

SUNSET SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION REVIEW FORM #1 ALL BOARDS

(Required by *Nevada Revised Statutes* [NRS] [232B.230](#))

INSTRUCTIONS

- Save the form to your personal computer. Please do not change the format of the form as it complies with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines](#) to make content more accessible to users in general and to a wider range of people with disabilities.
- Fill in the content control or text box for each item requested. If an item does not apply to your board, commission, or entity, please state "Not Applicable."
- Save the completed form to your personal computer.
- When submitting additional documents, identify the electronic name clearly and in the order you want them presented to the Subcommittee.
- Email the saved form and any additional documents in **PDF format** to Patrick Guinan, Chief Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), at pguinan@lcb.state.nv.us. For any questions, contact Mr. Guinan at (775) 684-6825.

REQUIRED INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED BY ALL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, OR ENTITIES

1. Board, commission, or entity name

(Identify the statutory name of the board, commission, or entity.)

[Nevada State Public Charter School Authority](#)

2. Members' names with expiration date of term and number of vacancies

(List the names of the current members and the expiration date of each member's term; contact information is not necessary. Indicate the number of vacancies and the length of time the vacancy has existed.)

[Chair Tonia Holmes Sutton, appointed by State Board of Education, Term Ends 6/30/25](#)

[Vice Chair Cind Rivera, appointed by State Board of education, Term Ends 6/30/24](#)

[Member Tamika Shauntee Rosales, appointed by Majority Leader of Senate, Term ends 6/30/25](#)

[Member Lee Farris, appointed by Majority Leader of Senate, Term ends 6/30/24](#)

[Member Jackson Olsen, appointed by the Governor, Term ends 6/30/24](#)

[Member Ty Whitaker, appointed by the Governor, Term ends 6/30/25](#)

Member Kurt Thigpen, appointed by Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore, term ends 6/30/25

Member Victor Salcido, appointed by the Charter School Association of Nevada, term ends 6/30/26

Member Sandra Kinne, appointed by Assembly Speaker, term ends 6/30/24

3. Physical address

(Identify the physical location of the board, commission, or entity [note whether the location is a state department or agency; indicate that address].)

2080 East Flamingo Road Suite 230 Las Vegas, NV 89119

1749 North Stewart St. Suite 40 Carson City, NV 89706

4. Mailing address

(Identify the mailing address of the board, commission, or entity.)

1749 North Stewart St. Suite 40

Carson City, NV 89706

5. Website address

(Identify the URL for your website with a live link.)

www.charterschools.nv.gov

6. Website developer

(State the name of the developer of your website. If it was not developed by the Division of Enterprise Information Technology [IT] Services [formerly known as DoIT], Department of Administration, indicate whether Enterprise IT Services approved the website.)

Ektron (CMS) which the SPCSA is mandated by the state to use. This website is approved by OSIO (formerly known as EITS and DoIt).

7. Executive director's name and contact information

(Regardless of the title of the position, provide contact information for the person responsible for the operations of the board, commission, or entity.)

Melissa Mackedon

775-546-3021

mmackedon@spcsa.nv.gov

8. Staff members' names, including titles and full-time or part-time status

(Provide each employee's name, title, and employment status.)

