

Accountability Workshop for NYC DOE Authorized Schools 2012-2013



January 16, 2013

Session Overview

1. Welcome
2. Accountability and DOE-Authorized Charter Schools
3. Annual Accountability Cycle
4. Charter Renewal Process
5. Accountability Tools and Resources
6. Q&A and Cohort Break-outs

Accountability Sources

Charter Law & Related Regulations

- Charter Law grants autonomy *with* expectations of results.
- High level expectations about performance
- Specific requirements regarding monitoring compliance and performance.

School Charters

- Provide specifics about performance, compliance, and school design.
- “Charter” includes:
 - Charter Application, Charter Agreement, & Monitoring Plan.
 - Renewal Application, Revised Charter, Renewal Report, Charter Agreement, & Monitoring Plan.

DOE Accountability Handbook & Framework

- Our guide to charter school accountability

Accountability Framework: 4 Essential Questions

Academic Success	Viability	Compliance	Renewal
<i>Is this school an academic success?</i>	<i>Is this school a fiscally sound, viable organization?</i>	<i>Is this school in compliance with its charter and all applicable laws and regulations?</i>	<i>What are this school's plans for its next charter term?</i>
High Academic Attainment & Progress	Governance Structure & Organizational Design	Approved Charter & Agreement	School or Model Growth
School Mission & Academic Goals	School Climate & Parent Engagement	Applicable Federal and State Law	Organizational Sustainability
Responsive Educational Program	Financial and Operational Health	Applicable Regulations	School or Model Refinements
Learning Environment			

CSAS Accountability Framework

Essential Question

Strand

Success Indicator

Evidence for Indicator

1. Is the School an Academic Success?

1a. High Academic Attainment and Improvement

Schools that are academic successes have many of the characteristics below:

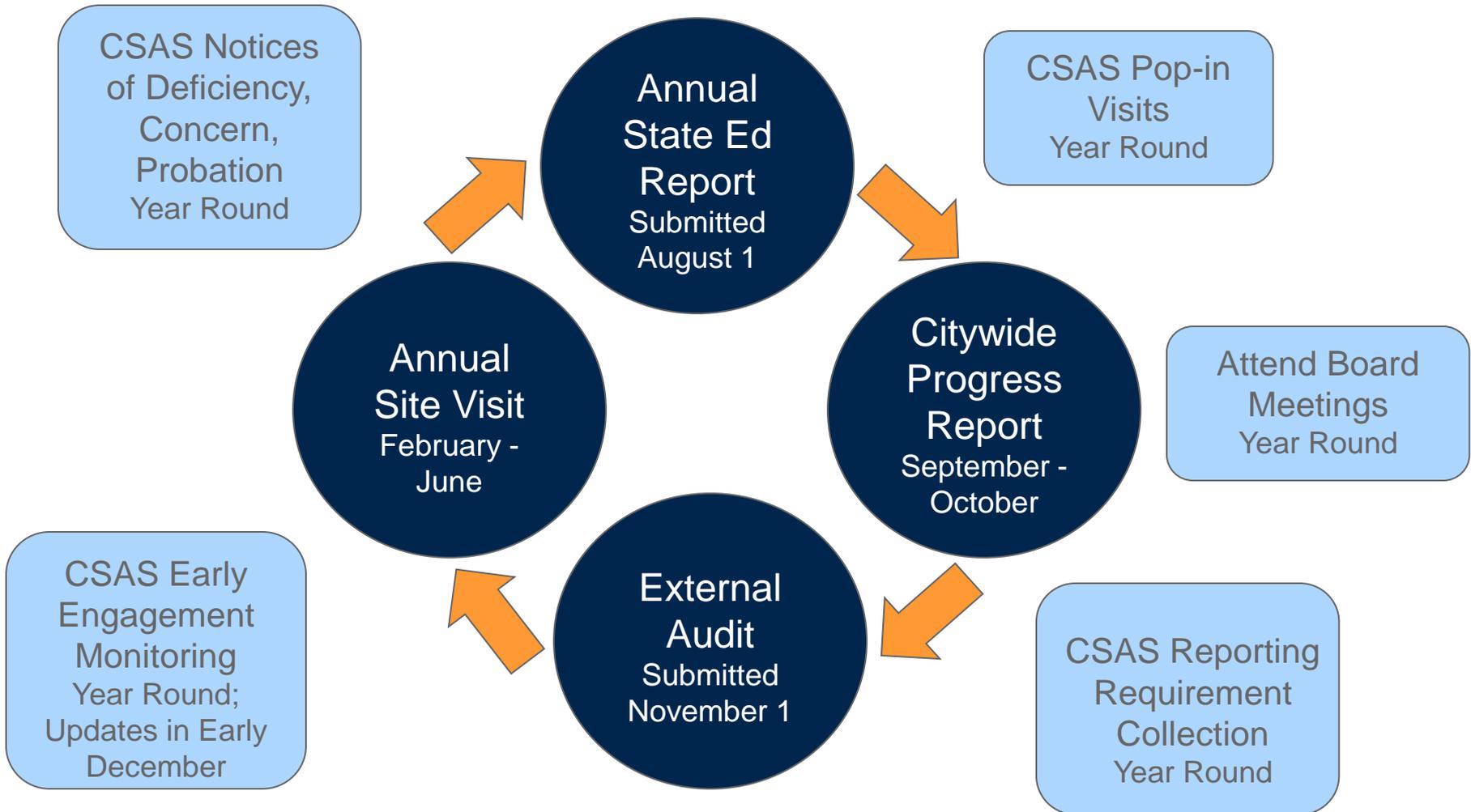
- Meet absolute performance goals established in school charter
- Meet student progress goals established in school charter
- Are closing the achievement gap for at risk students, including special needs and ELL students
- Are surpassing performance of DOE identified peer-schools
- Are surpassing performance district and city proficiency or better averages
- Are meeting other rigorous academic and non-academic goals as stated in school's charter

