

## AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- I. **Public Education Commission Meeting Date:** June 14, 2019
  
- II. **Item Title:** Explore Academy: Amendment Request – New School or New Site

**Executive Summary and Proposed Motions:** Discussion and Possible Action on Charter School Amendment, Explore Academy

### Request

Explore Academy submitted an amendment request on March 25, 2019 to open a second Explore Academy campus in Albuquerque. At the PEC work session in April, the school was advised that the amendment request process for new school sites would align with the new charter school application process, with a due date of June 1, 2019. Community input hearings would be held in July 2019 and approvals would be decided in August or September 2019. Approved school sites would open the following year, August 2020. Explore Academy submitted all required documents on or around May 3, 2019. However, at the PEC meeting in May, the PEC voted to “remove the Second School Site Amendment Request from the website” and to “develop a process for an application for a school to be able to open up a second site”.

### Rational for Request

See attached appendix

### Analysis on Amendment Request

The school meets the criteria outlined in the amendment request policy. **However, this amendment request is not ready for PEC approval as a community input hearing is required.**

### **Meeting Mission**

The School’s mission statement is as follows:

*Explore Academy will provide each student with a personalized educational experience through the power of student choice, allowing each student to create a unique educational pathway in preparation for a college future.*

Past site visits indicate that the school has adequately met its mission by offering students a choice in which “seminars” they wish to enroll in to fulfill graduation requirements.

### Academic Performance

Explore Academy has received an “A” letter grade each of the past three years on the New Mexico A-F grade system. Additionally, over those three years, the school did not have a single indicator in the letter grade receive a rating below “B”.

The school’s academic performance is illustrated below. Note that Current Standing (blue line) operates on a scale of 0 to 30 points and School Growth (orange line) operates on a scale of 0 to 10 points.

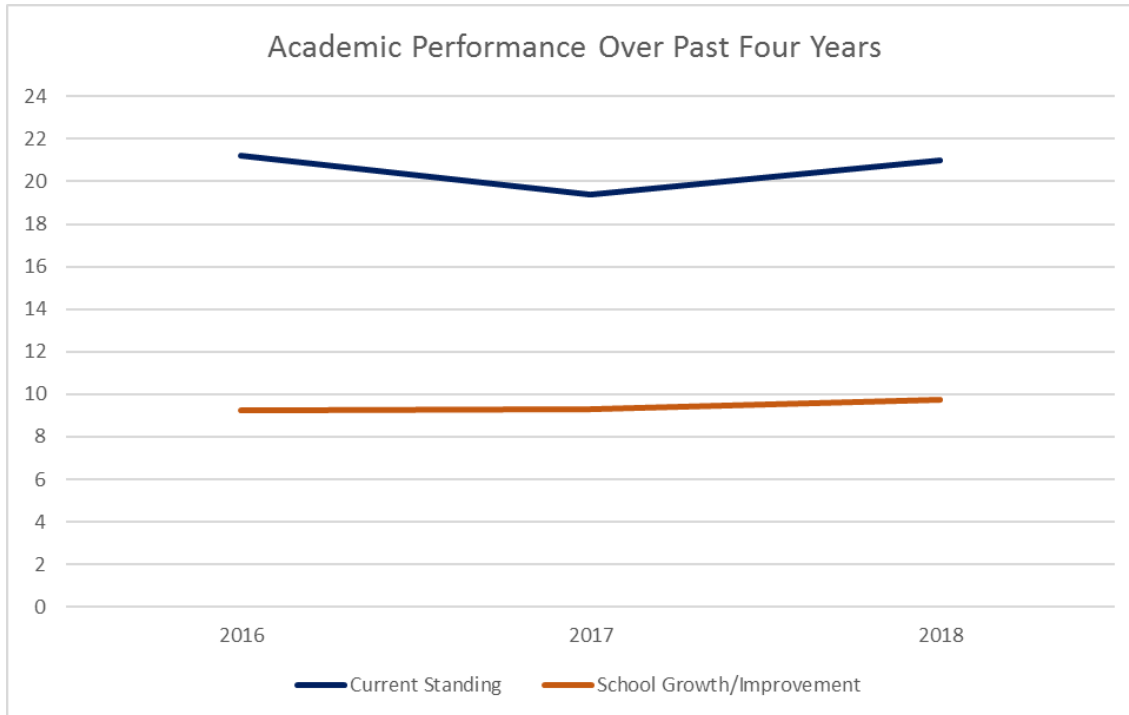


Fig. 1. Academic Performance Over Past Four Years

### Financial Performance

#### FY2018

2018-001 Untimely Cash Receipts (Other Noncompliance)

2018-002 Untimely Payment Processing (Significant Deficiency)

#### FY2017

2016-001 Personnel Files (Other Matter) Repeated and Modified

#### FY2016

2015-002 Review and Approval of Purchases (Other Matter)

2016-001 Personnel Files (Other Matter)

2016-002 Educational Retirement Board (ERB) and Retiree Health Care (RHC) Payroll Deductions (Other Matter)

2016-003 Travel and Per-Diem (Compliance)

**2016-004 Timely Deposits (Compliance)  
Organizational Performance**

Explore Academy	2016-2017	2017-2018
<b>Category I. Academic Performance Framework</b>		
<b>I-A.00</b> NM A-F School Grading System	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>I-A.01</b> Required Academic Performance Indicators	Falls Far Below (or Does Not Meet) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>I-A.02</b> Optional Supplemental Indicators (school specific items in charter)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
<b>Category II. Financial Performance Framework</b>		
<b>II-A.00-06</b> Operating Budget/Audits/Periodic Reports/Expenditures/Reimbursements/Audit Reviews/Meals	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>Category III. Organizational Performance Framework</b>		
<b>III-A.00</b> Educational Plan: <a href="#">material terms</a> of the approved charter application	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>III-A.01</b> Education Plan: applicable education requirements	Working to Meet Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>III-A.02</b> Education Plan: protecting the rights of all students	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Working to Meet Standard
<b>III-A.03</b> Educational Plan: protecting the rights of students with special needs (IDEA, 504, gifted)	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>III-A.04</b> Educational Plan: protecting the rights of English Language Learners (Title III)	Working to Meet Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>III-A.05</b> Educational Plan: complying with the compulsory <a href="#">attendance</a> laws	Working to Meet Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>III-A.06</b> Educational Plan: meet their <a href="#">recurrent enrollment</a> goals	Working to Meet Standard	Working to Meet Standard
<b>IV-A.00</b> Business Management & Oversight: meeting <a href="#">financial</a> reporting and compliance requirements	Falls Far Below (or Does Not Meet) Standard	Falls Far Below (or Does Not Meet) Standard
<b>IV-A.01</b> Business Management & Oversight: following generally accepted <a href="#">accounting</a> principles	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>V-A.00</b> Governance and Reporting: complying with governance requirements	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>V-A.01</b> Governance and Reporting: holding management accountable	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>VI-A.00</b> Employees: meeting teacher and other staff credentialing requirements	Working to Meet Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>VI-A.01</b> Employees: respecting employee rights	Working to Meet Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>VI-A.02</b> Employees: completing required <a href="#">background checks</a>	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>VII-A.00</b> School Environment: complying with facilities requirements	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard
<b>VII-A.01</b> School Environment: complying with health and safety requirements	Falls Far Below (or Does Not Meet) Standard	Falls Far Below (or Does Not Meet) Standard
<b>VII-A.02</b> School Environment: handling information appropriately	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard	Meets (or Exceeds) Standard