Legislative Briefing: Hawaii Charter School Commission Transition Update

William Haft National Association of Charter School Authorizers December 18, 2012



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The Charter Bargain

School Autonomy

School Accountability Improved Student Outcomes



Authorizing Principles



Who are Charter School Authorizers and What do They Do?

- School Districts, LEAs, State Education Agencies, Independent Charter Boards, Universities, Municipalities/Mayors, Non-Profits
- 957 authorizers monitor more than 5,600 schools serving more than two million students
- Approve, monitor, renew and when necessary, close charter schools
- Quality authorizing leads to quality schools: Authorizers should maintain high standards for schools, uphold school autonomy, and protect student and public interests

National Charter Trends

- Focus on Performance
- "U" Performance Curve
- Replication/Scale Up
- Distance Learning
- Statewide Response to Underperformance



ACT 130 & THE TRANSITION



Authorizer Responsibilities



Application Decision Making

Does the authorizer approve applications based on demonstrated preparation and capacity to operate a quality charter school?



Monitoring Operations

Does the authorizer establish and monitor school compliance with rigorous operational expectations?

3

4

Performance-Based Accountability

Does the authorizer use comprehensive academic, financial and operational performance information to make rigorous, merit-based accountability decisions?

School Autonomy

Do schools have the autonomy to which they are entitled?



HI Authorizing: Pre Act 130

	Established	Applied
Part 1 Application Decision Making:	٠	•
Part 2 Monitoring Operations:	•	•
Part 3 Performance-Based Accountability:	٠	•
Part 4 School Autonomy:	•	•



Impactful Policy: Hawaii Has All the Pieces in Place



Act 130 Overview

Key changes for schools:

- Governing board requirements/ restrictions
- Fixed-term charter contract
- Performance frameworks
- Ongoing oversight & accountability
- Charter renewal process



Act 130 Overview

Key changes for authorizing:

- Establish the state public charter school commission (the Commission)
- Charter School Administrative Office goes out of existence (6/30/13)
- Streamlined application decision-making
- Strengthened oversight & accountability
- Possibility of additional authorizers (beginning 2014)



July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013

ACT 130 & TRANSITION COORDINATOR



Transition Coordinator Responsibilities

- [Application Evaluation]
- Budget/Staffing
- Communications Planning
- Rules and Policies/Procedures
- Charter Contract
- Performance Framework
- Legislative Amendments
- Application and Renewal Processes









Progress to Date

- ✓ Staffing plan/organizational chart
- ✓ BOE-approved budget (stable funding)
- Recommendations and decisions on pending new school applications
- Executive Director search underway
- Coordinated communications process
- ✓ Contract template drafted
- Performance Frameworks drafted
- \checkmark Trial runs underway



PERFORMANCE-BASED ACCOUNTABILITY



Performance Management Cycle

Decide Renewal Assess overall performance in relation to established expectations



Establish Expectations

Set performance expectations attached to the contract



Conduct interim reviews through multiple sources



Intervene (if necessary) Inform and require remedy of unsatisfactory performance

Performance Management: Next Steps

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Contract	School and AG review	Template approval	AG review; school- specific tailoring	Execution	Execution	Commission approval
Perf. Framework	Revisions/ AG review	Finalize base PF	Commission approval	School- specific measures	School- specific measures	Commission approval
Admin Rules	Drafting; AG review	Commission approval	Rule- Making	Rule- Making	Rule- Making	Rule- making
Procedures/ Protocols	Draft review	Draft revisions	Commission approval	School oversight	Ongoing Commission oversight	Ongoing Commission oversight

Performance Frameworks



Academic Framework in Act 130

§ -16 Performance framework. (a) The performance provisions within the charter contract shall be based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the authorizer's evaluations ... include[ing] indicators, measures, and metrics for, at a minimum:

(1) Student academic proficiency;

(2) Student academic growth;

(3) Achievement gaps in proficiency and growth between major student subgroups;

•••

(6) Postsecondary readiness, as applicable for high schools

16(c): school-specific (as proposed by the school)

Academic Measures

Measure Type	Act 130	Source	Guidance
Student Achievement	§ -16 (a)(1)	ESEA Flex	 Performance on the state assessment (HSA) in reading, math, and science (4th, 8th, and HS)
Progress Over Time	§ -16 (a)(2) Student Growth	ESEA Flex	 Median growth percentiles for reading and math
Subgroups	§ -16 (a)(3) Achievement Gaps	ESEA Flex	 Evaluates all of the indicators for "High Needs Students" – FRL, ELL and SPED combined – and for non "High Needs Students."
Post- Secondary	§ -16 (a)(6) Postsecondary Readiness	ESEA Flex	 Separate measures for elementary, middle, and high schools Application considers the addition of "bonus points" for AP, IB, 5-year graduation, dual credits, Honors diplomas, and CTE program completion
Comparative	Subgroup Performance	NACSA Principles & Standards	 Similar school comparison Subgroup state average comparison
School- Specific	§ -16 (c)	Act 130	NACSA goal development guidance 22

Financial Framework in Act 130

§ -16 Performance framework. (a) The performance provisions within the charter contract shall be based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the authorizer's evaluations of each public charter school. The performance framework, as established by the authorizer, shall include indicators, measures, and metrics for, at a minimum:

(7) Financial performance and sustainability;

(8) Performance and stewardship, including compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and terms of the charter contract; and

(9) Organizational viability.

Financial Framework Measures

Measure Metric **Near Term Measures** 1.a Current ratio 1.b Unrestricted days cash on hand **Enrollment variance 1.**C **Sustainability Measures** 2.a Total margin Debt to asset ratio 2.b 2.c Cash flow Unrestricted fund balance percentage 2.d 2.e. Change in total fund balance 24

Act 130: Organizational Performance

§ -16 Performance framework. (a) The performance provisions within the charter contract shall be based on a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and *operational performance* indicators, measures, and metrics that will guide the authorizer's evaluations ... include[ing] indicators, measures, and metrics for, at a minimum:

(4) Attendance;

...

(5) Recurrent enrollment from year to year;

(8) Performance and stewardship, including compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and terms of the charter contract; and

(9) Organizational viability.

Organizational Framework Indicators

Section	Indicator
1.	Education program
2.	Financial management and oversight
3.	Governance and reporting
4.	Students and employees
5.	School environment
6.	Additional obligations



Discussion

December 18, 2012

