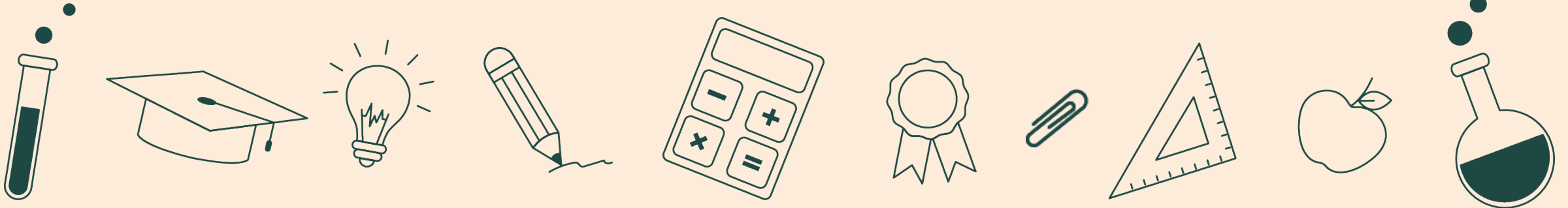




Proposed: CPF Academic Edits and Renewal Criteria

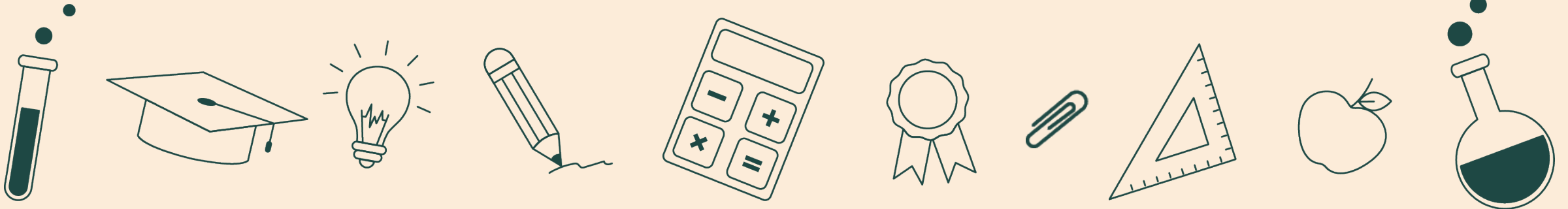
August 2024





Academic CPF

State Charter Schools Commission



Vision

Innovative and superior charter schools advancing education in every community.

Mission

The mission of the State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia is to improve public education by authorizing high-quality charter schools that provide students with better educational opportunities than they would otherwise receive in traditional district schools.





STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Increase the number of academically superior state charter schools.

Strategy: Identify state charter schools providing academically superior options based on state academic data.



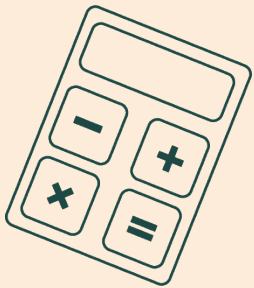


Highlighting superior schools, those that offer both a better educational opportunity than the surrounding schools and an elevated education beyond that minimum standard, will improve transparency and families' ability to make informed choices.



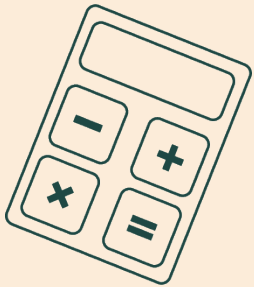
Summary of Proposed Changes

- All of the proposed changes apply to the academic section of the State Charter Schools Commission Comprehensive Performance Framework (SCSC CPF).
- The intent is to provide greater clarity to Georgia families around state charter school performance.
- If adopted, the changes will go into effect for the 2024-2025 school year. CPF results for the 2023-2024 school year will be calculated using both the new and old methods; however, the new changes will be used for informational purposes only.



Recommendation 1: Remove the District-Weighted Comparison Score

- Use only the School-Weighted Comparison Score.
- The School-Weighted Comparison Score is calculated by matching each state charter school student to the school they are zoned to attend based on the student's address as recorded in Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) Student Record. The matched schools are then rolled up to determine the proportion of students enrolled in the state charter school zoned to attend each local traditional school. The comparison score is generated by multiplying each local traditional school's academic performance scores (i.e., CCRPI) by the proportion of enrolled students and then summing to get the total.
- The District-Weighted Comparison Score follows the same methodology as described above, just at the less granular district level.
- Because the School-Weighted Comparison Score is the more precise comparison, the SCSC recommends removing the use of the District-Weighted Comparison Score from the academic section of the CPF.



