

2016-2017 SPONSOR ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Summary

Each year, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) submits a report on Ohio's community schools to the governor and members of the Ohio General Assembly. As part of this process, in conjunction with The University of Toledo, the Ohio Council of Community Schools (OCCS), is submitting this report to evaluate and summarize the performance and compliance of sponsored schools in four categories: Academic Performance, Fiscal Performance, Organization and Operation, and Legal Compliance.

OCCS, formerly the sole designee of The University of Toledo and part of Ohio's original charter school pilot, is a statewide community school sponsor that is a student-centered organization advocating excellence in education through strategic partnerships. During the 2016-2017 school year, UT/OCCS sponsored 50 schools with enrollment of over 26,000 students. With 18 years of experience to draw upon, OCCS understands the importance of its role as a sponsor in monitoring academic, fiscal, organization and operational performance, and legal compliance, while promoting quality, transparency, and accountability among all schools.

Performance Ratings

OCCS provides rigorous oversight, monitoring, and technical assistance to our sponsored schools with processes and protocols that are aligned to standards developed by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers and the state of Ohio's Sponsor Performance Review. OCCS collects data on a monthly basis to determine the extent to which each school is performing in the four areas. The necessary information is gathered through a variety of activities and reports, including:

- Monthly site visits to schools, including a thorough tri-annual site visit walkthrough, with findings reported to the governing authority at meetings;
- Monthly financial reviews;
- Attendance at community school governing authority meetings;
- Ongoing reviews of assessment data highlighting student achievement and growth;
- Ongoing reviews in the areas of state and federal compliance, academics, special education, operations, and finance;
- Ongoing technical assistance delivered by trained and experienced staff; and,
- Reviews of reports electronically submitted to the OCCS compliance tracking database.

OCCS uses the criteria described below to determine whether a school exceeds, meets, or does not meet the expected performance level in each of the four areas.

Academic Performance

Multiple measures of academic performance and the results of the school's attainment of goals outlined in the charter contract's Performance and Accountability Plan (P&A Plan) are used to determine a school's rating.

OCCS rated each school's academic performance by using an objective score ("C" or better a majority of the graded components on the LRC) and/or a comparison of the component areas on a school's Local Report Card compared with the results of the local district where the school is located and a group of comparison schools in close proximity. Virtual schools and drop-out prevention and recovery schools were compared with the other statewide virtual schools and all drop-out prevention and recovery schools, respectively. Finally, OCCS reviewed the school's performance in attaining the goals outlined in the charter contract's Performance and Accountability Plan (P&A Plan).

For general education schools, a school will have exceeded expectations by meeting the objective score, meeting the comparative scores, and meeting a majority of their P&A Plan goals. A school will have met expectations by meeting the objective score or comparative scores and meeting a majority of their P&A Plan goals. If the academic performance was below these standards or if it received an "F" in Achievement and Progress on the LRC, the school did not meet expectations.

For virtual schools, a school will have exceeded expectations by meeting the objective score, being in the top 25% of the comparison group, and meeting a majority of their P&A Plan goals. A school will have met expectations by meeting the objective score or being in the top 25% of the comparison group and meeting a majority of their P&A Plan goals. If the academic performance was below these standards or if it received an "F" in Achievement and Progress on the LRC, the school did not meet expectations.

For drop-out prevention and recovery schools, a school will have exceeded expectations by having a rating of "Exceeds Standards" and meeting the majority of the P&A Plan goals. A school will have met expectations by having a rating of "Meets Standards" on the LRC and meeting the majority of the P&A Plan goals. If the academic performance was below these standards, the school did not meet expectations.

Fiscal Performance

OCCS rated each school's fiscal performance using information from the following: board-approved financial reports, Ohio Auditor of State audits (including any findings and successfully addressing such findings), monthly financial reviews, five-year forecasts, annual budgets, and other financial information as requested of the school throughout the year.

With the information described, OCCS rates the school's Fiscal Performance by calculating scores in six areas: 1) total margin (operating within available revenue resources); 2) assets to liabilities ratio; 3) days cash on hand; 4) enrollment trend; 5) five-year forecast review; 6) audit results. A school will have exceeded expectations if it meets the OCCS measurement standards in all six areas. A school will have met expectations if it meets the OCCS measurement standards in at least four areas. If the fiscal performance was below these standards, the school did not meet expectations.

Organization and Operational Performance

OCCS rated the school's organization and operational performance based on combined information showing how successfully the governing authority executed its governance duties under the contract. The factors considered include conducting required number of meetings, maintaining sufficient number of approved members, maintaining sufficient board meeting minutes, fulfilling member training requirements, maintaining compliance with the governing authority's Code of Regulations, conducting monthly financial reviews, and complying with open meetings requirements.

A school will have exceeded expectations if the minimum contractual requirements are met in all areas and exceeded in at least one of the areas. A school will have met expectations if the minimum contractual requirements are met in all of the areas. If the organization and operational performance was below these standards, the school did not meet expectations.

Legal Compliance

OCCS rated the school's Legal Compliance based on a combination of its adherence to state and federal statute, the community school contract, and compliance items from the sponsor evaluation. A school will have met expectations if it has a 100% compliance rate with health and safety requirements and at least 95% for all requirements.

