



## NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

Friday, April 17, 2026  
9:00AM

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

### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair Thigpen  
Vice Chair Whitaker  
Member Addis  
Member Dr. Aldaba  
Member Shauntee Rosales  
Student Representative Odalis Ayala

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

Member Dr. Holmes-Sutton  
Member Richards  
Member Salcido  
Member Stern

#### **SPCSA STAFF MEMBERS**

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

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

Brett Willis	Brandi Adams	Nichole Shaffer	Josh Kern
Christa Fialkiewicz	Melissa McCormick	Lewis Perlin	Dr. Anthony Pollard

#### **Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order and Roll Call. [00:14:46]**

Chair Thigpen of the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA), called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

#### **Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment #1. [00:16:19] Written Public Comment is posted online with board documents. Public Comment in person or telephonically:**

1. Avalon Korringa (Agenda Item #10)

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**Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda. [00:19:02]** The following items were reviewed:

- a. March 13, 2026, SPCSA Board Meeting Action Minutes for approval.
- b. Charter School Contract Amendment Applications – reduction to enrollment caps:
  - i. Alpine Academy
  - ii. Imagine Schools at Mountain View
  - iii. Legacy Traditional School – Cadence campus
  - iv. Rainbow Dreams Academy
  - v. Southern Nevada Trades High School

**Motion on Agenda Item 3.** Member Dr. Holmes-Sutton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Dr. Aldaba seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion was approved.**

**Agenda Item 4 – SPCSA Charter School Governing Body Governance Standards. [00:19:37]** Member Dr. Aldaba discussed the Governance Standards adopted by the Authority pursuant to NRS 388A.224 (2024). Highlighted Governance Standard #1.

Focus on Student Growth, Achievement, and Social and Emotional Wellbeing.

- Understand academic performance expectations established by the State of Nevada and State Public Charter School Authority
- Commit to the academic, behavioral, social, and emotional success of all enrolled students and the overall academic success of the school
- Set ambitious and attainable goals for student academic growth and achievement that aim to ensure the success of all students
- Establish objectives for student social and emotional wellbeing that aim to ensure an inclusive, positive, and supportive environment for all students
- Regularly monitor progress toward internal goals and objectives as well as statewide performance expectations
- Analyze student growth, achievement, and wellbeing data by student group (race, ethnicity, gender, disability status, etc.) in order to identify and act on disparities in student performance and experience
- Use data to inform decisions

Member Dr. Aldaba wanted to take this time to acknowledge and thank our Social Workers and all of our other Mental Health Professionals who are in our schools taking care of social emotional well-being of our students.

**Agenda Item 5 – Executive Director’s Report. [00:21:44]** SPCSA Executive Director Mackedon provided the Authority with information and updates regarding the following:

- a. School Highlight. The Nevada Purple Star School Award is a designation provided to military-friendly schools that display a major commitment to serving military-connected students and families. “Military-connected students bring unique strengths and experiences to our classrooms, and they also face unique challenges,” said Dr. Victor Wakefield, Superintendent of Public Instruction. “Purple Star Schools set the standard for ensuring these students experience consistency, strong relationships, and access to high-quality learning no matter where they are stationed.” Three SPCSA-sponsored schools were among the recipients this year: Pinecrest Academy of Northern Nevada, Somerset Academy Skye Canyon, and Somerset Academy North Las Vegas. These schools join other SPCSA schools who were previously awarded the designation, including: Somerset Academy Sky Pointe, Somerset Academy Lone Mountain, Legacy Traditional School Southwest, Oasis Academy,

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Legacy Traditional North Valleys, Legacy Traditional Cadence, Somerset Aliante, Coral Academy of Science Centennial Hills, and Coral Academy of Science Nellis.

- b. Reviewed delinquent PERs Contributions.
- c. New Schools Update. Northern Nevada Wildflower has requested, and I will approve, a deferment until the 2027-2028 school year. The board has not been able to find a suitable facility. They are actively looking at multiple properties, but none of them will be ready for an August 2026 start. The SPCSA will have no new charter schools opening via the traditional charter school application process next year; instead, four schools will open for the 2027-2028 school year. Three schools have deferred: Somerset Academy Carson City, Pahrump Valley Academy, and Northern Nevada Wildflower. Citizens of the World chose to utilize a two-year incubation period.
- d. Current Events. I served as a panel member at the Charter School Association of Nevada's first annual "State of the Sector" event (March 26, 2026) and on a panel at Baird's Charter School Investors Conference (April 16, 2026) in Pheonix Arizona.

