

## CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL: INDICATORS AND STANDARDS

In accordance with Florida Charter School Law, a charter school may be renewed provided that a program review demonstrates that the school has successfully fulfilled the terms of its contract [1002.33(7)(a)(17)]. In conducting a renewal program review, the sponsor will focus its analysis on the school's performance in three categories:

- Educational performance
- Financial performance
- Organizational performance

The following defines specific indicators (the types and level of information and data that will be collected) and standards (the benchmark by which such indicators will be measured) that will be analyzed and evaluated within these three categories<sup>1</sup>. It is a school's performance within these indicators that informs a charter renewal decision.

Furthermore, should a charter school meet the standards for renewal, a sponsor may also collect information from a school about its plans over the term of its subsequent contract. Specifically, a sponsor will gather from a school any modifications/adjustments/amendments it proposes to make to its current contract that would take affect over the subsequent contract.

### *Use of the Renewal Decisionmaking Evaluation Tool*

In defining the specific indicators and standards for charter school renewal, the following also presents an evaluation instrument that can be used to assess a school's attainment of such standards. Sponsors can use this tool to assess whether a school “*Meets the Standard*”, “*Partially Meets the Standard*”; or “*Does Not Meet the Standard*” in a given focus area. Taken together, these determinations should inform whether a school has met the standard for charter renewal. Sponsor staff should make a recommendation based on their evaluation of a school's performance against the defined indicators and standards which are presented to the sponsor's policymaking board. The policymaking board should, in turn, take action based on the evaluation of a school's performance against these indicators and standards.

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<sup>1</sup> A sponsor may also consider additional indicators and/or standards that are in alignment with the specific terms and conditions of a given school's contract.

**EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE**

| <b>Focus Area</b>                         | <b>Indicator</b>                  | <b>Standard/Criteria</b>  | <b>Sources of Evidence</b>        |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Federal<br>Accountability                 | AYP School<br>Improvement status  | The school has not been identified for<br>School Improvement                  | FCAT, State AYP Standards         |
|   | AYP attainment                    | The school has achieved its AYP target  |                                   |
|   | Sub-group(s) attainment<br>of AYP | The school has achieved its AYP targets in<br>identified student sub-group(s) |                                   |
| <b>Focus Area: Federal Accountability</b> |                                   |   |                                   |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>                 |                                   | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>  | <b>Does Not Meet the Standard</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                  |                                   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/>          |
| <b>Findings:</b>                          |                                   |   |                                   |

**Statutory References:** 1002.33(7)(a)(4)

| <b>Focus Area</b>                       | <b>Indicator</b>                                     | <b>Standard/Criteria</b>   | <b>Sources of Evidence</b>           |                                   |  |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| State<br>Accountability                 | FCAT achievement                                     | Students at the school demonstrate proficiency or progress towards meeting proficiency, in subjects tested (mathematics, reading, writing and science) | FCAT                                 |                                   |  |
|   | School grade   | “C” or above   | School grade as determined by FL DOE |                                   |  |
|   | Annual student gains                                 | Students are making one-year’s worth of growth annually in mathematics and reading.  | FCAT                                 |                                   |  |
|   | Annual gains of students achieving in the bottom 25% | 50% make one-year’s worth of growth  | FCAT                                 |                                   |  |
|   | % of students tested                                 | The school is appropriately administering applicable state standardized tests to its students.   | FCAT                                 |                                   |  |
|   | Relative performance                                 | The school’s performance meets or exceeds the performance of schools with closely comparable student populations.                                      | FCAT                                 |                                   |  |
| <b>Focus Area: State Accountability</b> |  |  |                                      |                                   |  |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>               |  | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>   |                                      | <b>Does Not Meet the Standard</b> |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                |  | <input type="checkbox"/>   |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>          |  |
| <b>Findings:</b>                        |  |  |                                      |                                   |  |

