

# District of Columbia Public Charter School Board FY2018

## FY2018 Performance Accountability Report

The Performance Accountability Report (PAR) measures each agency's performance for the fiscal year against the agency's performance plan and includes major accomplishments, updates on initiatives, and key performance indicators (KPIs).

## Mission

The D.C. Public Charter School Board's (PCSB) mission is to provide quality public school options for DC students, families, and communities by conducting a comprehensive application review process, providing effective oversight of and meaningful support to DC public charter schools, and by actively engaging key stakeholders.

## Summary of Services

The PCSB carries out four key functions. 1) ensure that only the highest quality organizations are approved to open charter schools which is accomplished through our comprehensive application review process, 2) make effective oversight decisions in the interest of students and hold charter schools to high standards with respect to results, 3) provide clear feedback to charter schools and maintain a system of rewards and consequences to manage progress towards desired outcomes, 4) actively engage key stakeholders to ensure transparency and accountability through an exchange process that facilitates the sharing of critical information and feedback regarding community impact and preferences.

## FY18 Top Accomplishments

What is the accomplishment that your agency wants to highlight?	How did this accomplishment impact residents of DC?	How did this accomplishment impact your agency?
The opening of three new charter schools - Digital Pioneers PCS, The Family Place PCS and Statesmen College Preparatory Academy for Boys.	We were able to provide more quality choices for families in DC.	We were able to continue to provide choices for families in the District and continue to work with members of the community to see what types of options families need.
Served on Mental Health task force and advocated for additional funding for schools.	We were able to receive an additional \$3 million for schools.	We were able to increase funding for schools and participate in the mental health task force.
Support and training for schools via Ahead of the Curve conference and Sex Abuse prevention training.	We were able to equip schools with support and training, especially around sex abuse prevention.	Intergovernmental relations were strengthened and we were able to better support our school leaders and teachers.

## 2018 Strategic Objectives

Objective Number	Strategic Objective
1	Increase community engagement and parent education about school quality
2	Promote increased school academic quality through improved oversight
3	Ensure charter schools fulfill their roles as public schools serving all students
4	Improve fiscal and compliance oversight

Objective Number	Strategic Objective
5	Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent and responsive District government.**

## 2018 Key Performance Indicators

Measure	Freq	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY2018	KPI Status	Explanation
<b>1 - Increase community engagement and parent education about school quality (5 Measures)</b>									
Number of PMF Parent Guides distributed	Annually	5000	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	5600	Met	
Percent of charter school data available on www.dcpcsb.org, compared to SY2015-2016	Annually	-85%	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	-85%	Met	
Number of meetings with key city officials	Annually	12	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	13	Met	
Number of Task Force Meetings PCSB attended	Annually	18	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	42	Met	
Percent Increase in Social Media Followers	Annually	New Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	41%	No Target Set	
<b>2 - Promote increased school academic quality through improved oversight (3 Measures)</b>									
Number of charter LEAs receiving 5, 10 or 15 year reviews	Quarterly	17	11	7	0	0	18	Met	
Number of Tier 1 charter LEAs with announced plans to expand or replicate	Annually	1	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	1	Met	
Number of qualitative site review reports	Annually	18	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	19	Met	
<b>3 - Ensure charter schools fulfill their roles as public schools serving all students (3 Measures)</b>									
Number of charter school campuses receiving an out-of-compliance warning from our Board for violating our Data Submission Policy	Quarterly	3	1	0	3	4	8	Unmet	We had a higher number of campuses receive an out-of-compliance warning than anticipated.
Reduction in expulsion rate for the five schools that had the highest expulsion rate in the previous school year	Annually	10%	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	61%	Met	

Measure	Freq	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY2018	KPI Status	Explanation
Number of adult education focused meetings (eg. Board-to-Board meetings, workshops)	Quarterly	2	0	2	4	2	8	Met	
<b>4 - Improve fiscal and compliance oversight (3 Measures)</b>									
Number of Financial Audit Reports issued	Annually	1	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	45	Met	
Number of charter LEAs with weak financials receiving enhanced fiscal oversight from PCSB	Annually	5	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	15	Met	
Number of charter LEAs whose fiscal health improved as a result of oversight efforts	Annually	3	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	3	Met	

\*\*We've revisited a project to standardize District wide measures for the Objective "Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent and responsive District government." New measures will be tracked in FY18 and FY19 and published starting in the FY19 Performance Plan.

