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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Melissa Mackedon
SUBJECT: Executive Director Report
DATE: June 26, 2026

School Highlight

This month, we are proud to recognize several schools and leaders from the SPCSA portfolio who were honored at Opportunity 180's inaugural North Star Charter School Awards. Held in June 2026 at the Blind Center of Nevada in Las Vegas, the event celebrated the educators, school leaders, governing boards, and school communities whose work exemplifies Opportunity 180's North Star: ensuring that every student graduates college and career ready and prepared to live the life they dream.

We congratulate the following recipients from the SPCSA portfolio:

- **Excellence in Education Award:** Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas – Cadence Campus
- **The 180 Award:** Quest Academy
- **Community Empowerment & Engagement Award:** Nevada Rise Academy
- **Leader-to-Leader Award:** Dr. Benjamin Feinstein
- **Board Excellence Award:** Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas

These recognitions reflect the extraordinary commitment, innovation, and student-centered leadership that exist across Nevada's public charter school community. From fostering academic excellence and strengthening community partnerships to advancing strong governance and collaborative leadership, these award recipients represent the very best of what charter schools can accomplish on behalf of students and families.

We extend our sincere congratulations to each of the honorees and thank Opportunity 180 for creating this meaningful opportunity to celebrate excellence within Nevada's education landscape. We would also like to express our appreciation to Chair Thigpen for representing the SPCSA at the ceremony and joining in recognizing the outstanding achievements of our schools and leaders.

Delinquent PERS Update

Delinquent PERS payments as of 5/1/2026. For a complete accounting of payments, please refer to the “Outstanding Charter Contribution Balance” sheet provided by PERS and included in the board materials.

NV Prep

As of . . .	Total Estimated Amount Due
12/31/2023	\$477,305.47
2/12/2024	\$466,966.09
3/31/2024	\$501,862.79
5/1/2024	\$481,609.99
5/31/24	\$353,263.60
6/30/24	\$332,565.80
7/31/2024	\$375,643.40
9/3/2024	\$411,635.51
11/1/2024	\$373,726.56
1/2/2025	\$238,856.91
2/28/2025	\$191,590.18
3/31/2025	\$176,928.63
5/1/2025	\$175,455.90
6/2/2025	\$135,087.38
7/1/2025	\$124,997.10
8/1/2025	\$82,718.43
10/1/2025	\$67,272.50
11/3/2025	\$122,70.29
12/1/2025	\$165,045.92
12/31/2025	\$169,450.48
3/02/2026	\$39,337.60
4/01/2026	\$38,928.22
5/01/2026	\$38,845.06
5/29/2026	\$37,867.88

Current Events

We are excited to welcome Denise Frolich as the SPCSA's new Director of Finance and Operations. Denise officially joined the Authority on May 26 and brings extensive expertise and leadership experience that will support the agency's operational excellence and continued growth. We are pleased to have her on board and look forward to the contributions she will make to the SPCSA and the schools we serve.

Professional learning and collaboration continue to be an important priority for the SPCSA leadership team as we seek to strengthen our work in service of Nevada's charter school students and families.

Members of the SPCSA leadership team attended the Nevada Association of School Superintendents (NASS) Conference, held June 7–9. The conference brought together education leaders from across the state to discuss issues affecting Nevada's K–12 system, including school finance, workforce development, student achievement, legislative priorities, and leadership practices. Participation in the conference provided an important opportunity to strengthen relationships with educational partners throughout Nevada and to engage in meaningful dialogue about the shared challenges and opportunities facing public education.

From June 22–25, I had the opportunity to participate in the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools Conference, the nation's largest gathering of charter school leaders, authorizers, advocates, and policymakers. The conference provided valuable opportunities to learn from national experts and colleagues from across the country on topics including innovative school models, effective governance, accountability, federal policy developments, and strategies to ensure that all students have access to high-quality public-school options. These conversations reinforced the importance of maintaining a strong focus on educational quality, responsible growth, and student outcomes while continuing to adapt to the evolving needs of the communities we serve.

Finally, I continue to participate in the Nevada Gold Leadership program, an intensive leadership development experience designed to strengthen the skills and effectiveness of executive leaders across the state. To date, I have completed two of the six Gold Leadership courses and one of the six individualized coaching sessions. The opportunity to reflect on leadership practices, receive personalized coaching, and engage with colleagues from diverse sectors was both energizing and informative. I look forward to continuing this experience and bringing the insights gained back to the work of the SPCSA.

Member Holmes-Sutton

As Dr. Tonia Holmes-Sutton concludes her service on the SPCSA Board of Directors, we extend our deepest gratitude for her years of dedicated leadership and service to Nevada's students, educators, and families. Dr. Holmes-Sutton was first appointed to the SPCSA Board by the Nevada State Board of Education in August 2019 and was reappointed in June 2022. During her tenure, she served as Board Chair for two years, guiding the Authority through significant

periods of growth, challenge, and opportunity with thoughtfulness, integrity, and an unwavering focus on student success.

Dr. Holmes-Sutton brought to the Board an extraordinary breadth of experience as an educator, school leader, professor, and nationally recognized advocate for teacher excellence. A National Board Certified Teacher and veteran educator of more than two decades, she consistently elevated the Board's conversations through her deep understanding of teaching and learning, educational leadership, special education, and the needs of students and families in diverse communities. Her expertise in professional learning and educator development, coupled with her commitment to equity and educational opportunity, helped shape thoughtful decision-making that always kept students at the center.

On behalf of the SPCSA staff, Board members, and the charter school community, we thank Dr. Holmes-Sutton for her remarkable contributions and steadfast commitment to public education. Her leadership has left a lasting impact on the Authority and the students it serves. She will be greatly missed, and we wish her continued success in all that lies ahead.

2026-2027 Student Rep

During the spring of 2026, the State Public Charter School Authority received three applications from outstanding students interested in serving as the student representative on the SPCSA Board of Directors for the 2026–2027 school year. Each applicant demonstrated a strong commitment to leadership, student advocacy, and improving educational opportunities for their peers, making the selection process especially difficult.

To ensure a thoughtful and equitable process, members of the SPCSA leadership team and Board Chair Thigpen independently reviewed each application. Reviewers ranked the candidates by awarding three points to their first-choice applicant, two points to their second choice, and one point to their third choice. The cumulative scores from this process determined the selected student representative.

We are pleased to announce that the 2026–2027 SPCSA Student Representative will be Cason Noll, a student at Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas – Sandy Ridge Campus.

Cason brings an impressive record of leadership, service, and student engagement to this role. Throughout high school, he has actively sought opportunities to elevate student voice and contribute to meaningful change. He previously participated in two SPCSA student focus groups during site evaluations, where he provided thoughtful feedback to inform school performance evaluations and shared insights from the charter school student experience. He is an Eagle Scout and a Nevada Youth Legislator.