



Utah Charter Seminars: Teacher Showcase

Data-Driven Selection Process

October 30, 2020

Utah Charter Seminars

The Utah State Charter Board, together with learning partner Ed Direction, hosts three seminars annually, typically at different charter schools. This year, we adapted our plan to hold virtual sessions showcasing individual teachers who excel with remote learning. The professional learning series is designed for teachers and leaders to **improve student outcomes by observing, discussing, and refining instructional and implementation practices.**

To achieve this project objective, each charter seminar includes:



Evidence-Based Strategies

Explore and observe instructional strategies that fit all grades, subjects, and school settings



Classroom Observations

See high-quality examples of evidence-based strategies applied across grades and subject areas



Panel Discussions

Discuss instructional practices with teachers observed during the seminar



Action Planning

Create a plan to put into practice the seminar's key learnings



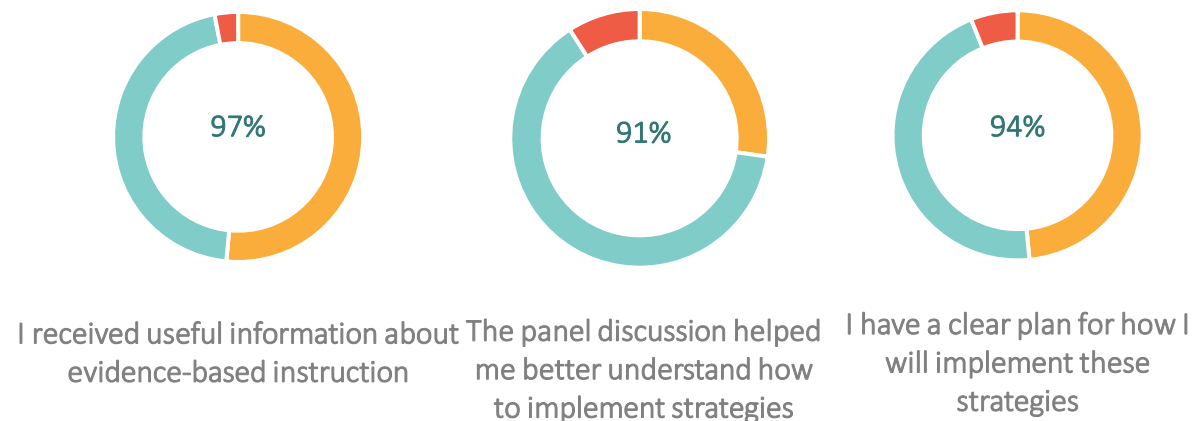
Networking

Make lasting connections with charter school colleagues statewide

Utah Charter Seminars 2019-20 Participant Feedback

Participants were asked to indicate their overall agreement with statements linked to Charter Seminar outcomes using a 4-point Likert scale. The following chart presents findings across all 2019-2020 seminars.

N Size: 33



Qualitative Highlights

- *"The presenters did a great job with the material. They made the world of teacher-speak make sense to me; and that is a big deal."*
- *"I enjoyed all the different techniques that were discussed and described to us throughout the day, especially from the classroom teachers and from my leader peers."*

Selection Process for Teacher Showcase

SY18-19 & SY19-20 | Pre-COVID-19

Step 1

Identify the highest-performing Utah charter schools based on SAGE/RISE achievement and growth (MGP) data



Step 2

Benchmark performance against demographically comparable schools



Step 3

Eliminate schools that are not representative of the broader charter school population



Step 4

Perform on-site school visits to identify instructional and administrative best practices



