

# SCSB OVERSIGHT MODEL

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UTAH STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD 2018

# REQUIREMENT OF A CHARTER AUTHORIZER

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- 53G-5-202
  - (1)The State Charter School Board shall:
    - (b) annually review and evaluate the performance of charter schools authorized by the State Charter School Board and hold the schools accountable for their performance;
    - (c) monitor charter schools authorized by the State Charter School Board for compliance with federal and state laws, rules, and regulations;
- 53G-5-406
  - The State Board of Education shall make rules that:
    - (3) establish a review process that is required of a charter school once every five years by its authorizer.
- R277-481
  - A.The State Charter School Board shall provide direct oversight to the charter schools for which it is the chartering entity, including requiring all charter schools to:
    - (1) comply with their charter agreements containing clear and meaningful expectations for measuring charter school quality.
    - (2) annually review charter agreements, as maintained by the USOE;
    - (3) regularly review other matters specific to effective charter school operations, including a comprehensive review of governing board performance at least once every five years; and
    - (4) audit and investigate claims of fraud or misuse of public assets or funds.

# OVERSIGHT MODEL

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- Based on the theory that a concern or deficiency is best resolved at the least intrusive stage possible and that support is a better response to deficiencies than punishment
- If offered support is not effective, there are consequences that aim to protect students and provide for positive student outcomes
- All concerns are reviewed and researched before action is taken; there are no automatic triggers; uses indicators, not standards
- Depending on the severity of the concern and the charter school's response or ability to resolve deficiencies determines the level in the oversight model
- A school may successfully exit any level without going back through the levels:
  - For example, a school that successfully resolves all deficiencies while in probation would not be placed on warning or a lower level of monitoring

## Closure

Formal action taken by the SCSB on a school who failed to resolve deficiencies.

- Termination must first be proposed by SCSB in open meeting
- LEA has due process once termination is proposed/ appeal process
- Follow closure plan

## Probation

Formal action taken by the SCSB as a final opportunity for a school to resolve deficiencies.

- Action taken by SCSB in open meeting
- Possible removal of board member, director, or business manager
- Closure Plan required
- VSIP or turning in charter should be considered
- Cannot last longer than 1 year

## Warning

Formal action taken by the SCSB to address deficiencies not resolved through NOC or for more serious concerns. Warning requires the school to take action.

- Action taken by SCSB in open meeting
- Deficiencies, terms, and timeline identified
- Possible removal of board member, director, or business manager
- Training/ Mentor made available or required

## Notice of Concern

SCSB staff provides official notice to the LEA of identified deficiencies found through the Review and Research stage. NOC requires the school to take action. This stage is meant for concerns that do not threaten funding or student safety, or that would not require significant change to how the school operates.

- Sent by staff
- Notice to charter governing board
- Deficiencies identified
- Terms and timeline identified to resolve deficiencies
- Offer Training/ Mentor

## Review and Research

Using the results of CSAF, SCSB staff reviews and researches any identified potential concerns to determine if there is a concern and if any response is needed. Staff may contact the school to seek further understanding of the issues. It is anticipated and hoped that during this stage, many complaints and concerns can and will be resolved.

- Seek understanding
- Notify school of concern
- Give time to respond and resolve deficiencies
- Informal

## Charter School Accountability Framework

Performance indicators and assurances that serve as the SCSB's review and evaluations of charter school performance as required in statute and board rule. These indicators identify potential concerns, but are not used as automatic triggers to assign a disciplinary status.

