Charter Schools 101

November 13, 2015
Oregon School Boards Association Convention

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Why are you here today?

Who is in the room?

What do you hope to learn today?
What/How/Why are charters?

- History – 1999 SB200
- Legislative Intent – ORS 338
- Autonomy in Exchange for Accountability
- Charter School Typologies and Characteristics
  - Sponsor/Authorizer Type
  - School District: Single- or Multi-School
  - Setting Type
  - Curriculum Orientation
2015-16 Oregon Public Charter Schools
## Charter School and School District Responsibilities

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<th>District</th>
<th>Charter School</th>
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<td>School Board</td>
<td>Governing Board</td>
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<td>Alternative Education Programs</td>
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<td>District Budget</td>
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<td>Federal Title $</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<td>Perkins</td>
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<td>Achievement Compacts</td>
<td>Activities</td>
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How do charter schools fit into the system?

- Public School of Choice
- School within a District
- State Funding
- Federal Programs
- State Testing and Accountability
- State Standards
APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Develop Charter Proposal
2. Submit Proposal to School District (SD)
3. SD has 30 Days to Deem Proposal Complete
4. Proposal Deemed Complete
5. SD has 60 Days to Hold Public Hearing
6. SD Must Evaluate Proposal and Vote within 30 Days
7. Proposal is School District APPROVED
8. Charter Contract Negotiations
9. Final Charter Contract is Approved

- SD Gives Reasons and Reasonable Time to Resubmit
- Resubmitted Proposal deemed complete
- Resubmitted proposal deemed incomplete or not resubmitted within the reasonable amount of time
- SD May Deny Proposal not resubmitted within time or deemed incomplete
- May Appeal to State Board of Education (SBE)
- SBE has 30 Days for Appeal Review

- SD Gives Reasons and Reasonable Time to Resubmit
- Resubmit Proposal to SD
- SD Must Evaluate Proposal and Vote within 30 Days
- SD has 60 Days to Reconsider Proposal, Evaluate and Vote

- Denied by SD
- May Appeal to SBE within 30 Days
- SBE has 30 Days for Appeal Review

- Denied by SD
- May Appeal to SBE within 30 Days
- SBE Review and Vote within 75 Days of Review

- Denied by SD
- May Appeal to SBE within 30 Days
- SBE May Sponsor Following Rigorous Evaluation and Vote

- May Pursue Sponsorship by Institution of Higher Education
- Developer May Begin Again with New Proposal

Mediation at Any Time During the Proposal or Chartering Process

*School District Board Point of Decision
APPLICATION PROCESS CONSIDERATIONS

- District-Developer Relationship
- District Policy and Timelines
- Team Approach to Reviews
- Complete?
- Review Rubrics
- Well-Written Charter
The renewal process

Authorizers monitor school over time

– Academic performance
– Fiscal performance
– Organizational performance
– Instructional quality
– Compliance with charter and the law
– Mission fulfillment

No Surprises!
The renewal process

Authorizers must consider:

School academic performance, goals in the charter, site-visits, and any data presented in the school’s annual reports

Authorizers may also consider:

– Parental and community support
– Trends in performance, operations, governance
The renewal process

Good-faith evaluation of:

– Compliance with the law
– Compliance with the contract
– Meeting student performance goals
– Fiscal stability per ORS 338.045
– Compliance with other renewal criteria, if any

Renewal Criteria/ORs 338.065
The Renewal Timeline

180
• School’s written request 180 days prior to expiration

45
• Sponsor holds public hearing within 45 days

30
• Sponsor’s written decision within 30 days

Non-Renewed Charter Schools may Appeal to the State Board of Education for Review
Ongoing oversight

District oversight responsibilities: Required

– Academic performance
– Financial stability
– Compliance with the contract
– Compliance with the law
– Special programs and populations: SpEd, ESL, etc.
– Annual site visit and reporting
Ongoing oversight

District oversight responsibilities: Effective Practice

- Maintaining a healthy, mutually-beneficial relationship
- Resources? Professional development? Cost-neutral assistance?
- Student information systems and data
- Facilities
- Check-in meetings (financial, programmatic, etc.)
- Informal visits
The Various Roles of ODE Charter School Program Staff

• Support and Technical Assistance
  – Charter school developers
  – Charter school operators
  – School district sponsors

• Authorization of State Sponsored Charter Schools

• Cross-Agency and cross-office collaboration and trainings

• Respond to legislature, constituents, US Dept of Education, and media
The Various Roles of ODE Charter School Program Staff

• Delegated responsibilities of the State Board of Education
  – Review for application appeals and state sponsorship
  – Non-renewal and termination appeals
  – Virtual charter school enrollment appeals
  – Distribution of charter school assets
  – Collection of Annual Reports and Audits from all Oregon charter schools
The Various Roles of ODE Charter School Program Staff

Federal Charter School Program Grant

1. Subgrants
   - Planning: Pre-Operation
   - Implementation: Early-Operation
   - Dissemination: Share Effective Practices

2. Equity Training

3. Authorizer Support and Development
The Various Roles of ODE Charter School Program Staff

Answer Questions!
Thank You!

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