



COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

for State Charter School Evaluation

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OVERVIEW:

Comprehensive Performance Framework for State Charter Schools

PURPOSE

Quality charter school authorizers establish standards for school performance that are clear, quantifiable, rigorous, and attainable. The SCSC Performance Framework includes academic, financial, and organizational performance measures that establish expectations, guide practice, assess progress, and inform decision making over the course of the charter term and at renewal or revocation.

The three areas of performance covered by the frameworks—academic achievement, financial management, and organizational compliance— correspond directly with the three components of a strong charter school application and are the three areas on which a charter school’s performance should be evaluated. In each of the three areas, the framework asks a fundamental question:

1. Academic Performance: Is the educational program offering students a better educational opportunity than they would otherwise receive at a traditional public school?
2. Financial Performance: Is the school financially viable?
3. Organizational Performance: Is the organization effective, compliant, and well run?

SCSC PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

State Charter Schools are expected to meet academic, financial, and operational standards during every year of the charter term. However, schools that demonstrates a consistent track record of strong performance over multiple years may earn a standard five-year renewal. Additionally, schools that finish their first charter term strong (despite early struggles), and schools that consistently perform on par with the attendance zone they serve may earn an abbreviated three-year charter renewal. The intent of an abbreviated charter term is to assess the school’s ability to sustain the requisite performance level.

SCSC renewal eligibility criteria are meant to serve as a guideline to inform renewal decisions. However, the SCSC may exercise discretion in approving renewal terms outside of these guidelines.

A New School (i.e. a school concluding its first/initial charter term):

To earn for a standard five-year renewal, a school must:

- A. meet financial and operational standards at least 50% of the time, OR
 - B. meet financial and operational standards in the most recent year of the charter term for which data are available, AND
- meet academic standards a majority of the charter term (3 of the first 4 years of a 5-year charter contract term).

To earn an abbreviated three-year renewal, a school must:

- must meet financial and operational standards in the most recent year of the charter term for which data are available, AND
- A. perform at least as well as¹ the attendance on any one or combination of CCRPI indicators in all relevant grade bands in the most recent year of the charter term for which data are available, OR
 - B. outperform on the VAM or be designated BTO in the most recent year of the charter term for which data are available, OR

¹ The phrase “as well as” in terms of state charter school renewal eligibility equates to having a score that is no more than 3% below the comparison attendance zone score.

- C. perform at least as well as the attendance zone on any one or combination of the indicators outlined within the CPF, a majority of the charter term.

A Tenured School (i.e. a school concluding a second or subsequent charter term):

To earn a standard five-year renewal, a school must:

- meet academic, financial and operational standards a majority of the charter term (3 of the first 4 years of a 5-year charter contract term or 2 out of 3 years of a 3-year charter contract term).

To earn an abbreviated three-year renewal, a school must:

- meet financial and operations standards a majority of the charter term AND
- perform at least as well as the attendance zone on any one or combination of the CCRPI indicators outlined within the CPF for a majority of the charter term.

SECTION I: ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Explanation of 2020-2021 Scores

The disruption in teaching and learning caused by the COVID-19 pandemic led the United States Department of Education (USED) to grant the Georgia Department of Education’s (GaDOE) accountability waiver request for the 2020-2021 school year. As such, data critical to calculating all SCSC CPF academic performance metrics (e.g., the College and Career Readiness Performance Index [CCRPI], Value-Added Measure [VAM], and Beating the Odds [BTO]) are not available.

GaDOE’s request for a waiver from federal assessment requirements was NOT granted. Thus, the statewide summative assessments, the Georgia Milestones Assessments were administered in the 2020-2021 school year. Using Georgia Milestone data, scores generated by GaDOE and where necessary school-administered benchmark assessment results, the SCSC crafted alternative measures to assess school performance for the 2020-2021 school year. On October 27, 2021 the SCSC approved a waiver from the traditional CPF academic measures and adopted the alternative measures. The academic section of the CPF has been modified to account for the changes.

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION

Is the educational program offering students a better educational opportunity than they would otherwise receive at the traditional public school?