Step 5

Review all available data to select high-impact example schools

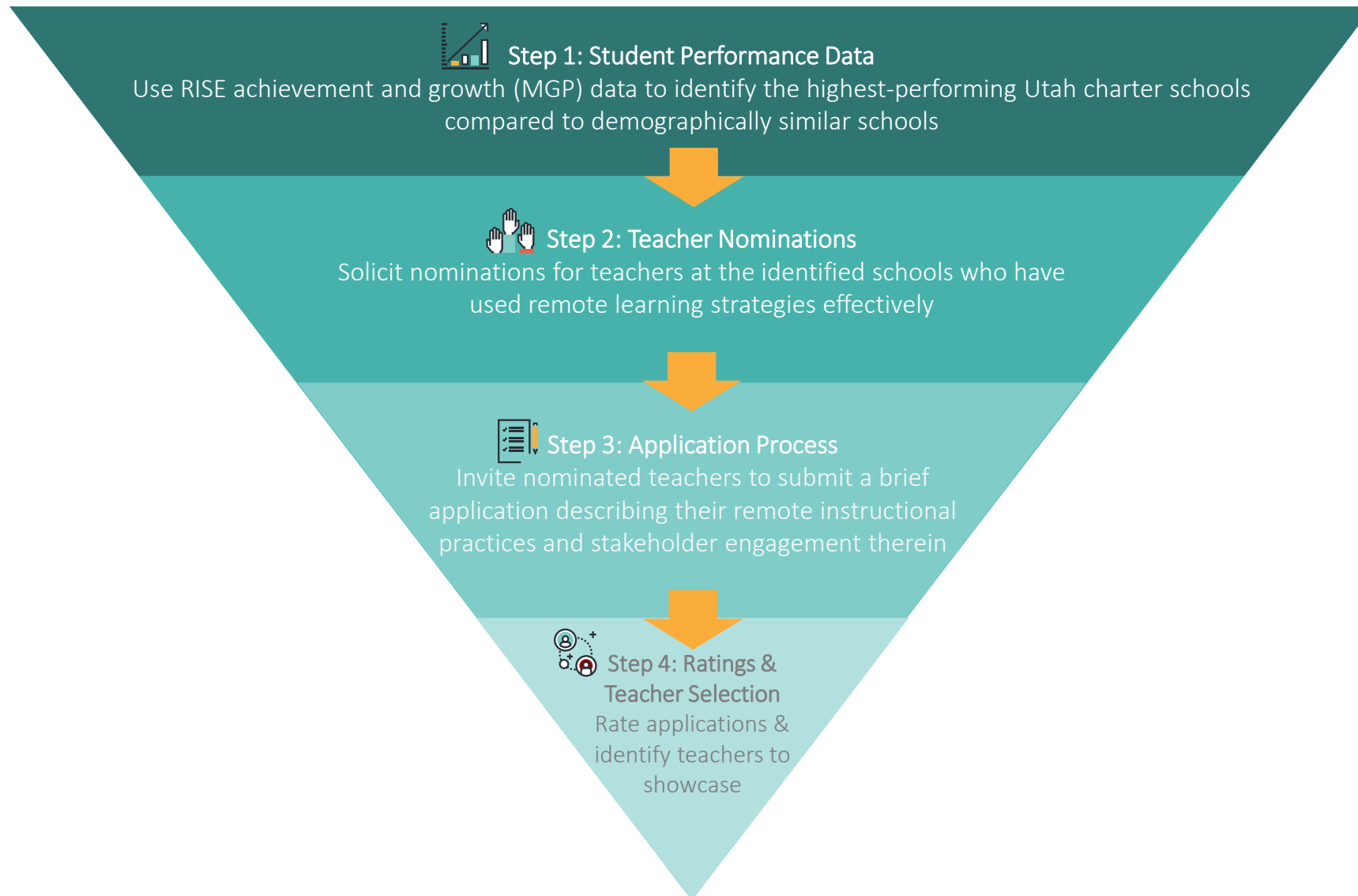


Step 6




Work with school leaders to identify which teachers to showcase

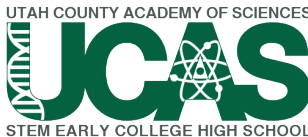


Selection Process for Teacher Showcase

SY20-21



Identified Schools and Teachers

School	Nominee	Grade(s) and Subject(s)
Beehive Science and Technology Academy 	<i>Michael DeFronzo</i>	Math, 8-9
	<i>Tierca Harding</i>	Social Studies + Spanish 7-12
	<i>William Harlow</i>	Social Studies 7-12
	<i>Theresa Musick</i>	Music 6-11
	<i>Kerrie Upenieks</i>	Science 6-11
Edith Bowen Laboratory 	<i>Eric Newell</i>	Director of Experiential Learning and Technology
George Washington Academy 	<i>Heather Erickson</i>	2 nd
	<i>Paula Nelson</i>	English Language Arts, 7
	<i>Kim Townes</i>	5 th
	<i>Tiana Schoney</i>	3 rd

School	Nominee	Grade(s) and Subject(s)
Utah County Academy of Sciences 	<i>Lisa Harrison</i>	Honors English, 9 + 10
	<i>Micah Ross</i>	High School Biology
Walden School of Liberal Arts 	<i>Alicia Brady</i>	Lower Elementary, 1 st -3 rd Grades
	<i>Ashley George</i>	Lower Elementary, 1 st -3 rd Grades
	<i>Bryan Sours</i>	Humanities, 6 th Grade
Winter Sports School 	<i>Rozella Hanek</i>	History + Spanish, 9-12
	<i>Alison Moore</i>	English + Social Studies 9-12