Samantha King, staff attorney, full-time

Jennifer Bauer, Director of Finance & Operations, full time

Marinna Cutler, School Support Deputy Director, full time

Katherin Broughton, Director of Authorizing

Susan Hohn, Management Analyst III, full time

Ryan Anderson, Management Analyst I, full time

Brittany Davis, Accounting Assistant III, full time

Karei Sarabia, Admin Assistant III, full time

Desirae Munns, Accounting Management Analyst, full time

Fran McCambell, Accounting Assistant, full time

Kerry Schmitdtbauer, Education Programs Supervisor, full time

Krsitine Myers, Grants & Projects Analyst II, full time

Hiren Bhavsar, Grant & Projects Analyst II, full time

Kristine Cote, Education Program Professional, full time

Jessica Llamas, Management Analyst II, full time

Todd Carl, business Process Analyst III, full time

Sara Jorgensen, Education Programs Professional, full time

Anna Reynolds, Education Programs Professional, full time

Lidia Sedano, Education Programs Professional, full time

Alexia Rose, Management Analyst I, full time

Selcuk Ozdemir, Education Program Supervisor, full time

Karen Gordon, Education Program Professional, full time

Denise Shaw, Education Program Professional, full time

Brettani Thomas, Education Program Professional, full time

Brandon Gaytan, Education Program Professional, full time

Mary Holsclaw, Education Program Professional, full time

Patricia Witte, Administrative Assistant IV, full time

Michael Dang, Management Analyst IV, full time

Michael Hutchins, Management Analyst III, full time

Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III, full time

Molly Burkhardt, Management Analyst II, full time

9. Days and hours of operation

(Provide the days and hours the office of the board, commission, or entity is open to the public and the availability of its staff.)

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

10. Created by what authority

(Cite the section or sections of NRS creating the board, commission, or entity.)

NRS 388A.153

11. Authority to adopt regulations (NRS) and citation to *Nevada Administrative Code (NAC)*

(Cite the sections of NRS that authorize or require the board, commission, or entity to adopt regulations and the sections of NAC that contain your regulations.)

NRS 388A.168

NRS 388A.229

NRS 388A.258

NRS 388A.438

12. Five regulations most recently adopted, date of adoption, and any deadlines for adoption

(List the last five regulations by LCB File number adopted by the board, commission, or entity; the date of adoption; and any deadlines for adoption pursuant to statute.)

R043-21, Effective October 6, 2021

RO88-16 Effective December 21

2016RO87-16 Effective December 21, 2016

RO89-16 Effective December 21, 2016

RO36-14 Effective December 22, 2014

13. Required regulations that have not been adopted with deadlines for adoption

(If a section of NRS or a bill passed by the Legislature requires the adoption of regulations and the board, commission, or entity has not adopted the regulations yet, list the regulations and cite the statute pursuant to which the adoption of the regulations is mandated.)

None

14. Governing structure of the board, commission, or entity pursuant to statute

(Provide a brief description of the governing structure; a copy of the organizational chart is requested later on the form.)

1. The State Public Charter School Authority consists of nine members. The membership of the State Public Charter School Authority consists of: (a) Two members appointed by the Governor in accordance with subsection 2; (b) Two members, who must not be Legislators, appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate in accordance with subsection 2; (c) Two members, who must not be Legislators, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly in accordance with subsection 2; (d) Two members appointed by the State Board of Education; and (e) One member appointed by the Charter School Association of Nevada or its successor organization. 2. The Governor, the Majority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly and the State Board of Education shall ensure that the membership of the State Public Charter School Authority: (a) Includes persons with a demonstrated understanding of charter schools and a commitment to using charter schools as a way to strengthen public education in this State; (b) Includes a parent or legal guardian of a pupil enrolled in a charter school in this State; (c) Includes persons with specific knowledge of: (1) Issues relating to elementary and secondary education; (2) School finance or accounting, or both; (3) Management practices; (4) Assessments required in elementary and secondary education; (5) Educational technology; and (6) The laws and regulations applicable to charter schools; (d) Insofar as practicable, reflects the ethnic and geographical diversity of this State; and (e) Insofar as practicable, consists of persons who are experts on best practices for authorizing charter schools and developing and operating high-quality charter schools and charter management organizations. 3. Each member of the State Public Charter School Authority must be a resident of this State. 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, a member of the State Public Charter School Authority must not be actively engaged in business with or hold a direct pecuniary interest relating to charter schools, including, without limitation, serving as a vendor, contractor, employee, officer, director or member of the governing body of a charter school, educational management organization or charter management organization. 5. Not more than two members of the State Public Charter School Authority may be teachers or administrators who are employed by a charter school or charter management organization in this State. For a teacher or administrator employed by a charter school or charter management organization to be eligible to serve as a member of the State Public Charter School Authority, the charter school or charter management organization which employs the teacher or administrator must not have ever received an annual rating established as one of the three lowest ratings of performance pursuant to the statewide system of accountability for public schools. 6. After the initial terms, the term of each member of the State Public Charter School Authority is 3 years, commencing on July 1 of the year in which he or she is appointed. A vacancy in the membership of the State Public Charter School Authority must be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. A member shall continue to serve on the State Public Charter School Authority until his or her successor is appointed. 7. The members of the State Public Charter School Authority shall select a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members. After the initial selection of those officers, each of those officers holds the position for a term of 2 years commencing on July 1 of each odd-numbered year. If a vacancy occurs in the Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term. 8. Each member of the State Public Charter School Authority is entitled to receive: (a) For each day or portion of a day during which he or she attends a meeting of the State Public Charter School Authority a salary of not more than \$80, as fixed by the State Public Charter School Authority; and (b) For each day or portion of a day during which he or she attends a meeting of the State Public Charter School Authority or is otherwise