## 2018 Workload Measures

Measure	Freq	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY 2018
<b>2 - Oversee all charter schools (3 Measures)</b>						
Number of Qualitative Site Reviews	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	19
Number of Compliance Reviews	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	120
Number of school closings	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	2
<b>2 - Provide strong supports to schools (2 Measures)</b>						
Number of Public Charter School Applications Received	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	4
Number of School Openings (New Charters and New Campuses)	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	3
<b>3 - Monitor each school's attendance and discipline. (1 Measure)</b>						
Number of Compliance Reviews	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	120

## 2018 Strategic Initiatives

Title	Description	Complete to Date	Status Update	Explanation
<b>AGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (10 Strategic initiatives)</b>				
Improve transparency around PCSB's authorizer work, by improving internal processes and increasing amounts of data on public charter school performance, equity and finances	PCSB plans to evaluate its processes to ensure transparency and PCSB also plans to post increasing levels of data relating to public charter school performance on its OpenData portal ( <a href="http://www.data.dcpcsb.org">www.data.dcpcsb.org</a> ), including comprehensive discipline and attendance data, test score data, our performance management framework and the results of our annual FAR.	Complete	DC PCSB has identified the key datasets it will publish and is working to consolidate these and provide them through a new interface which will provide both high-level summaries and detailed datasets.	
Engage actively across the city to find citywide solutions to education issues	Coordinate with other city agencies and key groups and constituencies to increase awareness of and support for PCSB and public charter school students, and support equitable delivery of health and safety services to students.	Complete	We work with DC Health to help secure approved nurse's suites. 5 nurse's suites approved. 5 campuses going through process. Working with the Coordinating Council on Mental Health to expand mental health services to charter schools. Implementing the expansion of mental health services in 18 charter schools. Worked with OSSE to secure grant funding of \$8.8 million for Project Aware, a federal grant to expand mental health services at 3 LEAs – Friendship, KIPP DC and DCPS. In the area of transportation, we are part of the citywide Kids Ride Free team that worked to implement the new program.	
Increase awareness about public charter schools	Deliver effective communication and government relations, including promoting charter priorities, highlighting PCSB's role, liaising with community groups, and serving as a national authorizing role model	Complete	It continues to be our priority to increase the public's and stakeholder's understanding of public charter schools using various methods such as increasing the content on our website, creating social media campaigns (e.g. #transparSEE), and speaking at conferences and panels	
Conduct rigorous 5, 10 and 15-year reviews of DC charter schools	PCSB will complete rigorous reviews of schools in their 5th, 10th or 15th year of operation, ensuring that low-performing schools, according to our PMF, take one or more actions to improve performance or close. Rigorous reviews will include Qualitative Site Reviews (QSRs); review of academic and non-academic performance, finance, and compliance indicators; as well as assessment of performance against the goals and academic achievement expectations of a school's charter.	Complete	Initiative is ongoing	
Reduce LEA reporting burden	Assess data and document requests and implement initiatives to reduce LEA reporting burden	Complete	Completed; DC PCSB reviewed data submitted to our data and document submission platforms, and is evaluating ways we can continue to streamline data collection	