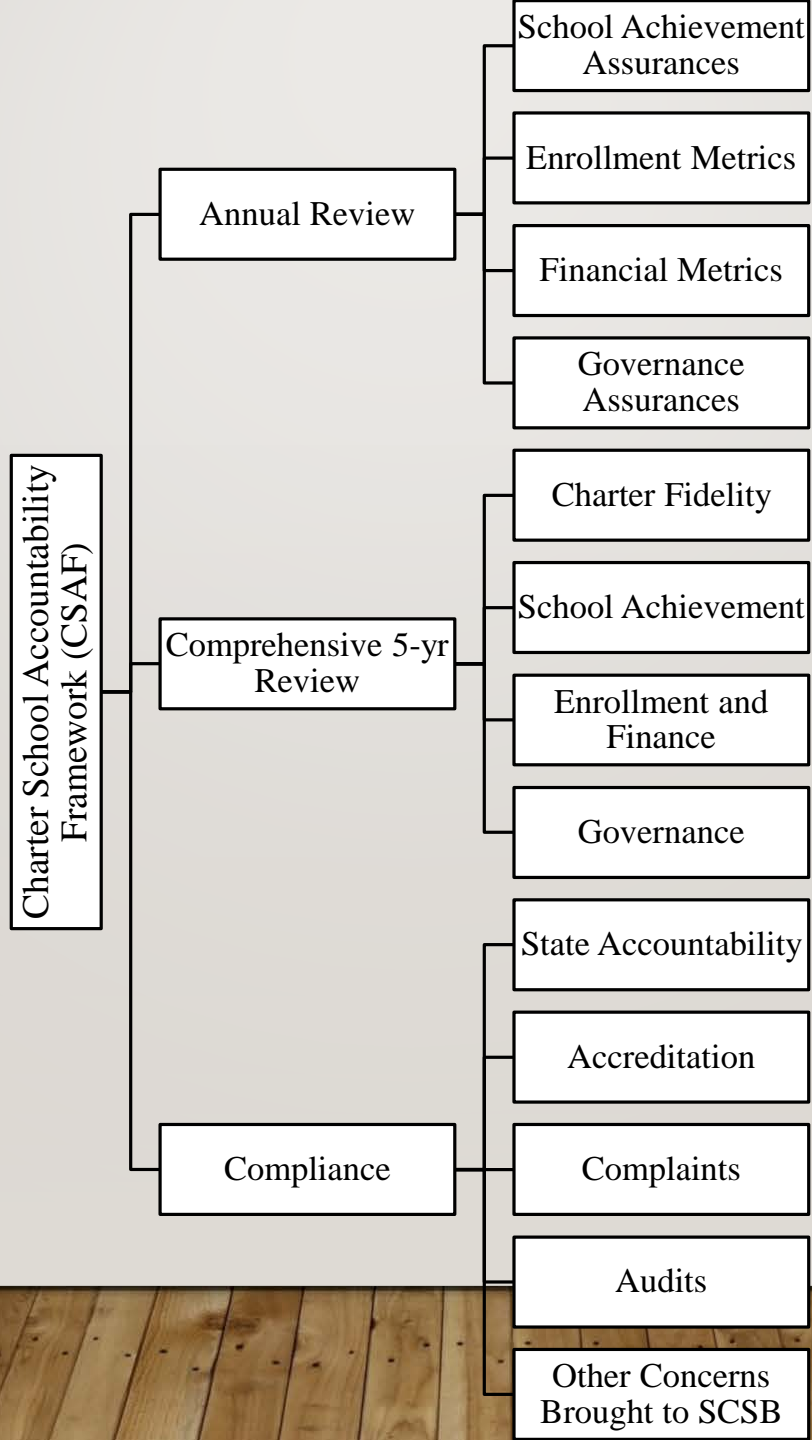
- Applied to all schools
- Wherever possible, data compiled by SCSB, not schools
- Identify potential concerns for review and research
- Does not identify if a school requires further oversight



# CHARTER SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK (CSAF)

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- Used to identify **potential** concerns
- Seeks to look at a school holistically
  - Charter Fidelity
  - School Achievement
  - Enrollment
  - Finance
  - Governance
- Three types of reviews:
  - Annual Review and Assurances: U.C.A. 53G-5-202(1)(b)
  - Comprehensive Five-Year Review: R277-481-3(A)(3)
  - Compliance Monitoring: U.C.A. 53G-5-202(1)(c)



# ANNUAL REVIEW: REVISING CSPS

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- According to [UCA §53G-5-202\(1\)\(b\)](#), the SCSB is to “annually review and evaluate the performance of charter schools...and hold the schools accountable for their performance”
- In past the Charter School Performance Standards (CSPS) met this requirement
- Beginning January 2017, a workgroup of charter staff and governing board members convened to evaluate CSPS and recommend changes
- Developed an annual review based on assurances and metrics using data available to SCSB to minimize burden on schools
- Annual review uses indicators, not standards
  - Any indicator not met is reviewed and researched for understanding and context
  - It is expected most things will be resolved in Review and Research

# ANNUAL REVIEW: AREAS

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- School Achievement Assurances
  - Assurances the school has goals, is regularly reviewing goals, and is making progress toward meeting goals
- Enrollment
  - Indicators compiled using data submitted to UTREx regarding enrollment and retention
- Finance
  - Indicators compiled using data from audited financial statements
- Governance
  - Assurances regarding governing board performance and adherence to law
- See CSAF documents for details



# ANNUAL REVIEW

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- Assurances done by school in UCAP
  - School provides comment/explanation to anything they cannot assure
- Other indicators compiled by SCSB when data is available
- Any target not met or assurance not made initiates Research and Review
  - It is assumed that there could be many reasons for a missed target or assurance, thus a not met indicator does not necessarily indicate a concern or problem
- Under Research and Review a school may be contacted for more information
  - If data and information available to SCSB does not provide sufficient information

# COMPREHENSIVE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

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- According to [R277-481-3A\(3\)](#), the SCSB is to conduct “a comprehensive review of governing board performance at least once every five years”
- Will occur at year three, year five, and every five years thereafter
- Anything not met is not automatically considered a concern or deficiency
  - Anything not met is reviewed and researched for understanding and context
  - It is expected most things will be resolved in Review and Research

# COMPREHENSIVE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW: AREAS

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- Charter Fidelity
  - Evidence of key elements (material representations) in charter agreement
  - Easy with Exhibit A
- School Achievement
  - Data on school's goals
- Enrollment and Finance
  - Uses data submitted to UTREx and reported on Audited Financial Statements
- Governance
  - Evidence supporting annual governance assurances, pulled from minutes, agendas, etc.
  - Observations at governing board meetings per rubric

# COMPLIANCE MONITORING

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- According to [UCA §53G-5-202\(1\)\(c\)](#), the SCSB is to “monitor charter schools...for compliance with federal state laws, rules, and regulations”
- SCSB does not routinely monitor such compliance, but responds when notice is provided of noncompliance
  - Reactive vs. proactive
  - Compliance issues brought to SCSB attention are reviewed and researched for understanding and context
  - It is expected most things will be resolved in Review and Research



# INDICATORS IN ANNUAL REVIEW

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- See documents