engaged in the business of the State Public Charter School Authority the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally. (Added to NRS by 2011, 2354; A 2015, 3257; 2017, 3383; 2019, 2067)— (Substituted in revision for NRS 386.5095)

15. Duties of the board, commission, or entity

(Either summarize the duties or cite the specific sections of NRS that set forth the duties.)

NRS 388A.150 Creation; purpose. 1. The State Public Charter School Authority is hereby created. The purpose of the State Public Charter School Authority is to: (a) Authorize charter schools of high-quality throughout this State with the goal of expanding the opportunities for pupils in this State, including, without limitation, pupils who are at risk. (b) Provide oversight to the charter schools that it sponsors to ensure that those charter schools maintain high educational and operational standards, preserve autonomy and safeguard the interests of pupils and the community. (c) Serve as a model of the best practices in sponsoring charter schools and foster a climate in this State in which all high-quality charter schools, regardless of sponsor, can flourish. 2. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to create a duty for the State Public Charter School Authority to provide any assistance, support or services to a charter school other than to carry out its purpose as described in subsection 1.

16. Objectives and programs of the board, commission, or entity

(Provide a brief description of each of the objectives and programs.)

The SPCSA authorizes high-quality charter schools throughout the state with the goal of expanding educational opportunities to students, including those considered at risk. The SPCSA provides academic, operational, and fiscal oversight of the schools it sponsors. Lastly, the SPCSA serves as the model of best practice in authorizing for other entities who currently, or will soon, sponsor charter schools in the state. The SPCSA's 2019-2024 Strategic plan outlines three primary goals.

Goal 1: Provide Families with Access to High-Quality Schools.

Goal 2: Ensure that every SPCSA student succeeds - including those from historically underserved student groups.

Goal 3: Increase the diversity of students served by SPCSA schools.

17. Itemized list of services offered by the board, commission, or entity

(Provide a list of services offered to the public by the board, commission, or entity.)

The SPCSA board:

- Authorizes new charter schools
- Approves any amendment requests existing schools may submit
- Renews charter schools
- Oversees operating schools
 - Approves Academic Frameworks for each school
 - Approves Organization Frameworks for each school
 - Approves Financial Frameworks for each school
 - If necessary issues notices of concern, notices of breach, and notices of intent to close.

18. Dates of the immediately preceding six meetings

(List the dates of the last six meetings and include the online location where the minutes can be found [preferably an active link].)

[March 1, 2024](#)

[January 26, 2024](#)

[December 8, 2023](#)

[November 3, 2023](#)

[October 13, 2023](#)

[October 3, 2023.](#)

[All minutes and recording are available on the SPCSA website.](#)

19. Where are meetings of the board, commission, or entity held?

(Provide the address of the meeting site.)

[Nevada Department of Education First Floor Board Room](#)

[2080 East Flamingo Road](#)

[Las Vegas, Nevada 89119](#)

20. Do members of the public have to be present at the meeting site to participate, or are teleconferencing and videoconferencing offered?

[Video and teleconferencing are offered.](#)

21. Statutory tax exemptions, abatements, or money set aside for the board, commission, or entity

(Cite each section of NRS that provides for such an exemption, abatement, or set-aside; budget information is requested later on the form.)

[None](#)

22. The manner in which the board, commission, or entity is funded

(Describe all sources of funding including appropriations, fees, grants, interest income, or other sources of revenue.)