**Statutory References:** 1002.33(7)(a)(3); 1002.33(7)(a)(4); 1002.33(16)(a)(2)

| Focus Area   | Indicator                                    | Standard/Criteria   | Sources of Evidence                 |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Mission-Specific Accountability                    | Achievement of school/mission-specific goals | The school is achieving, or making significant progress towards achieving, the school/mission-specific goals as defined in the school's contract and determined by valid and reliable measures. | As defined in the school's contract |
| <b>Focus Area: Mission-Specific Accountability</b> |  |   |                                     |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>                          |  | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>  | <b>Does Not Meet the Standard</b>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                           |  | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>Findings:</b>                                   |  |   |                                     |

Statutory References: 1002.33(7)(a)(3)

| <b>Focus Area</b>                                     | <b>Indicator</b>  | <b>Standard/Criteria</b>   | <b>Sources of Evidence</b>   |
|---|---|--|--|
| Educational Program Implementation                    | Implementation of the mission   | The school is implementing its mission as defined in the school's contract.  | FCAT, standardized test results, internally-developed assessments, onsite evaluation |
|   | Implementation of curriculum and instructional techniques                                       | The school is successfully implementing curriculum and instructional techniques as defined in the school's contract.   |  |
|   | Implementation of specialized instruction for students, particularly of those below grade level | The school implements demonstrably effective instructional techniques that support struggling students achieve grade level.                                  |  |
|   | Data-driven decisionmaking  | The school competently uses qualitative and quantitative data to inform and guide instructional planning and practice aligned with Sunshine State Standards. |  |
|   | Implementation of exceptional education programs  | The school provides quality services for exceptional students as defined in the school's contract and as required by applicable law.                         |  |
|   | Implementation of ELL program   | The school provides quality services for English Language Learner students as defined in the school's contract and as required by applicable law.            |  |
| <b>Focus Area: Educational Program Implementation</b> |   |  |  |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>                             |   | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>   | <b>Does Not Meet the Standard</b>  |

|                          |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Findings:</b>         |                          |                          |

**Statutory References:** 1002.33(7)(a)(1); 1002.33(7)(a)(2); 1002.33(7)(a)(4); 1002.33(16)(a)(3)

### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

| Focus Area                              | Indicator   | Standard   | Sources of Evidence  |
|---|---|--|--|
| Financial Management                    | Demonstration of professional competence and sound systems in managing the schools financial operations | The school implements an effective system of internal controls over revenues, expenses, and fixed assets, and exercises good business practices.   | Annual budgets, financial reports, annual financial audits, financial corrective action plans, onsite evaluation |
|   | Adherence to generally accepted accounting principles   | The school adheres to generally accepted accounting principles   |  |
|   | Financial Reporting Requirements  | The school submits timely and accurate financial information adhering to its financial reporting requirements, including an independent annual financial audit, as defined in the school's contract. |  |
| <b>Focus Area: Financial Management</b> |   |  |  |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>               |   | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>   | <b>Does Not Meet the Standard</b>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                |   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <b>Findings:</b>                        |   |  |  |

**Statutory References:** 1002.33(7)(a)(9); 1002.33(7)(a)(10); 1002.33(7)(a)(11); 1002.33(9)(g); 1002.33(9)(h)

| <b>Focus Area</b>                      | <b>Indicator</b>             | <b>Standard</b>  | <b>Sources of Evidence</b>  |
|--|------------------------------|--|---|
| Financial Viability                    | Budgeting                    | The school maintains balanced budgets and a positive cash flow.  | Annual budgets, financial reports, annual financial audits, onsite evaluation |
|  | Financial obligations        | The school's financial obligations are in good standing.         |   |
|  | Long-term financial planning | The school has a sound and sustainable long-term financial plan. |   |
| <b>Focus Area: Financial Viability</b> |                              |  |   |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>              |                              | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>                                   | <b>Does Not Meet the Stand</b>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>               |                              | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| <b>Findings:</b>                       |                              |  |   |

