in January 2019 and most recently revised in August 2025. Regarding the financial performance and viability of the school, SPCSA staff finds the financial performance of EIAA to be strong. The school has been rated as 'Meets the Standard' on all SPCSA Financial Performance Framework cycles throughout the current charter term.

#### SPCSA Financial Framework Findings:

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Findings &amp; Framework Results</b> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 2021 – 2022 | Meets the Standard                      |
| 2022 – 2023 | Meets the Standard                      |
| 2023 – 2024 | Meets the Standard                      |

### **Recommendation: Renew Elko Institute for Academic Achievement for an 8-year term.**

As described above, EIAA has consistently exhibited strong academic performance over the charter term, consistently earning at least 4-star ratings. The elementary and middle school programs have historically met performance expectations according to the NSPF. This level of performance was reaffirmed by the 2021–2022, 2022–2023, 2023–2024 and 2024–2025 SPCSA Academic Performance Framework ratings, as well as the star ratings issued by the Nevada Department of Education for the 2022–2023, 2023–2024, and 2024–2025 school year.

EIAA has not exhibited any major organizational or financial performance concerns over the course of the current charter term.

Ultimately, because the academic performance of EIAA has been consistently at or above expected performance levels throughout the current charter term, SPCSA staff recommends that the Authority renew EIAA for an eight-year term, beginning July 1, 2026. The new term would be subject to the enrollment caps outlined below.

| <b>School Year</b> | <b>2026–2027</b> | <b>2027–2028</b> | <b>2028–2029</b> | <b>2029–2030</b> | <b>2030–2031</b> | <b>2031–2032</b> | <b>2032–2033</b> | <b>2033–2034</b> |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Grade Levels       | K – 8            | K – 8            | K – 8            | K – 8            | K – 8            | K – 8            | K – 8            | K – 8            |

|                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Enrollment Cap | 396 | 396 | 396 | 396 | 396 | 396 | 396 | 396 |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

**Proposed Motion**

Approve the Elko Institute for Academic Achievement Renewal Application for an eight-year term beginning July 1, 2026, and the enrollment caps as outlined above in the recommendation memo. In the event of academic, financial or organizational underperformance, the Authority may impose additional oversight.

*Appendix: School Demographics since 2020<sup>17</sup>*

| <b>Year</b>             | <b>Total<br/>Enrolled</b> | <b>A<br/>%</b> | <b>B<br/>%</b> | <b>C<br/>%</b> | <b>H<br/>%</b> | <b>I<br/>%</b> | <b>M<br/>%</b> | <b>P<br/>%</b> | <b>ELL<br/>%</b> | <b>FRL<br/>%</b> | <b>IEP<br/>%</b> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 2020–2021               | 196                       | 2.5            | 3.0            | 59.1           | 25.5           | 0.5            | 9.1            | 0.0            | *                | 41.8             | 15.8             |
| 2021–2022               | 197                       | 3.5            | 4.0            | 54.8           | 26.9           | 2.5            | 8.1            | 0.0            | *                | 43.6             | 17.7             |
| 2022–2023               | 309                       | 1.6            | 2.2            | 52.7           | 32.3           | 1.9            | 9.0            | 0.0            | *                | >95.0            | 13.9             |
| 2023–2024               | 398                       | 1.0            | 2.5            | 57.7           | 30.6           | 2.0            | 6.0            | 0.0            | <5.0             | 28.6             | 15.3             |
| 2024–2025 <sup>18</sup> | 395                       | 1.2            | 2.5            | 59.4           | 29.6           | 1.5            | 5.5            | 0.0            | <5.0             | 22.7             | 15.1             |

A – Asian

B – Black

C – Caucasian

H – Hispanic

I – American Indian/Alaskan Native

M – Two or more races

P – Pacific Islander

FRL – A student who qualifies for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch

IEP – Individualized Education Plan – A student with a disability/special education student

ELL – English Language Learner

\* Indicates data are suppressed to protect student privacy as the group size is less than 10.

<sup>17</sup> Enrollment Count totals are from Nevada Department of Education’s annual October Validated Count Day data.

<sup>18</sup> Enrollment data for October 1, 2025, is preliminary.