



The Nevada State Public Charter School Authority
3427 Goni Rd, Suite 103
Carson City, NV 89706

DELIVERED BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 14, 2026

Dear Chair Thigpen and Members of the State Public Charter School Authority,

The Committee to Form of Purpose Leadership Academy (PLA) was made aware that the Nevada State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) does not intend to review our 2026 charter application. The PLA team brings together education leaders, classroom teachers, finance, legal, and human resource professionals as well as parents of school-aged students and community leaders, all of whom committed time, energy, and expertise to the development of this application. We are deeply disappointed in the SPCSA's current position that the charter application for Purpose Leadership Academy is not eligible for review because of an error in one table in Section 1.2 of the SPCSA Charter Application. The application is strong. The Committee to Form meets or exceeds statutory requirements, and the SPCSA has the ability to allow minor technical corrections before the May 15, 2026, completeness check window closes. We are asking that the decision to refuse to review a quality application submitted by a statutorily compliant committee be reconsidered so that PLA's application can appropriately be reviewed, or peer reviewed, in the 2026 application cycle.

While we understand and appreciate the role rigorous authorizing plays in the creation and oversight of high-quality public charter schools, the SPCSA's decision not to review Purpose Leadership Academy's application inappropriately applies statute and disregards the SPCSA's publicly shared timeline for applicants. We believe in the mission of the SPCSA to give more Nevada students access to diverse, innovative, and high-quality public schools, but we believe that mission demands an application process that prioritizes the quality of all applications after a comprehensive review and approval process, rather than prematurely and arbitrarily slamming the door on a first of its kind school model that could serve hundreds of families in the Las Vegas community.

In this instance the decision not to review seems to be grounded in the statutory compliance of the Committee to Form, but given that the Committee membership itself is compliant, the SPCSA has now indicated that the refusal to review is due to an error in one table in Section 1.2 of the application.

Let us begin by stating clearly that The Purpose Leadership Academy application articulates a Committee to Form that meets all statutory requirements. Additionally, we intentionally built a

committee that included a much deeper set of education experts than is required, and we believe makes the PLA Committee much stronger and more experienced than the typical Committee to Form.

Most importantly, the Purpose Leadership Academy Committee to Form includes a breadth of experience and expertise that will serve students and families well:

- The Purpose Leadership Academy Committee to Form is composed of six currently licensed or previously licensed Nevada educators, including two active school administrators, one licensed Special Education professional, and the two proposed leaders of the school. The application requires only one, but the Committee was made stronger by having more educators participate in the process.
- Two members of the Committee to Form are parents or guardians of school-aged boys, the primary proposed student population. The application requires only one, but again, we exceeded the minimum requirements.
- In addition, the Committee includes two members with deep finance experience.
- One member is a leader in the Las Vegas legal community.
- One committee member has built an entire career focused on non-profit development, human resources and talent management.
- Only one committee member's role is limited to the designations under NRS 388A.240(2). This is well under the permitted maximum of four members under this designation.

This committee has met regularly and has reviewed and provided feedback to this application at every step in the process. The intent of the committee to form structure has been met by Purpose Leadership Academy, as prescribed by NRS 388A.240. This school was designed and improved by their expertise and kids and families would benefit from their service and ongoing leadership and community service.

Initially, the SPCSA staff indicated that the application would be rejected because the Committee itself was not statutorily compliant. As indicated above, that is clearly not the case. SPCSA staff is now indicating that the application will not be reviewed due to errors in the Committee to Form table in Section 1.2. While the information was not transferred correctly to that table, the narrative sections of the application that outline individual Committee members' specific qualifications clearly state their positions on the Committee.

We believe that the appropriate remedy for the drafting errors in Section 1.2 is to allow the Purpose Leadership Academy team to adjust the error in how some Committee members were listed in this table. The SPCSA's stated timeline for Completeness Check and response is still open until May 15, 2026. It has been SPCSA practice in previous cycles to allow applicants a final option to correct small technical issues after the first completeness check was completed. The SPCSA staff has stated it will not extend that option to PLA in this cycle. There was no prior indication to applicants that they were making the practice shift in the application review process, and their own stated timeline would allow for additional corrections until May 15, 2026. If the updates to Section 1.2 are not permitted, given the content within the narrative body of the application is accurate, we request the PLA application be reviewed as is by peer reviewers.

The transformative power and potential of public charter schools lies in their ability to directly uplift student outcomes and serve kids who have been historically underserved and provide educational environments that provide opportunities for our most vulnerable student populations. The role of the SPCSA is to facilitate the development and implementation of these schools. A decision to forego the review process based on a technical drafting error, when well-established precedent exists otherwise to allow for such errors to be addressed AND proceed with the review process, not only denies students those possibilities but abandons the spirit of Nevada charter school law.

The Purpose Leadership Academy team respectfully requests the opportunity to correct the inaccurate table in section 1.2 so that the PLA application receives full review and consideration by the Nevada SPCSA as part of the 2026 Charter Application Cycle, as we are still within the May 15th end of day deadline to address this issue. Alternatively, we ask that the application be peer reviewed as currently drafted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leondrus Wright
Founding Chancellor

Dwight Reynolds, Ed.D.
Founding Vice-Chancellor

On behalf of The Purpose Leadership Academy Committee to Form:

Greer Perkins
Classroom Educator

Johnesha Powell
Special Education Educator

Tehran Price
Education Administrator

Ignacio Prado
Education Administrator

Clarence Dorch
Parent, Former Educator

Sinjin Torres
Guardian, Finance Professional

Ryan McKnight
Finance Professional

Joseph Orosco
Community Member

Raeshann Canady
Attorney

Melvin King
Human Resources Manager