Title	Description	Complete to Date	Status Update	Explanation
			processes. Initiative resulted in lists of content collected, and improved understanding collection requirements. Further, staff revised the Data and Document Submission Policy, which clarified expectations around data and document submission and transparency regarding consequences for non-submission.	
Encourage high performing schools to replicate	Increase high-quality seats and reduce low-quality seats by attracting new operators and encouraging high performing operators to replicate with a focus on high need areas	Complete	While we did not approve any new operators to open a public charter school in DC, DC PCSB staff met with many promising groups who intend to submit applications to open public charter schools in the future. Additionally, we are currently considering an application from an experienced operator with ten schools in Chicago. DC PCSB has also encouraged a high-performing PK-5 Montessori school to apply for a charter expansion to replicate its program effective for SY 2019-20. Pending the Board's approval of the school's charter amendment application, this replication is a strong possibility.	
Develop and share discipline and attendance data for schools with similar populations to help reduce incidences of expulsion, long-term suspensions and truancy	<p>PCSB uses and will continue to use, facilitate file and data sharing amongst PCSB staff and with each charter local education agency (LEA). The PCSB HUB was launched this year and replaces SharePoint as our internal and external interface. The internal interface is what PCSB uses to store important documents, keep track of organizational goals, and test real-time discipline data reports before releasing them to LEAs. The external interface allows schools to view their enrollment, attendance, and discipline data in customized reports. For example, schools are able to view reports that display their suspension rate and how it compares to the suspension rate averages of charter schools that serve the same grade levels.</p> <p>PCSB will continue to create summary reports in the HUD meant to encourage schools to check that the data they submit are accurate and use these data to compare how they are performing in these areas relative to the sector average and schools that serve similar grade levels.</p>	Complete	PCSB developed a Hub Equity Metrics report for internal and LEA users showcasing metrics including Percent of Students Suspended/Expelled, Student Mobility, and Lost Instructional Time. The report flags schools exhibiting disproportionality among special populations; LEAs may see how their rates compare to charter-level averages for various grade bands, special populations, and campus types.	
Use data transparency to reduce incidences of expulsion, long-	In FY18 PCSB will continue to collect data from schools to inform policy, provide schools with sector-level trends, and ensure compliance of the applicable law. PCSB will also provide	Complete	The "Equity Metrics" tab is now on the Hub. This feature allows schools to track their attendance, suspension, expulsion,	

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term suspension and truancy	transparency to the public and stakeholders, and identify schools that may be outliers in regards to truancy, discipline, student populations served, and disparities in performance of subgroups within a school. These data are currently being shared with schools via PCSB's dashboards.		midyear withdrawal, and midyear entry data, compared to the sector average.	
Enhance Adult Education oversight	PCSB will continue to work on improving its Adult Education oversight by participating in adult education task-force meeting and improving indicators on the Adult PMF.	Complete	During Q4, the Board approved the 2018-19 Adult Education Performance Management Framework (AE PMF), authorizing a significant revision (and ultimately an improvement) to the previous AE PMF. As noted in last quarter's summary, the AE school leaders proposed a summative scoring method in which all AE PMF categories are combined to yield a score of 100 (this is how the PK-8 and High School frameworks are scored). DC PCSB staff agreed with the summative scoring approach, and then proposed more rigorous targets for some of the AE PMF measures. The Board approved these adjustments in September 2018.	
Continue Efforts to improve fiscal monitoring of charter schools, publishing a Finance Audit Review report for Fiscal Year 2017 that provides clear indicators of charter school financial health	Public charter schools are required to submit annual financial audits performed by PCSB-approved independent auditors. PCSB reviews each school audit. Additionally, PCSB reviews key financial ratios of all schools it oversees, comparing these ratios with industry standards of health. In January 2011, PCSB established the Audit Management Unit (AMU) to enhance its charter school financial oversight. The AMU consists of three District agencies with responsibility for aspects of charter school finances: PCSB, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), and the Office of the State Superintendent of Education's (OSSE) Office of Charter School Financing and Support.	Complete	The reports were renamed the Financial Analysis Report (FAR) and was publicly released July 9.	