**Agenda Item 6 – Matters Related to Sage Collegiate's April 14, 2026, Board Meeting. [00:24:35]**

Melissa Mackedon, Executive Director, provided information regarding the Governing Board of Sage Collegiate's decision to surrender their Charter Contract with the SPCSA at the end of this school year. At Sage's board meeting the board voted to assign Josh Kern as the closing Administrator for the school.

**Motion on Agenda Item 6** – Member Shauntee Rosales made a motion to accept the recent action by the Sage Collegiate board to surrender their charter contract and close the school; approve the appointment of Josh Kern to be the administrator overseeing the Sage Collegiate closure process, effective immediately, with exclusive control and decision-making authority over the school's finances and financial operation; and direct SPCSA staff to work with Josh Kern to ensure all closure requirements are met. Member Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion was approved.**

**Agenda Item 7 – Proven Provider Update. [00:28:41]** Melissa Mackedon turned the meeting over to Brandi Adams, Chief Academic Officer of AMS. She provided updates for AMS-Nellis. Busy hiring staff and making offers to teachers. Ten offers to teachers, most are current NV Prep staff. Hired leadership positions as well. Enrollment: We have 310 applications, with 256 complete. Fifty pending as Registrar is working on validating the others. Data team is working hard getting Infinite Campus up and running. Building Hope continues to be very positive. We are excited about the addition of a playground.

**Agenda Item 8 – Charter School Contract Amendment Applications. [00:33:20]** Danny Peltier, Management Analyst IV, presented an overview of Nevada State High School Flagship application to combine its enrollment cap across all of the satellite facilities, and decrease their enrollment cap.

**Motion on Agenda Item 8.** Member Shauntee Rosales made a motion to approve Nevada State High School

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Academy's request to combine the Flagship campuses enrollment caps and to reduce the enrollment cap as outlined in the recommendation memo. Member Addis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.  
**Motion was approved.**

**Agenda Item 9 – Nevada State High School Meadowwood.** [00:36:51] Danny Peltier, Management Analyst IV provided an overview of the voluntary surrender of Nevada State High School Meadowwood Charter Contract effective at the end of the 26-27 school year.

**Motion on Agenda Item 9.** Member Dr. Aldaba made a motion to accept the recent action by the Nevada State High School Meadowwood board to surrender their charter contract and close the school at the conclusion of the 2026-2027 school year, approve the appointment of Melissa McCormick to be the administrator overseeing the Nevada State High School Meadowwood closure process, and direct SPCSA staff to work with Melissa McCormick to ensure all closure requirements are met. Member Addis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion was approved.**

**Agenda Item 10 – Southern Nevada Trades High School.** [00:41:05] Katie Broughton, Director of Authorizing, provided an overview of Southern Nevada Trades High School's ratings on the SPCSA Financial Performance Framework for fiscal year 2024-25. SPCSA staff recommended the SPCSA issue a Notice of Breach. Brett Willis, Board Chair for Southern Nevada Trades High School gave a response on behalf of the school requesting that the SPCSA board not issue the Notice of Breach, but to continue the Notice of Concern.

**Motion on Agenda Item 10.** Member Dr. Holmes-Sutton made a motion to adopt the updated Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Performance Framework results for Southern Nevada Trades High School as provided within this memo. Additionally, elevate Southern Nevada Trades High School under the Financial Performance Framework to a Notice of Breach and require the school to participate in ongoing financial oversight as outlined by SPCSA staff. Member Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion was approved.**

**Agenda Item 11 – Long-Range Calendar.** [00:46:06] Melissa Mackedon, Executive Director, noted that the May meeting has been moved to May 15, and also there may be changes in the Long-Range Calendar for meetings that were scheduled for Thursdays. Chair Thigpen reminded board members to be sure to let us know if they are unable to attend a meeting.

**Agenda Item 10 – Public Comment #1.** [00:47:44] Written Public Comment is posted online with board documents. Public Comment in person or telephonically: No Public Comment.

**Agenda Item 11 – Adjournment.** [00:48:25] The meeting adjourned at 9:33 am.