INDICATORS

To answer the above question, the SCSC used the following performance metrics for the 2020-2021 school year:

- **SCSC calculated “Content Mastery” scores-** Calculated using publicly available [Georgia Milestones data files](#) and following content mastery methodology as documented for each grade band in the CCRPI Calculations Guides:
 - [CCRPI Elementary Calculation Guide May 2018²](#)
 - [CCRPI Middle School Calculation Guide May 2018](#)
 - [CCRPI High School Calculation Guide May 2018](#)
- **SCSC calculated “Content Mastery” scores NOT adjusted for participation rate-** Calculated in the same manner as the above metric but removing the step that adjusted participation rates to a 95% level for any school that fell below. Due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID pandemic, U.S. DOE removed the 95% participation rate requirement. Thus, many Georgia schools had low participation rates on the Georgia Milestones as they advised students to remain home instead of coming onsite to test.
- **GaDOE Achievement scores-** Calculated using student-level data files of performance on the Georgia Milestones Assessments and the Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA) 2.0 and following the same methodology as documented in the calculation guides noted above. Scores only include results for Full Academic Year (FAY)³ students.
 - [2021 Content Mastery 12.08.21](#)
- **School administered benchmark assessment results-** Data must come from a nationally recognized assessment provider in a format verifiable from the assessment system. Benchmark assessments are given periodically throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a standard or set of academic standards and goals.

² The calculation methodologies were last updated in 2018. Since then, the social studies test was removed from elementary schools. Thus, the weighting of total score has been adjusted for that removal. Further calculation details can be found in the academic accountability briefing.

³ For elementary schools and middle schools, FAY is calculated by determining if the student was enrolled 65% of the number of days from the start date of the school year to the close of the state testing window. For high school students, FAY is calculated by determining if a student was enrolled in a course 65% of the number of days from the start date of the course to the end date of the course as defined by the Marking Period.

MEETING GOALS

First look:

A state charter school can meet 2020-21 school year SCSC academic accountability standards by outperforming the School Comparison Score⁴ (the schools from which its students are zoned to attend):

- on any one or combination of the first three metrics listed above in all grade bands served OR
- on a grade-band enrollment weighted overall school score⁵ for any of the first three measures.

Second Look:

If a state charter school does not meet standards via one of the first three indicators as designated above, school-administered benchmark assessments will be reviewed. Compliance via benchmark results is determined on a school-by-school basis to account for differences in type of assessment administered and available, verifiable data.

SECTION I, FIRST LOOK, ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Measure	Designation Earned	Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCSC calculated Content Mastery scores 	i.e. MEETS	<p><i>Meets Standard:</i> The state charter school had a higher score than the schools from which its students are zoned to attend on any one or combination of the academic measures in all grade bands served, OR The state charter school had a higher grade-band enrollment weighted overall school score on any of the first three measures.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCSC calculated Content Mastery not adjusted for participation rate scores 		<p><i>Approaches Standard:</i> The state charter school performed as well as⁶ the schools from which its students are zoned to attend on any one or combination of the academic measures, OR The state charter school outperformed the schools from which its students are zoned to attend in one but not all grade bands served.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GaDOE Achievement scores 		<p><i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i> The state charter school had lower scores than the schools from which its students are zoned to attend on all academic measures across all grade bands served.</p>

SECTION I, SECOND LOOK, ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Measure	Designation Earned	Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School administered benchmark assessment results 	i.e. MEETS	Results will only be reviewed when a school does not outperform using the first look measures. Compliance will be determined on a school-by-school basis to account for differences in type of assessment administered and available, verifiable data. Individual school analysis will be provided to support the determined designation.

⁴ A description of the method used to calculate school comparisons scores can be found on page 6.

⁵ A description of the method used to calculate the grade-band enrollment weighted overall school score can be found on page 6.

⁶ For 2020-2021 school year results the term “as well as” equates to no more than 2 points below the comparison score.

SECTION I: OVERALL DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE

As measured by the measures set forth in this section, is the school meeting academic performance standards?

SCORING CATEGORIES:

Meets Standards	Outperforms the schools from which its students are zoned to attend
Approaches Standards	Performs the as well as the schools from which its students are zoned to attend
Does Not Meet Standards	Performs below the schools from which its students are zoned to attend

CALCULATION METHODS

School Comparison Score: The School Comparison Score is comprised of the proportion of students the state charter school enrolls from each traditional school attendance zone served. The student -level address element in the GaDOE Data Collections Student Record report, is used to determine which school each student enrolled in a state charter school is actually zoned to attend (the school the student would attend if they were not enrolled in the charter school). The SCSC weights those schools' scores [Content Mastery and Achievement] based on the proportion of students enrolled. For instance, if a state charter school enrolls 80% of its students from the attendance zone of Local School A and 20% from Local School B, then the comparison score will be comprised of 80% of Local School A's score and 20% of Local School B's score.

