
Charter School Authorizer Evaluations – 2022 Outcomes

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-13-145 charges the State Board with ensuring the effective operation of charter school authorizers in the state and evaluating authorizer quality. State Board Rule 0520-14-01-.08 outlines the evaluation process, authorizer ratings, and evaluation follow-up actions. Authorizers are evaluated at least biennially, and the evaluation process culminates with an evaluation report that's presented to the State Board for approval at the meeting following release of the evaluation report to the authorizer.

Evaluation Process:

Each evaluation includes a thorough review of documentation submitted by the authorizer during the submission window, submission of a narrative explanation of the documentation, clarifications and explanations provided by the authorizer during a document debrief, a discussion with the authorizer's school leaders, and a review of the authorizer's appeals history, as applicable. Authorizers are evaluated against the 24 standards within State Board Policy 6.111 – Quality Charter Authorizing Standards.

Authorizers receive an overall score, rating and follow-up actions based on one of the following categories:

| Score | Rating |
|------------|---------------------------|
| 3.5 – 4.0 | Exemplary |
| 3.0 – 3.49 | Commendable |
| 2.0 – 2.99 | Satisfactory |
| 1.0 – 1.99 | Approaching Satisfactory |
| 0 – 0.99 | Unsatisfactory/Incomplete |

2022 Evaluation Outcomes:

Three (3) of the state's six (6) authorizers were evaluated during the second half of the State Board's first full evaluation cycle: Achievement School District, Metro Nashville Public Schools, and TN Public Charter School Commission.

Achievement School District

Overall Rating: 1.5 Approaching Satisfactory

Required Follow-Up Actions:

- Submission of a corrective action plan approved by the State Board's Executive Director or designee prior to implementation.

- Submission of a self-assessment in the 2023-24 school year with documentation demonstrating completion of the required follow-up actions outlined in the approved corrective action plan.

Metro Nashville Public Schools

Overall Rating: 2.2 Satisfactory

Required Follow-Up Actions:

- Submission of a self-assessment in the 2023-24 school year, as required for all authorizers in a non-evaluation year.

TN Public Charter School Commission

Overall Rating: 3.9 Exemplary

Required Follow-Up Actions:

- Public recognition and highlighting authorizer best practices by the State Board.
- Submission of a self-assessment in the 2023-24 school year, as required for all authorizers in a non-evaluation year.

Connection to the Master Plan:

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring authorizers are held accountable to the Quality Charter Authorizing Standards through analysis of the authorizer's policies and practices.

The Recommendation:

State Board staff recommends approval of this item on first and final reading.