



# Nevada State Public Charter School Authority

## State Board of Education

August 27, 2020

# SPCSA-Sponsored Charter Schools

## **67 Charter School Campuses**

- 55 in Clark County
- 6 in Washoe County
- 3 statewide virtual schools
- 1 in Churchill County
- 1 in Elko County
- 1 in White Pine County

## **Varying Contexts**

Schools have various

- Instructional Models
- Calendars/Schedules
- Student Enrollment
- Start dates
- Facilities

# Ongoing Communications with Schools

- Weekly update emails to schools (currently 2x per week)
- Weekly (initially bi-weekly) all school conference calls
  - Share information and update
  - Field questions
- Weekly 1:1 contact with schools via SPCSA COVID-19 Liaisons
  - Discuss school-specific updates
  - Answer school-specific questions
  - Understand challenges

# Charter School Reopening Plans

- Developed by charter schools with input from parents, families, school staff, and community members and include plans for
  - Distance Education
  - A hybrid learning model to accommodate social distancing requirements
- Approved by Charter School Governing Boards
- Reviewed by SPCSA staff for compliance with directives and guidance
- Submitted to NDE

# SPCSA In-Person Learning Guidance

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mitigation Level</b> (Established by Governor’s Emergency Directive 030 and <a href="#">Road to Recovery: Moving to a New Normal</a>)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPCSA COVID-19 In-Person Learning Guidance</b> (Established by SPCSA Board on Friday, August 14, 2020)</p>
<p>Baseline Level</p>	<p>A charter school sponsored by the SPCSA <i>may, but are not required to</i>, operate under an <b>in-person or hybrid model</b> in accordance with Emergency Directives 022 and 028.</p>
<p>Mitigation Level 1</p>	<p>Except with written approval of an exemption from the Executive Director, all charter schools sponsored by the SPCSA <i>shall</i> operate under a <b>distance education model</b>, with the option to provide in-person instruction at a very limited scale (less than 25% of the school’s enrollment) for students most significantly impacted by the loss of in-person instruction and in accordance with Section 8 of Emergency Directive 028.</p> <p>In accordance with Section 8 of Emergency Directive 028, schools may consider the following when identifying students for in-person instruction:</p>
<p>Mitigation Level 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluating students' Individualized Education Programs or 504 Plans to determine whether the provision of services requires in-person instruction or interaction;</li> <li>• Prioritizing in-person instruction for students based on English Learner status;</li> <li>• Determining that certain grade levels or courses are better suited to in-person instruction or distance education;</li> <li>• Considering documented student and family medical circumstances.</li> </ul>
<p>In addition,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Executive Director <i>must</i>, open a fast response process to consider appeals by schools for exemptions and <i>may</i> approve and enact individual plans informed by consultation with schools.</li> <li>• The Executive Director <i>may</i>, in unique circumstances require additional restrictions for specific schools and/or counties based on public health data and/or non-compliance with prevailing Emergency Directives.</li> </ul>	

# Addressing Devices and Connectivity

- By the end of the 2019-20 school year, 98% of students were learning online
- Summer survey data showed, out of ~50,000 students,
  - 1,700 students without reliable internet
  - 7,500 students without devices (includes students that would be sharing devices)
  - ***Significant progress already made***
- Connectivity
  - Deploying 1,000 Hot Spots
  - Working on subsidizing Cox Connect 2 Compete access for low-income students
  - Ongoing school-based efforts
- Devices
  - Numerous purchases over the summer
  - Limited number of schools seeing back orders or delays
  - Continuing to trouble-shoot specific issues, particularly back-ordered devices

# Additional Supports

- National School Lunch Program
- Wrap-around supports

# Highlights

- Relatively strong attendance in spring (above 96% through May 15)
- Small-scale pilots of hybrid learning over summer
- Coordination with Health Districts/Departments
- Support and Training