Grade Band Enrollment Weighted Overall Score: The Grade Band Enrollment Weighted Overall Score is calculated based on the proportion of students the state charter school enrolls in each grade band served. For instance, if a state charter school serves grades K-8 and enrolls 60% of its students in the elementary grade band and 40% of its students in the middle grade band, then the Grade Band Enrollment Weighted Score is 60% of the school's elementary school score plus 40% of the school's middle school score. The state charter school's score is then compared to the same weighting of the School Comparison Score. For state charter schools that serve across grade bands, this measure seeks to determine whether, as a whole, the school is providing a better opportunity for most students.

SECTION II: FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Explanation of 2020-2021 Scores

Measure 1c, Enrollment Variance, holds schools accountable for gauging a school’s ability to accurately project the number of students that will attend the school in the upcoming year. Enrollment is the primary source of school revenue thus key to financial viability. Enrollment variance is traditionally calculated by comparing projected student enrollment with actual student enrollment as measured by the GaDOE October FTE count.

However, due to the COVID pandemic, many schools experienced higher than expected enrollment variance. Notably, many brick-and-mortar schools over-projected anticipated student enrollment whereas the virtual state charter schools, under-projected anticipated student enrollment. Given the enrollment anomalies resulting from the COVID pandemic, the SCSC granted all state charter schools the full 15 points for Measure 1c for the 2020-2021 school year. The school’s actual enrollment variance will still be reported in the school’s scoring table.

Fundamental Question

Is the school fiscally responsible and financially viable?

Indicators

To answer the above question, the SCSC uses a data, mostly derived from each school’s independent financial audit, to assess a schools performance on near-terms measures, which are used to calculate a charter school's ability to cover its short term (less than one year) financial obligations and sustainability measures which are used to determine a charter school’s ability to cover long term obligations as well as their ability to effectively control cost.

- The near-term measures include current ratio, unrestricted days cash, enrollment variance, debt to income ratio and a default measure.
 - The sustainability measures include an efficiency margin and debt to asset ratio.
-

Meeting Goals

In any year of the charter term, a state charter school will satisfy annual financial accountability requirements by earning enough points across near-term and sustainability measures to secure of financial score of at least 80 which equates to meeting financial standards.

SECTION II, INDICATOR 1: NEAR-TERM MEASURES

Measure 1a, Current Ratio (Working Capital Ratio): Current assets divided by current liabilities	Points Available
Does the school have the ability to cover short-term financial obligations?	
<i>Meets Standard:</i>	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Ratio is greater than 1.0 	
<i>Approaches Standard:</i>	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Ratio is between 0.9 and 1.0 or equal to 1.0 	
<i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Ratio is less than or equal to 0.9 	
Measure 1b, Unrestricted Days Cash: Unrestricted Cash divided by (Total Expenses/365)	Points Available
Does the school maintain an appropriate balance of cash on hand?	
<i>Meets Standard:</i>	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Days Cash is greater than 45 days 	
<i>Approaches Standard:</i>	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Days Cash is between 15 and 45 days 	
<i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 15 Days Cash 	

Measure 1c, Enrollment Variance: ⁷ $\frac{[\text{Actual Enrollment during the October FTE Count (fiscal year x)} - \text{school enrollment projection (fiscal year X)}]}{\text{school enrollment projection (fiscal year X)}}$ Is the school able to project enrollment in a way that enables them to adequately budget?	<u>Points Available</u>
<i>Meets Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrollment Variance equals less than 2 percent 	15
<i>Approaches Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrollment Variance is between 2 and 8 percent 	10
<i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrollment Variance is greater than 8 percent 	0
Measure 1d, Annual Debt to Income (DTI): $\frac{\text{Total Annual Debt Payments (Debt Service)}}{\text{Total Revenue}}$ Does the school have enough income to cover short-term debt payments?	<u>Points Available</u>
<i>Meets Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual DTI is below 5 percent 	15
<i>Approaches Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual DTI is between 5 and 15 percent 	10
<i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual DTI is above 15 percent 	0
Measure 1e, Default Is the school repaying debts in a timely manner?	<u>Points Available</u>
<i>Meets Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School is not in default of loan covenant(s) and/or is not delinquent with debt service payments or the school does not have any outstanding debt 	10
<i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School is in default of loan covenant(s) and/or is delinquent with debt service payments 	0