[Sponsorship fee- 1.25% deduction from each sponsored school's monthly adjusted base per pupil funding.](#)

23. Required public forms that are not available on the website of the board, commission, or entity

(List all forms that are not available electronically to the public, but which are required to comply with a program or service of the board, commission, or entity.)

Charter School Amendment request applications. Charter schools notify staff of the amendment request type they are seeking, and the correct application is sent to them.

24. Recommendations for consolidation with another board, commission, or entity

(Is there a recommendation for consolidation with another similar board, commission, or entity? If so, which board, commission, or entity would be the surviving entity? If there is a recommendation for consolidation, list the services also provided by the other board, commission, or entity.)

The SPCSA cannot be consolidated with another board as they are the only active authorizer and the only statewide authorizer in Nevada.

25. Overlap or duplication of duties or work product

(Identify any other entity whose duties or responsibilities replicate those of this entity.)

There is no other statewide charter school authorizer in the state of Nevada.

26. Improved efficiency

(Are there areas where this board, commission, or entity could benefit from improved workflow, mechanics, or other efficiencies?)

Additional staff are needed to carry out the work of authorizing and oversight.

27. Effectiveness in accomplishing the objectives, programs, and purposes of the board, commission, or entity

(Provide an assessment of the board, commission, or entity's effectiveness in meeting its objectives and programs; provide information that is relevant to the response.)

Goal 1: Provide Families with Access to High-Quality Schools

When the SPCSA's Strategic plan was adopted during the 2018-19 school year, the vast majority of SPCSA-sponsored charter schools were already meeting expectations for academic performance by earning a 3-star rating or better and a significant percent were exceeding the expectations by earning a rating of 4-stars or better. The SPCSA aimed to continue to build on this high performance by increasing the percent of schools rated as 3-stars or better. Over the last four years, SPCSA-sponsored schools, like schools across the State, have seen significant challenges due to the impacts of COVID-19. During that time, we've also seen an increase in the number of SPCSA-sponsored schools and student served by SPCSA schools. In the 2022-2023 school year the SPCSA has had a decline in the number of schools that earn a 3-star or better on the Nevada School Performance Framework.

The table below shows the SPCSA's progress in meeting academic performance goals (excluding those schools that are approved to be rated on the Alternative Performance Framework).

School Year	Percent of schools rated as <i>1-star</i> on the NSPF indicating they 'do not meet standards'	Percent of schools rated as <i>2-star</i> or lower on the NSPF indicating they have 'partially met' standards	Percent of schools are rated <i>3+ stars</i> on the NSPF indicating 'adequate' or better performance	Percent of schools rated <i>4+ stars</i> on the NSPF indicating 'commendable' or 'superior' schools
2018-19	2.0%	19.9%	78.2%	64.4%
2019-20[^]	-	-	-	-
2020-21[^]	-	-	-	-
2021-22*	6.4%	13.5%	80.2%	55.6%
2022-23	8.2%	26.3%	73.6%	47.3%
2023-24 Goal	<i>Less than 4%</i>	<i>No more than 17%</i>	<i>83% or more</i>	<i>70% or more</i>

[^] For the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years, the Nevada Department of Education was granted a waiver by the U.S. Department of Education and was not required to issue star ratings under Nevada School Performance Framework.

*Projected ratings based on Nevada School Performance Framework index scores, as official 2021-22 star ratings were not issued.

In line with the responsibility to ensure strong stewardship of public funds, the State Public Charter School Authority annually evaluates the organizational and financial performance of schools. These evaluations are based on organizational and financial performance frameworks which are grounded in statutory and regulatory requirements and incorporate data from each charter holder's annual financial audit. The SPCSA has set a goal that 95% of schools will be rated as meeting standards on both the organization and financial performance frameworks. The table below shows the progress the SPCSA has made in achieving goals related to organizational and financial performance of sponsored schools.