Evidence for success might include, but not be limited to, the following depending on school configurations:

- Grades 3-8 NYS ELA Results (absolute performance, individual student progress, comparative performance to similar schools, home district or city averages, progress for at-risk populations)
- Grades 3-8 NYS Math Results (absolute performance, individual student progress, comparative performance to similar schools, home district or city averages, progress for at-risk populations)
- Grades 4 and 8 NYS Science Results (absolute performance, individual student progress, comparative performance to similar schools, home district or city averages, progress for at-risk populations)
- Grades 8-12 NYS Regent Exam Results
- When applicable, NYSAA or other approved alternate assessments results
- HS 4- and 6-Year Graduation Rates (absolute and progress, overall, for at-risk student populations)
- Grades 8-12 College Readiness Credit Accumulation
- Percentage of Students Applying to and Being Admitted to College
- Percentage of Students Taking AP Courses and/or Percentage of Students Passing AP Courses
- Results on state accountability measures
- Charter School Academic and Non-Academic Goals
- NYC Progress Reports

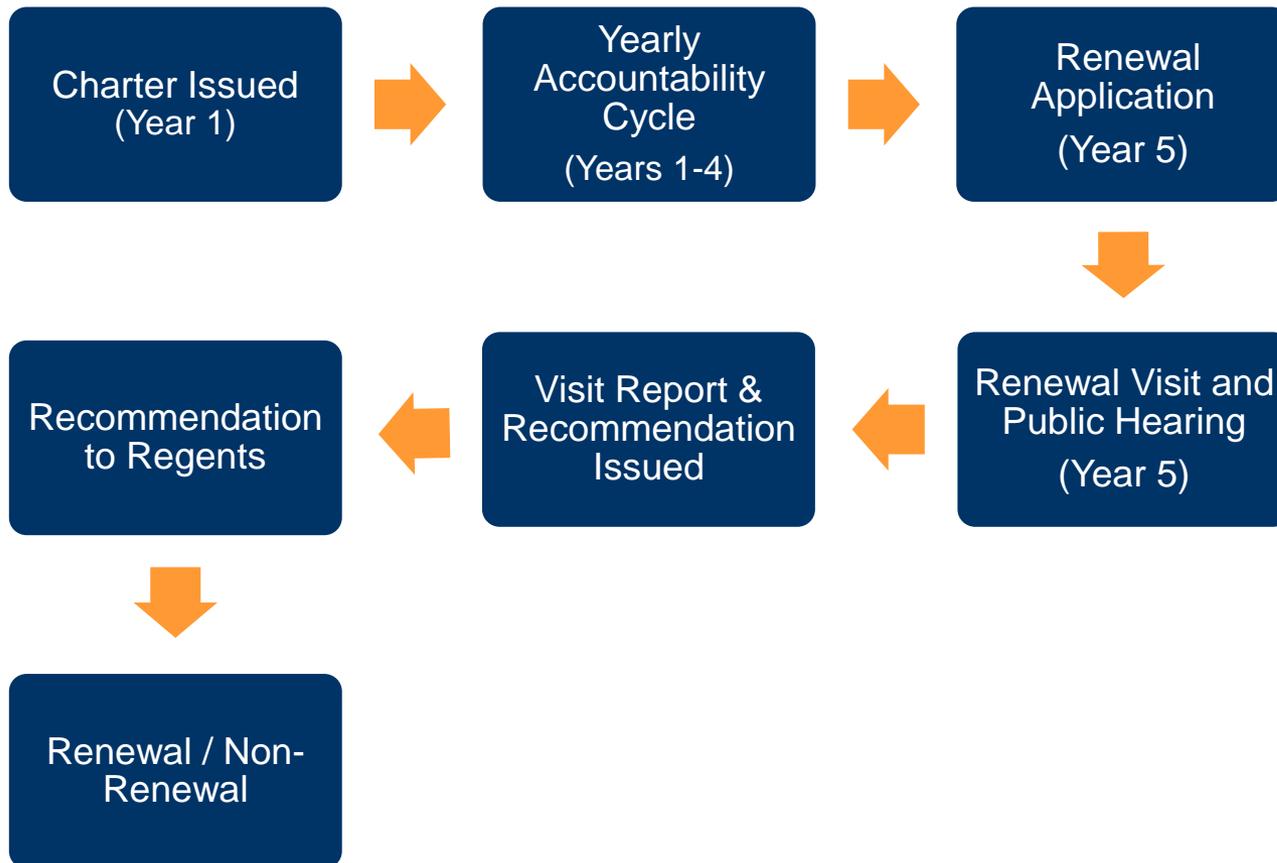


Yearly Accountability / Oversight Cycle



CSAS Renewal Process: Overview

The renewal timeline will vary for each school depending on the month the charter was issued or renewed.



CSAS Renewal Year Event Sequence

- Renewal Kickoff Phone Call
- Renewal Application Due
- CSAS Review and Clarification of Application Materials
- TBD with Each School:
 - Pre-Visit Documentation Submission Due
 - Renewal Site Visit
 - Public Hearing
- Following the Site Visit:
 - Chancellor's Decision/Report of Findings
- Prior to Charter Expiration Date:
 - Submission to the New York State Education Department (NYSED)
 - Renewal Vote by Board of Regents on Chancellor Decision

Renewal Decisions

Potential Outcomes:

- Full Term Renewal, with or without conditions
- Three Year Renewal with conditions
- Non-Renewal

The Question of Grade Expansion:

- Proposed expansion to new grades in next term are evaluated as part of renewal process.

Early Engagement & Renewals