Total Points Available—Section II, Indicator 1: 70 points

SECTION II, INDICATOR 2: SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

Measure 2a, Efficiency Margin: $\frac{(\text{Change in Net Assets} + \text{Change in Pension Related Accts})}{\text{Total Revenues}}$ Does the school manage costs appropriately?	<u>Points Available</u>
<i>Meets Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggregated Three-Year Efficiency Margin is greater than 0. 	15
<i>Approaches Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggregated Three-Year Efficiency Margin is between -.01 and -10 percent 	10
<i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggregated Three-Year Efficiency Margin is less than -10 percent 	0
Measure 2b, Debt to Asset Ratio: $\frac{(\text{Total Liabilities} - \text{Deferred Pension Liability})}{\text{Total Assets}}$ Does the school maintain an appropriate balance between assets and liabilities over time?	<u>Points Available</u>
<i>Meets Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debt to Asset Ratio is less than 95 percent 	15
<i>Approaches Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debt to Asset Ratio is between 95 and 100 percent 	10
<i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debt to Asset Ratio is greater than 100 percent 	0

Total Points Available—Indicator 2: 30 points

SECTION II: DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE

As measured by the indicators and measures, is the school meeting financial performance standards?

SCORING CATEGORIES:

80-100 pts.	Meets Financial Performance Standards
70-79 pts.	Approaches Financial Performance Standards
0-69 pts.	Does Not Meet Financial Performance Standards

SECTION III: OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Fundamental Question

Is the organization effective, compliant, and well run?

Indicators

In order to answer the question above, the SCSC uses data from agency monitoring and other sources as noted in the appendix of this document to determine compliance with the indicators listed below.

- The school’s educational program, such as adherence to its essential or innovative features and implementation of required programs;
- Financial oversight such as adherence to GAAP standards;
- Governance capacity and transparency
- Protecting students and employees through the appropriate use of compensatory programs and employee qualifications
- Maintaining a positive school environment by promoting student retention and support services
- Any additional obligations including the timely remediation of previous noncompliance.

Meeting Goals

In any year of the charter term, a state charter school will be deemed operationally compliant if it adheres to the requirements of its charter contract as well as all applicable rules and laws as measured by indicators 1-6 listed above, thus earning a score of at least 80 in the Operations section of the CPF.

SECTION III, INDICATOR 1: EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

A charter school's overall purpose is to provide its students a quality and innovative educational program. Schools must adhere to the educational program identified in its charter contract that was awarded on the basis of the program outlined in its petition.

Measure 1a, Essential or Innovative Features and Mission-Specific Goals	<u>Points Available</u>
Is the school implementing all essential or innovative features of its program as defined in its current charter contract, and is the school's curricular and educational program aligned with its stated mission as evidence through the attainment of mission-specific goals?	
<i>Meets Standard:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has fully implemented all essential or innovative features of its education and operational program as defined in the charter contract in all material respects and the school has met all mission-specific goals included in its charter contract (if applicable) 	4
<i>Approaches Standard:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has at least fully implemented one essential or innovative features of its education and operational program as defined in the charter contract in all material respects or the school has met at least one mission-specific goals included in its charter contract (if applicable). 	2
<i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to fully implement any essential or innovative features of its education and operational program as defined in the charter contract in all material respects and the school failed to meet any mission-specific goals included in its charter contract (if applicable). 	0
Measure 1b, State Education Requirements	<u>Points Available</u>
Is the school complying with applicable state education requirements?	
<i>Meets Standard:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all applicable state laws, rules, regulations, provisions of its charter contract, and the school’s own policies and procedures relating to state education requirements, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provided all state mandated programs; ○ Adhered to graduation requirements; ○ Implemented state-adopted content standards; and ○ Administered state assessments in the manner required by law and rule. 	4