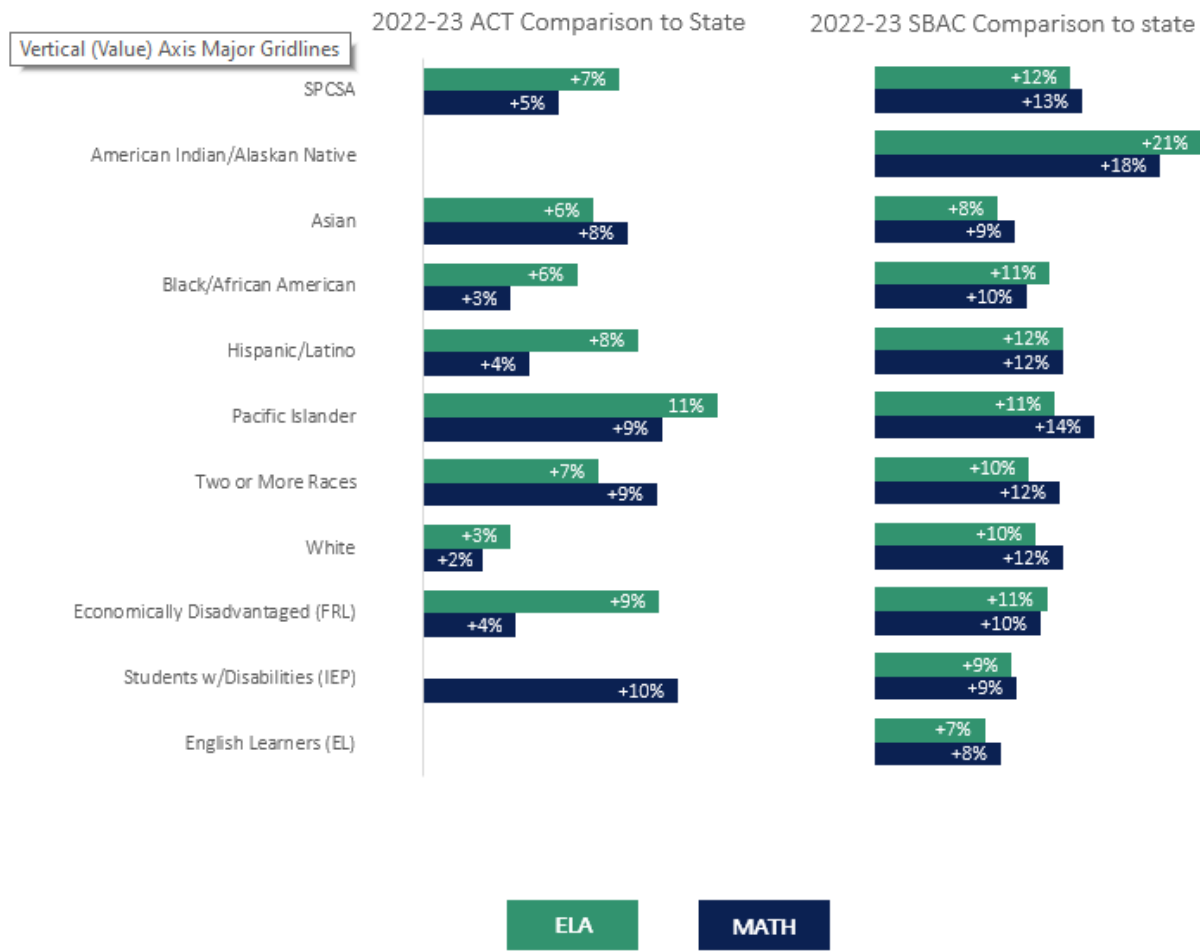
School Year	Percent of schools meeting organizational performance expectations	Percent of schools meeting financial performance expectations
2019-20	100%	91.2%
2020-21	100%	94.7%