In 2012-13 Early Engagement Process was linked to renewal:

- Charter Schools up for renewal that received Ds or worse in their two most recent PRs *or* an F on the most recent PR were flagged for Early Engagement.
- Early Engagement was official DOE communication of concern about academic performance.
 - Schools that submitted a renewal application were given an opportunity to make revisions to their applications.
 - Parents were notified of Early Engagement and a parent meeting was held.
- Early Engagement DOES not mean a decision to non-renew has been made.

Accountability Tools and Resources

NYC DOE School Progress Report

- *It's about progress.* Progress for **all** students matters more than progress for some.
- Peer group comparisons matters **more** than city comparisons.
- Close analysis of section results can highlight patterns and trends in academic performance and school culture.
- Acts as an indicator under Strand 1 of the Framework- “Is the School an Academic Success?”

NYC DOE School Survey

- DOE School Survey contributes to the Progress Reports
- Unlike the PR, schools on the School Survey are compared to all other city schools with similar grade configurations.
- Higher participation yields a more trustworthy representation of the school's environment
- Carefully looking at individual responses may uncover any potential concerns

The Monitoring Plan

Purpose

- Establish Reporting Requirements for Oversight
- Designate Guidelines for Record-keeping
- Outline Reporting requirements required by Charter Schools Act

Sections

- Chancellor's Actions to Keep Schools Compliant
- Changes to Charter
 - School provides a written request to CSAS at least thirty (30) days prior to the anticipated implementation of any change to the approved charter
- Notifications
 - Written notice to CSAS within five (5) days of certain occurrences, such as additions/removals of Board members & hiring/dismissal of director/principal
- Record-keeping
 - Maintaining records for the Chancellor, Regents, and/or their agents
- Timely Response
 - School ensures that a timely response is made to all of CSAS's requests

Questions and Answers

Contact us for more information

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