<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply at least one applicable state law, rule, regulation, provision of the charter contract, or the school’s own policies and procedures relating to state education requirements during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable state law, rule, regulation, provision of the charter contract, or the school’s own policies and procedures relating to state education requirements. 	0
<p>Measure 1c, Federal Education Requirements</p> <p>Is the school complying with applicable federal education requirements?</p>	<u>Points Available</u>
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school complied with all applicable federal laws, rules, regulations, and the school’s own policies and procedures relating to federal education requirements, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal assessment security and reporting of accountability requirements; and Charter School Program grant, Title I, IV, and V requirements. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, Charter School Program grant, Title I, IV, and V requirements. 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable federal law, rule, regulation, provision of the charter contract, or the school’s own policies and procedures relating to federal education requirements. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with two or more applicable federal laws, rules, regulations, provisions of the charter contract, or the school’s own policies and procedures relating to federal education requirements. 	0
<p>Measure 1d, Data Reporting</p> <p>Is the school complying with all data and financial reporting requirements?</p>	<u>Points Available</u>
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of its charter contract relating to relevant reporting requirements, including timelines and deadlines, to the SCSC, GaDOE, and/or federal authorities, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> QBE/FTE Data Reporting; Personnel Reporting; Student Record Reporting; CCRPI Data Reporting; Consolidated LEA Implementation Plan (CLIP) for federal programs; Special Education Data Reporting; Required Data Surveys; Complete and on-time submission of financial reports, such as its annual budgets, revised budgets, and/or DE 046, in the manner prescribed by GaDOE or the SCSC; Timely periodic financial reports as required by the SCSC, GaDOE, or other state agency; <p>On-time submission and completion of its annual independent audit by the deadline established by the SCSC.</p>	5
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to relevant reporting requirements, including timelines and deadlines, to the SCSC, GaDOE, and/or federal authorities. 	3
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with two or more laws, rules, regulations, or provisions of its charter contract relating to relevant reporting requirements, including timelines and deadlines, to the SCSC, GaDOE, and/or federal authorities. 	0

Total Points Available—Section III, Indicator 1: 17 points

(continued on next page)

SECTION III, INDICATOR 2: FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

Charter schools must be faithful stewards of public funding and must adhere to stringent standards in the management of its assets. Failure to do so is one of the leading causes of charter school closure.

Measure 2a, Adherence to GAAP Standards	Points Available
Is the school following Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)?	
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of the charter contract relating to financial management and oversight expectations as evidenced by an annual independent audit that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An unqualified audit opinion; ○ An audit devoid of significant findings and conditions, material weaknesses, or significant internal control weaknesses; ○ An audit that does not include a going concern disclosure in the notes or an explanatory paragraph; and ○ No other adverse statement indicating noncompliance with applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of the charter contract relating to financial management and oversight. 	5
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to financial management and oversight expectations as evidenced by an annual independent audit. 	0
Measure 2b, Adherence to Federal Financial Requirements	Points Available
Is the school following all applicable financial requirements when expending federal funds?	
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of the charter contract relating to proper internal controls, expenditures, inventory, drawdowns, and cost principles when expending federal funds, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proper segregation of duties; ○ Source documentation for expenditures paid with federal funds; ○ Complete and on-time submission of program budgets (Title I, IDEA, and grant budgets); and ○ Maintaining inventory controls and documentation in accordance with federal regulations for items purchased with federal funds. 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of the charter contract relating to proper internal controls, expenditures, inventory, drawdowns, and cost principles when expending federal funds during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of the charter contract relating to proper internal controls, expenditures, inventory, drawdowns, and cost principles when expending federal funds. 	0
Measure 2c, Adherence to the Local Units of Administration Manual	Points Available
Is the school following the Local Units of Administration (LUA) Manual?	
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all material provisions of the LUA manual. 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one material provision of the LUA manual during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with one or more material provisions of the LUA manual. 	0
Measure 2d, Adherence to the School's Own Financial Policies and Procedures	Points Available
Is the school adhering to its own financial policies and procedures?	

