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ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO:	SPCSA Board
FROM:	Katie Broughton, Director of Authorizing Brandon Gaytán, Education Programs Supervisor
SUBJECT:	Recommendations for Explore Academy Based on 2025-2026 Academic Performance
DATE:	November 13, 2026

The Nevada Department of Education recently released the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) results for the 2025-2026 school year. All public schools in the state of Nevada are issued an NSPF star rating when all required data points are available. Additionally, all SPCSA-sponsored charter schools are evaluated on the SPCSA Academic Performance Framework (Framework), pursuant to NRS 388A.273. The Framework provides additional metrics beyond the NSPF that examine charter school performance versus schools in their zip code, chronic absenteeism reduction, and student group performance in growth and graduation rates.

Any charter school demonstrating academic underperformance that could trigger revocation proceedings within the next three to five years, if academic performance does not improve, is issued a formal Notice to ensure that the school and its governing board are aware of the concerns (NRS 388A.300 and 388A.330). Underperformance, as defined in NAC 388A.350, includes any school that receives a 1- or 2-star rating on the NSPF or that has not complied with the SPCSA Academic Performance Framework. The Authority has three levels of intervention when schools do not meet these academic standards: Notice of Concern, Notice of Breach, and Notice of Intent to Revoke.

Outlined below is the overall academic performance of Explore Academy for the last three school years. At least one campus / school level displayed academic underperformance for the 2025-2026 school year. The data table highlights the currently underperforming campus(es) / school level(s), while the narrative describes the academic underperformance, the SPCSA staff recommendation (and rationale) for

Authority action, and actions that shall be taken by SPCSA staff and the school. At the end of the narrative, a proposed motion for the Authority is provided.

School	2023-2024 NSPF Score/Rating	2023-2024 Academic Framework Score/Rating	2024-2025 NSPF Score/Rating	2024-2025 Academic Framework Score/Rating	2025-2026 NSPF Score/Rating	2025-2026 Academic Framework Score/Rating
Explore Academy, Middle School	13.0 1 star	20.8 Does Not Meet	22.0 1 star	35.0 Does Not Meet	16.0 1 star	29.0 Does Not Meet
Explore Academy, High School	38.8 Not Rated	N/A Not Rated	31.5 Not Rated	N/A Not Rated	34.4 2 stars	31.7 Does Not Meet

For the 2025-2026 school year, the Explore Academy middle school received a third consecutive 1-star NSPF rating, which meets the mandatory charter contract termination criteria outlined in state law. Further action on the middle school will be determined at a future Authority meeting.

For the 2025-2026 school year, the Explore Academy high school received a 2-star NSPF rating and a Does Not Meet Standard rating on the SPCSA Academic Performance Framework. Generally, SPCSA staff recommends issuing Notices of Concern to schools currently in good standing that received a 1-star NSPF rating or both a 2-star NSPF rating and a Below or Does Not Meet Standard rating on the SPCSA Academic Performance Framework. As such, SPCSA staff recommends issuing an academic Notice of Concern to the Explore Academy high school.

Given this recommendation, SPCSA staff will ensure the school is scheduled for a site evaluation for the 2026-2027 school year to carefully review the school's performance. The school must also include an academic goal in their School Performance Plan. This academic goal should measurably impact student academic performance.

Additionally, per NRS 388A.367, any school with a 1- or 2-star NSPF rating is required to mail a written notification to the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled that includes information on the school's NSPF star rating and a list of other public schools to which a pupil may transfer if the charter school closes or adopts changes which a parent or legal guardian finds unacceptable. The school must also post a notification on their website. Finally, NRS 388A.367 requires the governing body of qualifying public charter schools to hold a public hearing within 30 days of sending out the required notification so as to provide all stakeholders the opportunity to discuss actions and solicit feedback for continued academic growth and improvement. Staff has been monitoring compliance with these statutory requirements.

Proposed Motion: Per their 2025-2026 school year academic performance, issue an academic Notice of Concern for Explore Academy high school.