Selection Process for Teacher Showcase SY20-21



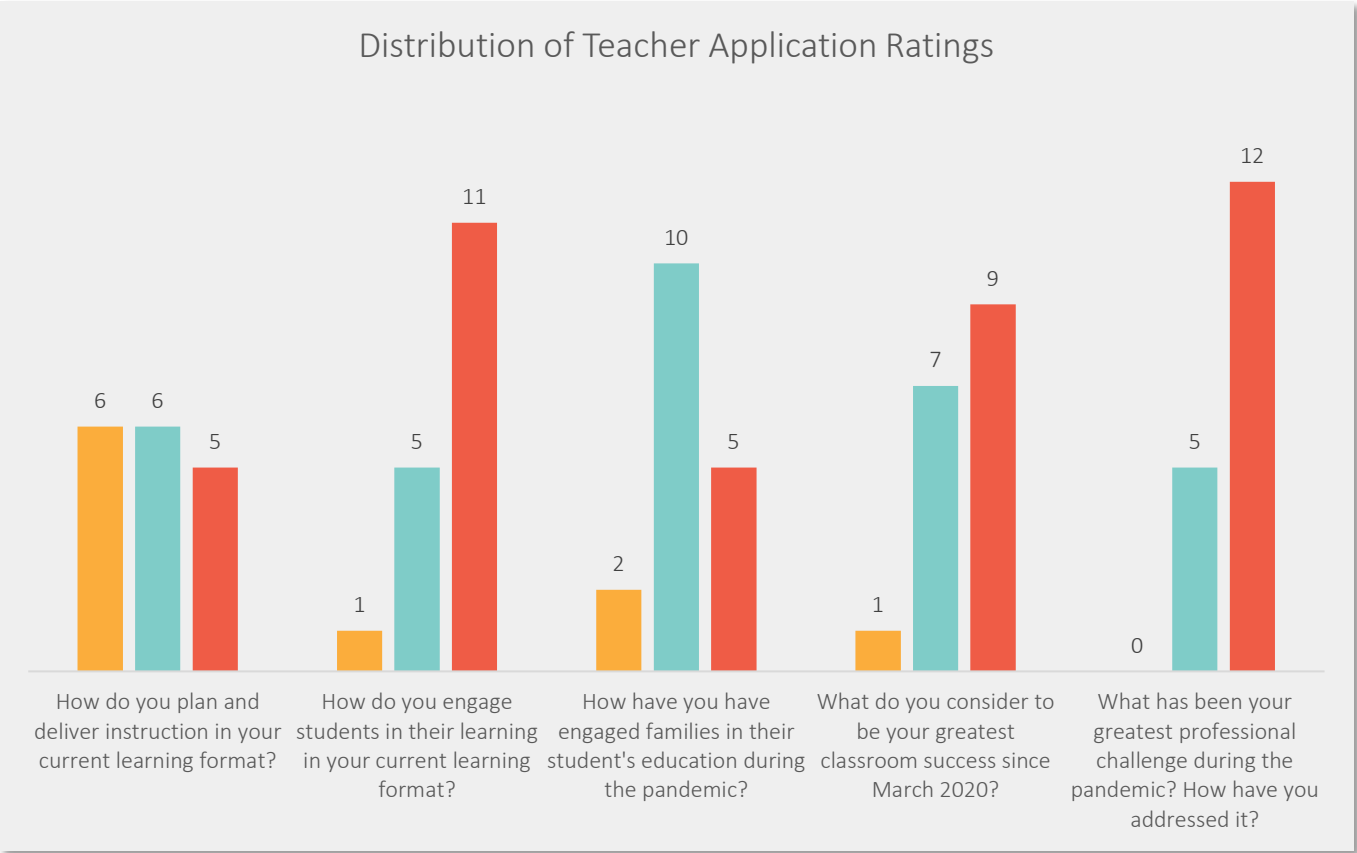
Nominated teachers responded to 5 questions about how they've adapted their instruction for a remote or hybrid setting



Responses were rated on a 1-3 scale



The highest rating teachers were invited to present



Application Rating Scale

- 1** Response lacks detail, evidence-based practices, and evidence of student engagement
- 2** Response indicates tech capability but lacks either evidence-based practice or student engagement
- 3** Evidence-based, student-oriented response

Teacher Showcase

Beehive Science &
Technology
Academy

Average 2-year MGP: 60

Kerrie Upeniecks



- 6th Grade Integrated Science
6-8 Scientific Research, and Physics
- Current learning format: **Hybrid**

- Why did you apply to be showcased at Charter Seminars?
- What did you find most helpful about participating in the Seminars?
- If you could share one piece of advice with teachers for this school year, what would it be?