<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school adhered to its own financial policies and procedures approved by the school’s governing board and/or developed by school staff. 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one of its own financial policies and/or procedures approved by the school’s governing board and/or developed by school staff, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one of its own financial policies and/or procedures approved by the school’s governing board and/or developed by school staff. 	0
<p>Measure 2e, Budget Approved in Accordance with State Law Did the school approve its budget in accordance with state law?</p>	<u>Points Available</u>
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school’s budget was approved in accordance with state law, including but not limited to performing the following items from O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167.1 related to the school’s budget approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting two public meetings to provide an opportunity for public input on the proposed budget; New Measure Added Advertising the two public meetings in the school’s legal organ; and Making a summary of the proposed annual operating budget a publicly available area of the school’s website. 	4
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable state law requirement regarding the passage of the school’s annual budget. 	0

Total Points Available—Section III, Indicator 2: 21 points

SECTION III, INDICATOR 3: GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

A charter school's governing board must provide adequate oversight of school management and operations to ensure that the school is fulfilling its duties to students, employees, parents, and the general public.

<p>Measure 3a, General Governance Is the governing board complying with all applicable general governance requirements?</p>	<u>Points Available</u>
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provisions of its charter contract, and its policies relating to governance by its board, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board policies; Board bylaws; Code of ethics; Conflicts of interest; Board composition and/or membership laws and rules; and Restrictions on compensation. 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, provision of the charter contract, or its policies relating to governance by its governing board during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, provision of the charter contract, or its policies relating to governance by its board. 	0
<p>Measure 3b, Open Governance Is the governing board complying with all applicable open governance requirements?</p>	<u>Points Available</u>
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provision of its charter contract, and its policies relating to the Georgia Open Meetings Act and Open Records Act requirements. 	4

<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provision of its charter contract, or its policies relating to the Georgia Open Meetings Act and Open Records Act requirements during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provision of its charter contract, or its policies relating to the Georgia Open Meetings Act and Open Records Act requirements. 	0
<p>Measure 3c, Governance Training</p> <p>Is the governing board complying with all applicable governance training requirements?</p>	<u>Points Available</u>
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school took action to ensure that all governing board members comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provision of its charter contract, and its policies relating to the participation of its governing board in required trainings, including, but not limited to, annual attendance by the entire governing board at SCSC provided or approved training pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2084(f). 	4
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to take action to ensure that all governing board members comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provision of its charter contract, and its policies relating to the participation of its governing board in required trainings, including, but not limited to, annual attendance by the entire governing board at SCSC provided or approved training pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2084(f). 	0
<p>Measure 3d, Transparent Governance and Communication with Stakeholders</p> <p>Is the governing board operating transparently and effectively communicating with stakeholders?</p>	<u>Points Available</u>
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provisions of its charter contract, or its policies relating to operating transparently and effectively communicating with stakeholders, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following provisions in SCSC rule 691-2-.03 regarding providing the public easy access to informational items on the school’s website; Communicating school leadership and other major school changes in a timely and transparent matter; and Appropriately and promptly responding to stakeholder complaints, questions, and concerns. 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provisions of its charter contract, or its policies relating to operating transparently and effectively communicating with stakeholders during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provisions of its charter contract, or its policies relating to operating transparently and effectively communicating with stakeholders. 	0

Total Points Available—Section III, Indicator 3: 16 points

(continued on next page)

III, INDICATOR 4: STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

Families entrust schools with the education and welfare of their children, and the school must afford those children the appropriate rights and care. The school must respect its employees and ensure that they are duly qualified to further the education and welfare of students.

<u>Measure 4a, Rights of All Students</u>	<u>Points Available</u>
Is the school protecting the rights of all students?	
<p><i>Meets Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provisions of its charter contract, and its policies relating to the rights of students, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policies and practices related to admissions, lottery, waiting lists, fair and open recruitment, and enrollment (including rights to enroll or maintain enrollment); ○ The collection and protection of student information (that could be used in discriminatory ways or otherwise contrary to law); ○ Due process protections, privacy, civil rights, and student liberties requirements, including First Amendment protections and the Establishment Clause restrictions prohibiting public schools from engaging in religious instruction; and ○ Conduct of discipline (discipline hearings and suspension and expulsion policies and practices). 	5
<p><i>Approaches Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, provision of its charter contract, or its policies relating to the rights of students during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	3
<p><i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, provision of its charter contract, or its policies relating to the rights of students. 	0
<u>Measure 4b, Rights of Students with Disabilities</u>	<u>Points Available</u>
Is the school protecting the rights of students with disabilities?	
<p><i>Meets Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with the school’s status and responsibilities as a Local Education Agency (LEA), the school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of the charter contract (including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act) relating to the treatment of students with identified disabilities and those suspected of having a disability, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identification and referral of students who may have a disability; ○ Operational compliance regarding the academic program, assessments, and all other aspects of the school's program and responsibilities; ○ Discipline, including due process protections, manifestation determinations, and behavioral intervention plans; ○ Appropriately implementing student Individualized Education Programs and Section 504 plans; ○ Ensuring appropriate access to the school's facilities and programs to students and parents. 	5
<p><i>Approaches Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to the treatment of students with identified disabilities and those suspected of having a disability during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	3
<p><i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to the treatment of students with identified disabilities and those suspected of having a disability. 	0
<u>Measure 4c, Rights of Students who are English Learners (ELs)</u>	<u>Points Available</u>
Is the school protecting the rights of English Learners (ELs)?	
<p><i>Meets Standard:</i></p>	5

