



2020-2021 SPONSOR ANNUAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ohio Council of Community Schools (OCCS) is a statewide community school sponsor with a mission of being a student-centered organization advocating excellence in education through strategic partnerships. With over 21 years of experience to draw upon, OCCS understands the importance of its role as a sponsor. In monitoring academic, financial, organization and operational performance, and legal compliance, OCCS promotes quality, transparency, and accountability among all schools. During the 2020-2021 school year, OCCS sponsored 48 schools with a combined enrollment of over 41,500 students. In this 2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report, OCCS evaluates and summarizes the performance and compliance of its sponsored schools in the four required categories.

PERFORMANCE RATINGS

OCCS provides rigorous oversight, monitoring, and technical assistance for our sponsored schools. Our processes and protocols align to the standards set forth in the Ohio Community School Sponsor Evaluation. OCCS collects information monthly to determine how each school is performing in the four categories: Academic Performance, Financial Performance, Organization and Operational Performance, and Legal Compliance. OCCS Regional Representatives and other staff gather necessary data through a variety of activities and reports, including:

- Monthly on-site visits to schools, including bi-annual Comprehensive Site visits that monitor the school's progress toward goals found in the charter contract Performance and Accountability Plan (P&A Plan), with findings reported to the governing authority during the schools' public meetings;
- Attendance at community school governing authority meetings;
- Monthly financial reviews;
- Ongoing reviews of assessment data highlighting student achievement and growth;
- Ongoing reviews of state and federal law compliance, including special education, academics, operations, and finance;
- Ongoing technical assistance delivered by trained and experienced staff;
- Reviews of compliance documents electronically submitted to the OCCS compliance tracking database; and,

- Reviews of monthly reports from school leaders submitted through the OCCS website. These reports and reviews detail student enrollment and withdrawals, number of students receiving special education services, suspensions, expulsions, staff changes, school events and other data points.

OCCS uses the criteria described below to determine whether a school exceeded, met, or did not meet the expected performance level in each of the four required areas.

RATINGS FOR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

OCCS uses combined methods to evaluate the schools' academic performance. These methods include published tests and other academic scores, such as the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Local Report Card (LRC) and supporting data. Each school year, districts and schools report information to ODE on specific marks of performance called measures, within broad categories called components. ODE uses this information to issue grades on up to ten measures and six components, to populate the school's LRC. The 2020-2021 LRC does not have grades or ratings per Ohio law. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the Ohio Legislature's passage of House Bill 67, no component or final grades were assigned for the school's 2020-2021 LRC. All public schools received Safe Harbor from consequences of the state test results.

The P&A Plan included with each charter contract contains measures and metrics for academic performance. Using the P&A Plan's multiple measures of academic data, the schools may meet the standards achieving certain component grades or by not being outperformed by the comparison group. Based on the limited information contained in each school's LRC, there is insufficient data to show that the school was outperformed by the comparison group in accordance with the P&A Plan.

In light of the absence of component grades on the LRC, OCCS used the limited data released from these report cards along with vendor assessment and diagnostic results to monitor school performance. Schools that were previously on improvement plans from the US Department of Education or ODE were also monitored on compliance with those plans. As such, for these reporting requirements, OCCS notes the sponsored schools did meet the standards, with the exception of two schools. Please note, this determination only applies to these specific reporting requirements.

RATINGS FOR FISCAL PERFORMANCE

OCCS rated each school's Fiscal Performance using information from the following five Measurement Standards:

1. Total margin (operating within available revenue resources);
2. Assets to liabilities;
3. Unplanned decrease in enrollment;
4. Five-year forecast review; and,
5. Audit results.¹

¹No audit results from sponsored schools were available when OCCS calculated ratings for this Report. Consequently, OCCS did not factor a lack of audit results against the school in determining whether it met the measurement standard.

A school *Exceeds* the expected performance level if it meets the OCCS Measurement Standards (above) in four of the five areas for more than two consecutive years.

A school *Meets* the expected performance level if it meets the OCCS Measurement Standards in a majority of the areas.

A school *Did Not Meet* the expected performance level if it did not meet the OCCS Measurement Standards in a majority of the areas.

RATINGS FOR ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION

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. OCCS considered whether the governing authority:

1. Conducted the required number of meetings;
2. Maintained the required number of members;
3. Fulfilled member training requirements;
4. Filed conflict of interest statements for all members annually; and,
5. Successfully completed the school mission-specific goal or the governing authority goal.

A school *Exceeds* the expected performance level if its governing authority executes its governance duties in all five indicator areas for two consecutive years.

A school *Meets* the expected performance level if its governing authority executes its governance duties in four of the five indicators.

A school *Did Not Meet* the expected performance level if its governing authority fails to meet two or more indicators.

RATINGS FOR LEGAL COMPLIANCE

OCCS regional representatives visit our partner schools regularly, ensuring compliance with federal, state, and contractual requirements. OCCS rated the school's legal compliance based on adherence to the following:

1. State and federal law;
2. Community school contract; and,
3. Compliance requirements from the annual Community School Sponsor Evaluation.