**Statutory References:** 1002.33(7)(a)(10); 1002.33(7)(a)(11)

**ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE**

| <b>Focus Area</b>                                 | <b>Indicator</b>                              | <b>Standard</b>   | <b>Sources of Evidence</b>   |                                   |  |
|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Student Enrollment and Conduct                    | Student enrollment trends                     | The school's actual enrollment is consistent with its projections.  | Student enrollment reports, discipline reports onsite evaluation                     |                                   |  |
|   | Racial/ethnic composition of the student body | The racial/ethnic composition of the school's student body is reflective of the community it serves or other public schools in the same school district as the charter school is located. |  |                                   |  |
|   | Enrollment and discipline procedures          | The school implements enrollment and discipline procedures as defined in the school's contract and in compliance with applicable law.   |  |                                   |  |
|   | School environment                            | The school maintains a safe and secure environment.   | Discipline reports; onsite evaluation  |                                   |  |
|   | Health and safety                             | The school complies with applicable health and safety laws.   | Fire and health inspections, fire drill reports, evacuation plans, onsite evaluation |                                   |  |
| <b>Focus Area: Student Enrollment and Conduct</b> |   |   |  |                                   |  |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>                         |   | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>  |  | <b>Does Not Meet the Standard</b> |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                          |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  | <input type="checkbox"/>          |  |
| <b>Findings:</b>                                  |   |   |  |                                   |  |

**Statutory References:** 1002.33(7)(a)(7); 1002.33(7)(a)(8); 1002.33(7)(a)(11); 1002.33(9)(e); 1002.33(10); 1002.33(16)(a)(4); 1002.33(16)(a)(5)

| <b>Focus Area</b>             | <b>Indicator</b>    | <b>Standard</b>  | <b>Sources of Evidence</b>  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Facilities                    | Facility compliance | The school's facilities comply with applicable laws and codes. | Occupancy permits, health, safety and fire reports, onsite evaluation |
| <b>Focus Area: Facilities</b> |                     |  |   |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>     |                     | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>                                 | <b>Does Not Meet the Standard</b>                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>      |                     | <input type="checkbox"/>                                       | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| <b>Findings:</b>              |                     |  |   |

**Statutory References:** 1002.33(7)(a)(11); 1002.33(7)(a)(13); 1002.33(9)(e); 1002.33(16)(a)(5); 1002.33(18)(a); 1002.33(18)(b)

| <b>Focus Area</b>                                | <b>Indicator</b>                      | <b>Standard</b>  | <b>Sources of Evidence</b>                                     |                                   |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Governance,<br>Staff and<br>Parents              | Governance structure                  | The school implements the governance structure as defined in the school's contract.              | Governing board meeting agendas and minutes, onsite evaluation |                                   |  |
|  | Governance roles and responsibilities | The governing body exercises continuing and effective oversight of the school's operations.      |  |                                   |  |
|  | Compliance with Sunshine Laws         | The school complies with state Sunshine Laws and laws governing public records.                  |  |                                   |  |
|  | Qualifications of instructional staff | The school employs instructional staff that meet state and federal qualifications                | Staffing reports, onsite evaluation                            |                                   |  |
|  | Parental Involvement                  | The school is effectively involving parents in its programs as defined in the school's contract. | Onsite evaluation, parental surveys                            |                                   |  |
| <b>Focus Area: Governance, Staff and Parents</b> |                                       |  |  |                                   |  |
| <b>Meets the Standard</b>                        |                                       | <b>Approaches the Standard</b>   |  | <b>Does Not Meet the Standard</b> |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                         |                                       | <input type="checkbox"/>   |  | <input type="checkbox"/>          |  |
| <b>Findings:</b>                                 |                                       |  |  |                                   |  |

**Statutory References:** 1002.33(7)(a)(14); 1002.33(7)(a)(15); 1002.33(12)(f); 1002.33(12)(g); 1002.33(16)(b)