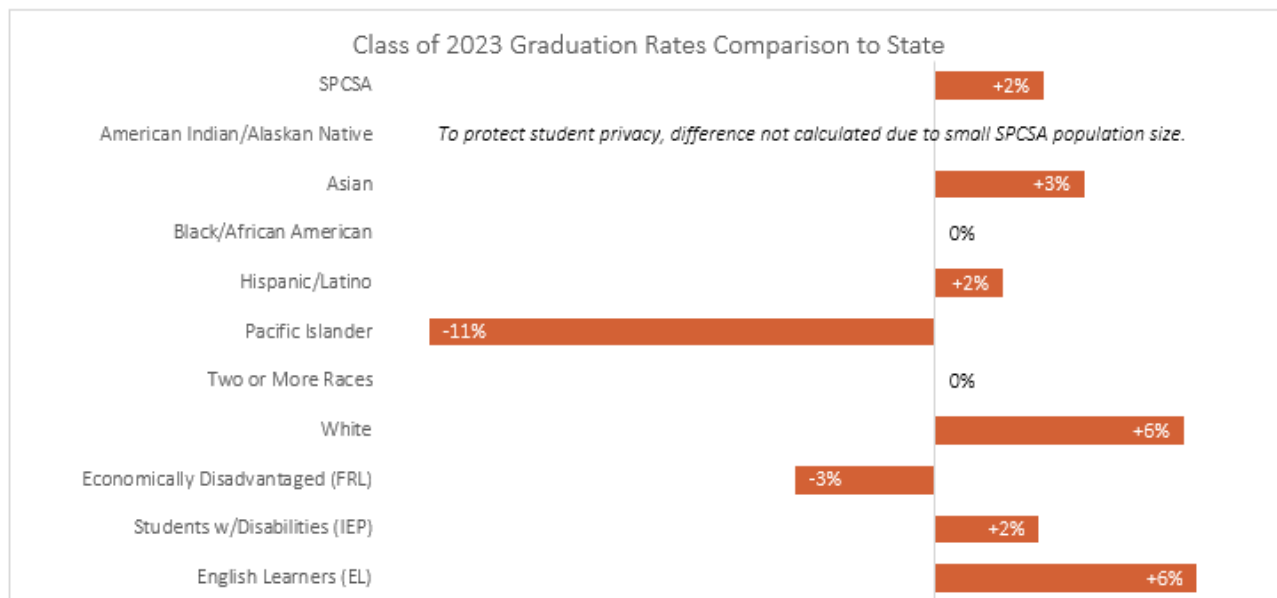
2021-22	100%	78%
2022-2023	95%	*
2023-24 Goal	95%	95%

**Financial performance results for the 2022-23 school year are expected to be presented at the SPCSA Board Meeting on March 1, 2024.*

Goal 2: Ensure that every SPCSA student succeeds - including those from historically underserved student groups

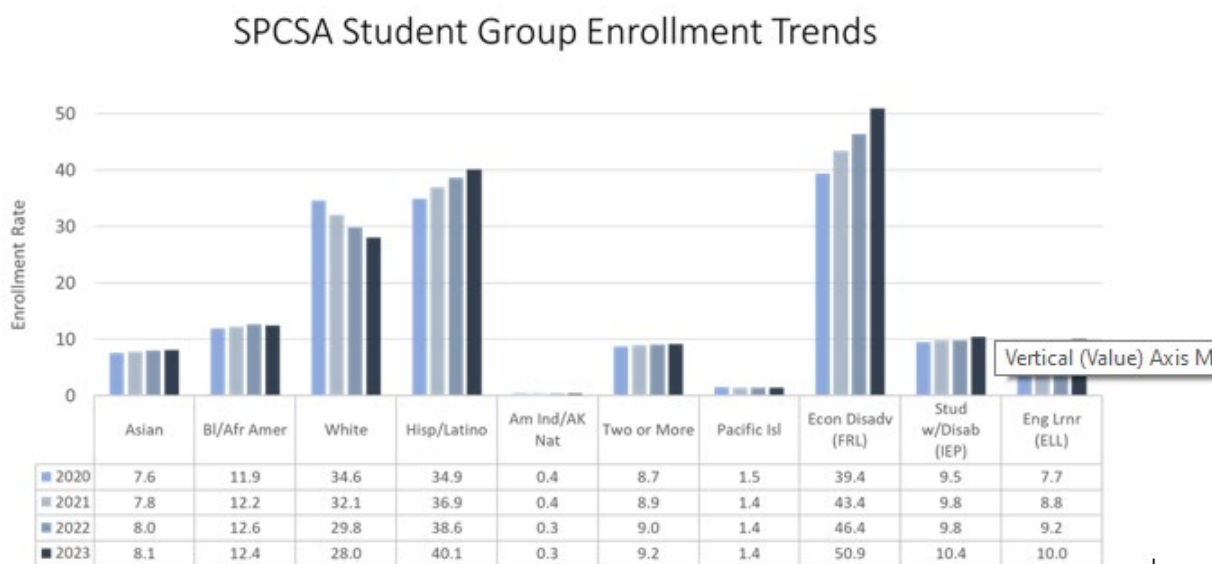
Statewide data show that some student groups have historically underperformed relative to their peers on key academic indicators. Those student groups include students qualifying for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch, English Language Learners, and students who receive Special Education services, along with student identifying as Native American, Black or African American, and Hispanic or Latino. While these opportunity gaps exist within SPCSA-sponsored schools, students attending SPCSA-sponsored schools have mostly outperformed their peers on statewide assessments over the last few years. The graphs below show the percentage point differences in proficiency and graduation rate between the SPCSA and corresponding state student groups from the 2022-23 school year.