A school will have *Met* expectations if it achieves the following:

1. 96% compliance rate with all applicable laws and rules identified by ODE and outlined in the Community School Sponsor Evaluation; the charter contract and OCCS;
2. Submission of the school's Annual Report by October 31;
3. Receiving a rating of *Needs Assistance* or better on Ohio's Local Education Agency Special Education Performance Determination; and,

4. School safety plan and blueprint is appropriately submitted and filed with the Ohio Attorney General.

A school *Meets* the expected performance level if it meets the compliance rate for indicators one and two AND met the requirements of two of the last three indicators.

A school is rated *Did Not Meet* expectations if it fails to meet the standard.

SUMMARY

The results of this monitoring for the 2020-2021 school year are published in the following Grid, as part of the OCCS Annual Report, also available after November 30 at www.ohioschools.org. During the 2020-2021 year, OCCS sponsored 48 community schools. OCCS is pleased to report:

- 30 schools received a rating of *Exceeds* in both Fiscal Performance, and Organization and Operation;
- 43 schools received a rating of *Exceeds* in at least one area; and,
- 46 schools received a rating of *Meets* or better in four areas.

2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report

| School and IRN | Grade Levels | Academic Performance | Fiscal Performance | Organization and Operation | Legal Compliance |
|--|--------------|----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Akron Preparatory School 013254 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Alternative Education Academy 143396 | K-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Arts and College Preparatory Academy 143610 | 7-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Canton College Preparatory School 013255 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Canton Harbor High School 000525 | 9-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Cascade Career Prep High School 008063 | 9-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |

2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report

| School and IRN | Grade Levels | Academic Performance | Fiscal Performance | Organization and Operation | Legal Compliance |
|--|--------------|----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Central Academy of Ohio 009164 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Cleveland Arts and Social Sciences Academy 007995 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Cleveland College Preparatory School 012010 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Cleveland Preparatory Academy 013199 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Columbus Arts and Technology Academy 000557 | K-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Columbus Humanities, Arts and Technology Academy 000553 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |

2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report

| School and IRN | Grade Levels | Academic Performance | Fiscal Performance | Organization and Operation | Legal Compliance |
|--|--------------|----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Columbus Performance Academy 012011 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Columbus Preparatory Academy 000558 | K-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Columbus Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000952 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Dayton SMART Elementary School 014149 | K-6 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Foundation Academy 009192 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Global Ambassadors Language Academy 015737 | K-4 | Meets | Meets | Meets | Meets |

2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report

| School and IRN | Grade Levels | Academic Performance | Fiscal Performance | Organization and Operation | Legal Compliance |
|--|--------------|----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Great River Connections Academy 017233 | K-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Hope Academy Northwest Campus 000575 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| iLead Spring Meadows 015736 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Lake Erie College Preparatory School 013132 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Meets | Meets |
| Middletown Preparatory and Fitness Academy 143214 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Montgomery Preparatory Academy 017259 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Meets | Meets |

2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report

| School and IRN | Grade Levels | Academic Performance | Fiscal Performance | Organization and Operation | Legal Compliance |
|---|--------------|----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Mt. Healthy Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000953 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Northeast Ohio College Preparatory School 011923 | K-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Northland Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000511 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Ohio College Preparatory School 013253 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Ohio Connections Academy, Inc. 00236 | K-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Ohio Construction Academy 014067 | 9-12 | Meets | Meets | Meets | Meets |

2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report

| School and IRN | Grade Levels | Academic Performance | Fiscal Performance | Organization and Operation | Legal Compliance |
|---|--------------|----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Ohio Digital Learning School 17643 | 9-12 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Ohio Virtual Academy 142950 | K-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Performance Academy of Eastland 010182 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Riverside Academy 133678 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Skyway Career Prep High School 149302 | 9-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| South Scioto Academy 008281 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |

2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report

| School and IRN | Grade Levels | Academic Performance | Fiscal Performance | Organization and Operation | Legal Compliance |
|---|--------------|---|--|---|------------------|
| Southside Academy 012105 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Springfield Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000510 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Stark High School 142901 | 9-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| STEAM Academy of Warrensville Heights 013147 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Stepstone Academy 013148 | K-3 | Did Not Meet (Failure to timely submit testing data to the state) | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| SunBridge Schools 013175 | K-6 | Did Not Meet (Failure to timely submit testing data to the state) | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |

2020-2021 Sponsor Annual Report

| School and IRN | Grade Levels | Academic Performance | Fiscal Performance | Organization and Operation | Legal Compliance |
|--|--------------|----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Toledo Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000951 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Trotwood Preparatory and Fitness Academy 143206 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| University of Cleveland Preparatory School 012541 | K-8 | Meets | Meets | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Valor Academy, Inc. 019212 | 4-8 | Meets | Meets | Meets | Meets |
| Whitehall Preparatory and Fitness Academy 000509 | K-8 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |
| Wildwood Environmental Academy 000222 | K-12 | Meets | Exceeds (Met 4 of 5 goals for two consecutive years) | Exceeds (Met all goals for two consecutive years) | Meets |