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school complied with all applicable provisions of Title III of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and all applicable state and federal laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of its charter contract relating to EL requirements, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required policies related to the service of EL students; Proper steps for identification of students in need of EL services; Appropriate and equitable delivery of services to identified students; Appropriate accommodations on assessments; Exiting of students from EL services; and Ongoing monitoring of exited students. 	
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to EL requirements during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	3
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to EL requirements. 	0
<p>Measure 4d, Employee Qualifications, Evaluations, and Criminal Records Checks</p> <p>Is the school meeting teacher and other employee qualification and criminal background check requirements?</p>	Points Available
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of its charter contract relating to employee qualifications, employee evaluations, and criminal background checks, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title II, Part A requirements; Implementation of the Teacher and Leader Keys Effectiveness Systems (TKES and LKES); Ensuring staff have a proper background check or clearance certificate issued by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to employee qualifications, employee evaluations, criminal background checks requirements during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to employee qualifications, employee evaluations, and criminal background checks requirements. 	0
<p>Measure 4e, Employee Rights</p> <p>Is the school respecting employee rights?</p>	Points Available
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provisions of its charter contract, and its governing policies relating to employment considerations, including those relating to the Family Medical Leave Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, employment contracts, and employee termination. 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, provision of its charter contract, or its governing policies relating to employment considerations, including those relating to the Family Medical Leave Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, employment contracts, and employee termination during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, provision of its charter contract, or its governing policies relating to employment considerations, including those relating to the Family Medical Leave Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, employment contracts, and employee termination. 	0

Total Points Available—Section III, Indicator 4: 23 points

SECTION III, INDICATOR 5: SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

A safe and healthy school environment is critical to creating a conducive learning environment and protecting the well-being of students and employees.

<p>Measure 5a, Facility Is the school complying with facilities requirements?</p>	<p align="center"><u>Points Available</u></p>
<p><i>Meets Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of its charter contract relating to the school's facilities including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fire inspections and related records; ○ Viable certificate of occupancy; ○ Documentation of requisite insurance coverage; ○ Approval from GaDOE regarding initial site selection and facility requirements; and ○ Subsequent approvals as necessary from GaDOE regarding facility maintenance, expansion, or other facility changes. 	<p align="center">4</p>
<p><i>Approaches Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to the school's facilities during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	<p align="center">2</p>
<p><i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to the school's facilities. 	<p align="center">0</p>
<p>Measure 5b, Health and Safety Is the school complying with health and safety requirements?</p>	<p align="center"><u>Points Available</u></p>
<p><i>Meets Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of its charter contract relating to safety and the protection of student and employee health, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School Health Nurse Program; ○ Conducting child abuse and neglect training; ○ Annual health assessments of students; ○ Diabetes Medical Management Plans; ○ Access to auto-injectable epinephrine and automated external defibrillators as appropriate; ○ Scoliosis screening; and ○ A physically safe and secure environment. 	<p align="center">5</p>
<p><i>Approaches Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to safety and the protection of student and employee health during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	<p align="center">3</p>
<p><i>Does Not Meet Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, or provision of its charter contract relating to safety and the protection of student and employee health. 	<p align="center">0</p>
<p>Measure 5c, Information, Data, and Communication Is the school maintaining student and employee information and data securely and communicating with stakeholders appropriately?</p>	<p align="center"><u>Points Available</u></p>
<p><i>Meets Standard:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, provisions of its charter contract, governing board policies, and SCSC directives relating to providing required federal notices and the handling of information and stakeholder communication, including but not limited to: 	<p align="center">4</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Giving appropriate notices and maintaining the security of providing access to student records under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and other applicable authorities; ○ Transferring of student records; and ○ Confidentiality of personnel records not subject to open records requirements. 	
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, provision of its charter contract, governing board policy, or SCSC directive relating to providing required federal notices and the handling of information and stakeholder communication during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one applicable law, rule, regulation, provision of its charter contract, governing board policy, or SCSC directive relating to providing required federal notices and the handling of information and stakeholder communication. 	0