Summary

During the 2016-2017 school year, UT/OCCS sponsored 50 community schools. OCCS is pleased to report that:

- 24 schools received a rating of "Meets" or better in all four areas;
- 45 schools received a rating of "Meets" or better in three or more areas; and,
- 50 schools received a rating of "Meets" or better in two or more areas.

OCCS staff members are working diligently to provide technical assistance to school leaders, governing authority members, fiscal officers, and other stakeholders to improve compliance and ensure steady progress for those schools not meeting expectations in a given area. OCCS remains committed to working with each school to individualize our technical assistance offerings so that more Ohio students have access to high-quality educational options.

School and IRN	Grade Levels	Academic Performance	Fiscal Performance	Organization and Operational	Legal Compliance
Akron Preparatory School 013254	K-8	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Enrollment)	Meets	Meets
Alternative Education Academy 143396	K-12	Did Not Meet (Objective/Comp Group; P&A Plan)	Meets	Meets	Meets
Arts and College Preparatory Academy 143610	9-12	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets
Canton College Preparatory School 013255	K-8	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Meets	Meets
Canton Harbor High School 000525	9-12	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Meets
Central Academy of Ohio 009164	K-6	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Meets	Meets
Clay Avenue Community School 009181	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
Cleveland Arts and Social Sciences Academy 007995	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
Cleveland College Preparatory School 012010	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets

School and IRN	Grade Levels	Academic Performance	Fiscal Performance	Organization and Operational	Legal Compliance
Columbus Arts and Technology Academy 000557	K-11	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Exceeds	Meets
Columbus Humanities, Arts and Technology Academy 000553	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
Columbus Performance Academy 012011	K-8	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Columbus Preparatory Academy 000558	K-10	Exceeds	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Exceeds	Meets
Columbus Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000952	K-8	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Dayton SMART Elementary School 014149	K-5	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities)	Meets	Meets
Foundation Academy 009192	K-8	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Meets
Global Ambassadors Language Academy 015737	K-8	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Hope Academy Northwest Campus 000575	K-8	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Meets

School and IRN	Grade Levels	Academic Performance	Fiscal Performance	Organization and Operational	Legal Compliance
iLead Spring Meadows 015736	K-6	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Meets	Meets
Lake Erie College Preparatory School 013132	K-8	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities)	Meets	Meets
Life Skills Center of Canton 142901	9-12	Did Not Meet (LRC Rating)	Exceeds	Meets	Meets
Life Skills Center of North Akron 008063	9-12	Did Not Meet (LRC Rating)	Meets	Meets	Meets
Life Skills Center of Toledo 149302	9-12	Did Not Meet (LRC Rating)	Meets	Meets	Meets
Middletown Preparatory and Fitness Academy 143214	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
Mt. Auburn International Academy 010180	K-12	Did Not Meet (Objective/Comp Group; P&A Plan)	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Meets	Meets
Mt. Healthy Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000953	K-8	Did Not Meet (Achievement and Progress Grades)	Meets	Meets	Meets
Nexus Academy of Cleveland 013199	9-12	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets

School and IRN	Grade Levels	Academic Performance	Fiscal Performance	Organization and Operational	Legal Compliance
Nexus Academy of Columbus (Closed) 013201	9-12	Did Not Meet (Objective/Comp Group; P&A Plan)	Meets	Did Not Meet (Required Number of Meetings)	Meets
Nexus Academy of Toledo (Closed) 013200	9-12	Did Not Meet (Objective/Comp Group; P&A Plan)	Meets	Meets	Meets
Northeast Ohio College Preparatory School 011923	K-8	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities)	Meets	Meets
Northland Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000511	K-8	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Northpointe Academy 001947	K-8	Did Not Meet (Objective/Comp Group; P&A Plan)	Meets	Meets	Meets
Ohio College Preparatory School 013253	K-8	Did Not Meet (Objective/Comp Group; P&A Plan)	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Meets	Meets
Ohio Connections Academy 000236	K-12	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Meets
Ohio Virtual Academy 142950	K-12	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Performance Academy of Eastland 010182	K-8	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Meets

School and IRN	Grade Levels	Academic Performance	Fiscal Performance	Organization and Operational	Legal Compliance
Provost Academy Ohio (Closed) 014148	6-12	Did Not Meet (Objective/Comp Group; P&A Plan)	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Meets	Meets
Riverside Academy 133678	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
South Scioto Academy 008281	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
South Side Academy 012105	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
Springfield Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000510	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
STEAM Academy of Dayton 013146	K-8	Did Not Meet (Objective/Comp Group; P&A Plan)	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Meets	Meets
STEAM Academy of Warrensville Heights 013147	K-8	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities)	Meets	Meets
Stepstone Academy 013148	K-5	Did Not Meet (Achievement and Progress Grades)	Meets	Meets	Meets
SunBridge Schools 013175	K-6	Meets	Did Not Meet (Available Cash; Assets < Liabilities; Forecasted Deficits)	Meets	Meets

School and IRN	Grade Levels	Academic Performance	Fiscal Performance	Organization and Operational	Legal Compliance
Toledo Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000951	K-8	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets
Trotwood Preparatory and Fitness Academy 143206	K-8	Did Not Meet (Achievement and Progress Grades)	Meets	Meets	Meets
University of Cleveland Preparatory School 012541	K-8	Meets	Did Not Meet (Annual Deficit; Assets < Liabilities)	Meets	Meets
Whitehall Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000509	K-8	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Wildwood Environmental Academy 000222	K-12	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets