

Joe Lombardo
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

Melissa Mackedon
Executive Director



STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

3427 Goni Rd, Suite 103
Carson City, Nevada 89706
(775) 687-9174 · Fax (775) 687-9060

500 East Warm Springs Rd, #116
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
(702) 486-8895 · Fax (702) 486-5543

ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Authority Board
FROM: Danny Peltier, Management Analyst IV, SPCSA
SUBJECT: **Explore Knowledge Academy– Charter Amendment Request to Reduce its Enrollment Cap**
DATE: May 15, 2026

Summary of Request and Recommendation

Explore Knowledge Academy (EKA) has submitted an amendment application requesting that the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) approve a request to reduce its enrollment cap.

SPCSA staff has reviewed the application and recommends that the Authority approve the amendment request. A proposed motion can be found on page 2 of this memo.

Background and Overview of the Amendment

EKA was approved to transfer sponsorship from CCSD to the SPCSA in January 2025 and is currently under the first year of SPCSA sponsorship. EKA currently offers Kindergarten through 12th grade and had 581 students enrolled according to the 2025 Validation Day.

According to the amendment application, under its previous sponsorship, the school had not been required to update the enrollment cap in prior years. EKA has experienced a minor drop in enrollment in recent years which pushed the school outside of the 90% threshold under their approved charter contract. As such, the school is requesting a minor reduction to bring the contract into compliance.

Finally, according to the amendment application EKA continues to work with its stakeholders to maintain current enrollment and to increase enrollment for future school years. The school had created a budget that was based on the requested cap and does not foresee additional financial impacts from the reduction.

The proposed enrollment cap for EKA will be:

School Year	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Grade Levels	K -12	K-12	K-12
Enrollment Cap	600	640	640

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. EKA is in its first year of operation under SPCSA sponsorship and therefore does not have performance results to analyze. However, SPCSA staff do not have concern regarding EKA’s performance during its initial year of operation under SPCSA sponsorship.

Regarding the amendment request, SPCSA staff is recommending approval. EKA has been in operation in Clark County for many years, and while the school has seen a reduction to enrollment, the decrease has not been significant and the school has still been able to maintain financial viability.

Proposed Motion: Approve Explore Knowledge Academy’s request to reduce its enrollment cap as detailed in the recommendation memo:

If approved, the enrollment cap for EKA will be:

School Year	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Grade Levels	K -12	K-12	K-12
Enrollment Cap	600	640	640

The current enrollment cap for EKA is:

School Year	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Grade Levels	K -12	K-12	K-12
Enrollment Cap	640	640	640

¹ NAC 388A.400(8) and NRS 388A.276

Enrollment and Demographic Information - EKA

Year	Enrollment	A	B	C	H	I	M	P	IEP	ELL	FRL
25-26	581	7.7%	4.9%	23.0%	52.6%	0.6%	9.1%	1.7%	10.6%	8.6%	28.2%

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

**Historical Performance, Academic, Financial, and Organizational Performance –
Not Applicable**