Total Points Available—Section III, Indicator 5: 13 points

SECTION III, INDICATOR 6: ADDITIONAL AND CONTINUING OBLIGATIONS

A charter school must faithfully fulfill all its obligations and quickly remedy any instance of noncompliance.

Measure 6a, Additional Obligations	Points Available
<p>Is the school complying with all other obligations?</p>	
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complied with all other legal, statutory, regulatory, or contractual requirements, including those contained in its charter contract, that are not otherwise explicitly addressed in these Operational Performance Standards, including but not limited to requirements from the following sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revisions to state charter law; ○ Consent decrees; ○ Provisions of the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and/or After-School Snack Program, including nutritional and reimbursement requirements thereof, if food service is provided; ○ School bus specifications, bus driver training and licensing requirements, and transportation survey deadlines, if transportation is provided; ○ Intervention requirements by the authorizer; and ○ Requirements by other entities to which the charter school is accountable (e.g., Georgia Department of Education, Professional Standards Commission, Department of Labor, etc.) 	4
<p>Approaches Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one other legal, statutory, regulatory, or contractual requirement, including those contained in its charter contract that is not otherwise explicitly addressed in these Operational Performance Standards during its SCSC onsite or desk monitoring visit, but the school adequately remedied its finding(s) and regained compliance. 	2
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to comply with at least one other legal, statutory, regulatory, or contractual requirement, including those contained in its charter contract that is not otherwise explicitly addressed in these Operational Performance Standards. 	0
<p>Measure 6b, Continuing Obligations</p>	
<p>Is the school remedying noncompliance after proper notification?</p>	
<p>Meets Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school corrected noncompliance with legal, statutory, regulatory, contractual requirements, or SCSC directives after notification from the SCSC of noncompliance or the school has no matters of material noncompliance for which it received notification from the SCSC. 	6
<p>Does Not Meet Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school failed to correct at least one matter of noncompliance with legal, statutory, regulatory, contractual requirements, or SCSC directives after notification from the SCSC of noncompliance. 	0

Total Points Available—Section III, Indicator 6: 10 points

Section III: OVERALL DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE

As measured by the indicators and measures, is the school meeting operational performance standards?

SCORING CATEGORIES:

80-100 pts.	Meets Operational Performance Standards
70-79 pts.	Approaches Operational Performance Standards
0-69 pts.	Does Not Meet Operational Performance Standards

Appendix: Data Sources Compiled

Academic Performance:

Indicator	Data Source
SCSC calculated “Content Mastery” scores	GaDOE: Georgia Milestones publicly released results, CCRPI Calculation Guides, Student Record
SCSC calculated “Content Mastery” scores NOT adjusted for participation rate	GaDOE: Georgia Milestones publicly released results, CCRPI Calculation Guides, Student Record
GaDOE Achievement scores	GaDOE: Publicly released file, Student Record
Benchmark assessment results	Individual schools, data reports must come directly from the assessment system

Financial Performance:

Indicator	Data Source
Near-Term Measures	School Audit Report: Governmental Funds-Balance Sheet School Audit Report: Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance SCSC Annual Enrollment Projection Form GADOE: Data Collections, Student Enrollment by Grade Level School Audit Report: Notes
Sustainability Measures	School Audit Report: Statement of Activities/Change in Net Position and Audit Notes School Audit Report: Statement of Net Position

Operational Performance:

Indicator	Data Source
Educational Program Compliance	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
Financial Oversight	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring, Financial Reports SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
Governance	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations, Training Rosters Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
Students and Employees	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring, Data Reports SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations, Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
School Environment	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring, Data Reports SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations, Training Rosters Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report
Additional and Continuing Obligations	GaDOE: Charter School Annual Report, SEA Program Monitoring SCSC: Monitoring Activities, Complaint Investigations, Training Rosters Other: Reports of Noncompliance from a State or Federal Agency, Independent Audit Report