



April 14, 2023

Ms. Rebecca Bartoo
Sierra County Community Charter School
Via email (avarbartoo@gmail.com)

Dear Ms. Bartoo:

The New Mexico Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA) has received and reviewed the Facilities Master Plan/Educational Specifications 2023-2028 (FMP/Ed Specs) for Sierra County Community Charter School (SCCCS). The FMP/Ed Specs guide you in the planning and/or selection of a facility to ensure that it adequately accommodates your educational program and supports your method of instruction. Based upon our review, PSFA is pleased to announce that the FMP/Ed Specs meet our requirements for applicant charter schools and approves the plan. Your next step is to include your FMP/Ed Specs along with this letter in your charter school application to the New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC).

In reviewing the SCCC'S FMP/Ed Specs, PSFA understands:

- Sierra County Community Charter School seeks to begin operation in the Truth or Consequences community.
- Sierra County Community Charter School proposes an enrollment cap of 196 students in grades K-8.
- The school will phase its enrollment beginning with kindergarten through 6th until it reaches its full 196-student enrollment cap within five years.
- The school has considered several options for a potential facility and is focusing on three options. Each of the options will need some sort of renovation to accommodate students particularly in restrooms and outdoor learning/play areas.
- The school's preferred facility option is a City of Truth or Consequences owned building at 601 Sunset Street (Gardner Center). The school has five 500 square foot (SF) code compliant classrooms. The building also has a 2,500 SF unfinished space. The site this building sits on consists of 23 acres, which provides room for expansion.
- The two other options the school is considering include a building at 122 North Broadway (the Club), which could accommodate the middle school and a vacant building at 855 Van Patten.



- While the school desires the elementary and middle school students at one location, it will most likely need two facilities based on available space.
- The school's educational model takes a multi-pronged approach that focuses on the individual learner, project based learning, service, outdoor learning, and re-engaging students who have not returned to school as a result of the COVID pandemic.
- To deliver its educational program, the school proposes the following spaces:
 - 5 K-5th grade classrooms
 - 2 6th-8th grade classrooms
 - OT/PT/SLP space
 - Indoor physical education space for elementary students
 - Administration space
 - Media center space
 - Non-commercial warming kitchen
 - Storage
 - Outdoor learning areas/playfields
- The school hopes to contract with the Truth or Consequences School District for meals but if it cannot enter into an agreement, there are other options available in the community.
- The school will deliver its art/music curriculum in the elementary classroom homerooms. The 6th-8th students will use project and auditorium space at the Club building.
- For 6th-8th media center, the Club location has a branch library and computer lab the students could potentially use.

If you are a successful applicant, please let PSFA know so we can update our database. In addition, if you are successful, this FMP/Ed Specs becomes the school's master plan over the next five years. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or desire additional information.

Sincerely,

John Valdez, AICP, Facilities Master Planner

c: Amy Smith, Programs Analyst, PSFA
Alyce Ramos, Programs Manager, PSFA
Larry Tillotson, Maintenance and Operations Manager, PSFA