Goal 3: Increase the diversity of students served by SPCSA Schools.

As shown in the graph below, over the last four years, the SPCSA has increased enrollment in three historically underserved student groups: students eligible for Free or Reduced-Priced Lunch, English Learners, and Students with Disabilities.



28. Recommended statutory changes necessary to carry out objectives and programs

(Summarize any recommended statutory changes needed by the board, commission, or entity to carry out its objectives and/or programs.)

The SPCSA staff is currently working to establish this information in accordance with the schedule outlined by Governor Lombardo. Preliminary meetings with the Governor's staff will take place between April 1-30, 2024. The final agency presentation to the Governor's staff will take place June 3-14, 2024. Approved final drafts of BDRs are due no later than August 1 to LCB.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED BY ALL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, OR ENTITIES

Submit the following information in PDF format via email to Patrick Guinan, Chief Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division, LCB, at pguinan@lcb.state.nv.us, and clearly identify the electronic name of the document (A, B, C, et cetera) when submitted:

A. The operating budget of the board, commission, or entity for the 2023–2024 Biennium.

[A_SC_OperatingBudget.pdf](#)

B. A statement setting forth the income and expenses of the board, commission, or entity for at least three years immediately preceding the date on which the board, commission, or entity submits this form, including the balances of any fund or account maintained by or on behalf of the board, commission, or entity. This statement should include all sources of income for the board, commission, or entity and expenditures by category, along with current balances of each fund or account.

[B_SC_SPCSA Revenues & Expenditures Statement.pdf](#)

C. The most recent legislative audit, or other audit, of the board, commission, or entity and any efficiency studies or constituent or staff surveys conducted in the past three years. Audits conducted by the legislative auditor may be referenced by number (i.e., LA10 11), as they are available on the Legislature's website. Copies of all other requested documents must be submitted.

[C_SC_4A - EO 2023-005 Audit Report.pdf](#)

[C_SC_EquityAccessSPCSA Audit Report.pdf](#)

D. Any reports required to be filed with the Legislative or Executive Branches over the past three years. If the report is on the Legislature's website, you may refer to it by number. Otherwise, please provide a copy of the report. Also, note whether any reports were filed late or whether any reports required by statute have not been filed.

[D_SC_2022 Annual Report to NDE.pdf](#)

[D_SC_2023 Annual Report to NDE.pdf](#)

[D_SC_2024 Annual Report to NDE.pdf](#)

[D_SC_NRS 388A.355 Report_22.pdf](#)

[D_SC_NRS 388A.355 Report_23.pdf](#)

[D_EMO Report_Section 6 of AB 419_2021.pdf](#)

[D_EMO Report_Section 6 of AB 419_2023.pdf](#)

[D_RTTL_2019_AB309_Sec13_2021_SPCSA.pdf](#)

- E. A copy of the organizational chart showing the governing structure of the board, commission, or entity and its staff.

[E_SC_Current Org Chart 3-1-24.pdf](#)

- F. A copy of the most recent strategic plan of the board, commission, or entity. Indicate the effective date of the plan and the achievement of any goals set out in the plan.

[F_SC_Strategic Plan 2019_FINAL_ADA\(1\).pdf](#)