



The New America School-Las Cruces  
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Hon. Jared Polis, Founder  
Susie Kimble, President  
Margarita Porter, Superintendent

**RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF  
RENEWAL APPLICATION AND SITE VISIT**  
November 2021

*New America School-Las Cruces Contract Term: July 1, 2017-June 30, 2022*

The Contract Term stated in the Preliminary Analysis should be amended to reflect a Contract Term of July 1-2017 to June 30, 2022, rather than “2018-2022”.

**Academic Performance:**

- Mission specific goal: NAS-LC would like to correct the statements on p. 3 of the Preliminary Analysis that “[i]n the first **two years** of the charter term, the school did not meet its target” (emphasis added), and that the School’s rating on this goal was “Falls Far Below in the first **two years**”, to reflect that the mission-specific goal relating to the National Career Readiness assessment was not made part of the School’s Performance Framework until the 2018-19 school year (the second year of the current term); the School had no mission-specific goal during the first year of the current term. Furthermore, the Performance Framework chart on the bottom of page 3 of the Preliminary Analysis indicates that the School received a “Working to Meet” rating for the Mission Specific Goal in 2018-19. The School appreciates and agrees that it is, “Demonstrating Substantial Progress”, as we are able to fully engage our students in the pre and post-test of Work Keys for this school year.

**Organizational Performance Framework:**

- According to the Organizational Performance Framework, p. 21, fewer than three “Does Not Meets” in the Organizational PF review results in an overall “Meets Standard”, and thus the overall rating for this category should be a “Meets Standard”.

**Financial Performance:**

- The chart on page 4 of the Preliminary Analysis should be corrected to omit references to “FY 2017”, a fiscal year outside the current charter term; the current charter term incorporates FYs 2018-2022.
- The chart on page 3 of the Preliminary Analysis should be amended to show “Unable to Review – audit not released by State Auditor” or similar notation, rather than “Does Not Meet Standard”, under “2020-21, Indicator 2c”, because the FY2021 audit results have not been released by the State Auditor and cannot be discussed at this time as a matter of law.
- The chart on page 4, under FY2019, Repeat Findings, is incorrect in reflecting 1 Repeat Finding; the correct number of Repeat Findings for FY19 is 0 per the FY2019 audit report. The overall rating of Working to Meet Standard in the Performance Framework Chart on p. 3 of the

Preliminary Analysis, Indicator 2c, 2018-19, should be revisited and changed to Meets Standard in light of this correction.

- The reference to FY2017 in the first sentence of the third paragraph of the Financial Performance section of the Preliminary Analysis (p. 4), should be amended to refer to FY2018, for the reasons stated above.
- According to the Organizational Performance Framework, p. 21, fewer than three “Does Not Meets” in the Organizational PF review results in an overall “Meets Standard”, and thus the overall rating for this category should be a “Meets Standard”.
- NAS-LC will continue to work closely with our Business Manager to implement the Corrective Action Plan that has been put in place after the FY2020 audit.
- During the current contract, NAS-LC did not receive any material audit findings or significant deficiencies.
- While the analysis of average classroom spending during the contract term on pp. 4-5 of the Preliminary Analysis may provide a point of interest, classroom spending is not part of the Performance Framework and, therefore, should not factor into the authorizer’s renewal decision.

#### **Governance:**

- For school year, 2017-18, due to 0 audit findings, NAS-LC governing board members were only required to have 6 hours of training. 100% of the GC met this requirement. The email containing the details has been included. The chart on the Preliminary Report for FY18 should not contain any yellow.
- For school year 2018-19, due to 0 audit findings, NAS-LC was required to only have 6 hours of training again. Please refer to the attached email dated 10/17/2018. For that year, only one GC member should indicate yellow. Because of this, NAS-LC sought out other avenues to assure the PED that all required training was completed. NAS-LC is working with Kelly Callahan to obtain the required hours of training.

#### **Comprehensive Educational Program**

- To clarify, NAS-LC’s instructional day is Monday –Thursday, 8:45am-4:30pm, not 9:30-4:00.