Recommendation 2: Remove the Whole School Score Calculation

- Currently, when a state charter school serves across grade bands (K-5, 6-8, 9-12) and does not outperform the comparison score in all grade bands served, a whole school score is calculated for the school. The Whole School Score is calculated by multiplying the performance score (i.e. CCRPI) of each grade band by the proportion of students enrolled in that grade band and then summing to get the total.
- However, the calculation resulted in unintended school designations. For instance, some state charter schools earned a Meeting Standards designation via the Whole School Score even though a majority of students in the school were not receiving a better education opportunity.
- This masked the true achievement of the school and did not provide parents, students, and families with a clear picture of the school's performance. As such, the SCSC recommends removing the Whole School Score Calculation from the academic section of the CPF.



Recommendation 3: Add a “Varied” Designation

- Currently, when a state charter school serves across grade bands (elementary, middle, high) and outperforms (meets) in one grade band but scores more than two points below the comparison (does not meet) in the other(s), it is designated as “Does Not Meet” academic standards.
- However, that does not adequately represent the school’s performance. Instead, the SCSC recommends that schools with this performance record be labeled “Varied”.
- Schools that earn a “Varied” designation will now indicate to stakeholders that a deeper look into grade band performance is required.
- At renewal, the SCSC may consider grade band enrollment and grade band performance (whether a majority of students are outperforming) for schools with a “Varied” designation.



Academic Measures - Edits

Grade Band School Scores:

1. CCRPI Content Mastery Scores
 2. CCRPI Progress Scores
 3. CCRPI Grade Band Scores
 4. SCSC Value-Added Impact Scores
- Exceeds- outperforms the school comparison by 10 or more points on any one or combination of measures across all grade bands.
 - Meets- outperforms the school comparison by at least 1 point on any one or combination of measures across all grade bands.
 - Approaches- No more than 2 points below the school comparison on any one or combination of measures across all grade bands.
 - Varied- outperforms the school comparison in one grade band(s) and performs more than 2 points below the school comparison in the other grade band(s)
 - Does Not Meet- performs below the school comparison in all grades bands served.

Note: Value-Added Impact scores are not points-based. If the school has a statistically significant higher score than the comparison, it will be considered “Exceeding” standards for that grade band. If it is statistically significantly lower, it will be designated “Does Not Meet.”



Academic Measures for 2024/25:



1. GaDOE CCRPI Content Mastery Scores
2. GaDOE CCRPI Progress Scores
3. GaDOE CCRPI Grade Band Scores
4. SCSC Value-Added Impact Scores

A school is considering meeting standards if it:

- Outperforms the schools/~~districts~~ from which it enrolls students on any one or combination of measures 1-4 in all grade bands served

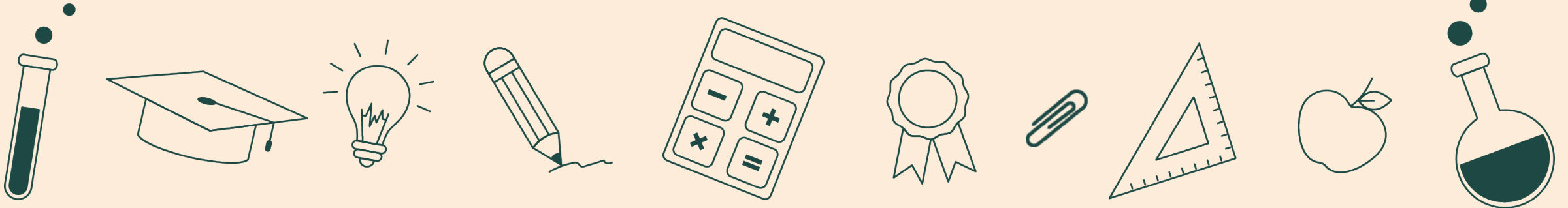
OR

- ~~Outperforms the schools/districts from which it enrolls students on a grade-band enrollment weighted overall school score for any measure 1-4.~~



Renewal Criteria

State Charter Schools Commission



Renewal Determinations

The SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) sets forth clear, quantifiable, rigorous, and attainable goals in the areas of academic achievement, financial viability and operational compliance.

In accordance with SCSC Rule 691-2-.03 the SCSC shall review each state charter school's results every five years and impose meaningful consequences if the state charter school fails to consistently meet expectations under the CPF.





STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Increase the number of academically superior state charter schools.

Measures of Success:

Outcome- 100% of state charter schools not meeting renewal standards will be non-renewed.

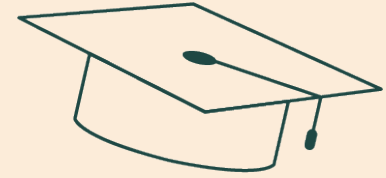


Renewal Criteria Agenda

- Share Renewal Values established by SCSC
- Preview new Renewal Criteria
- Preview 2024-2025 Renewal Schedule



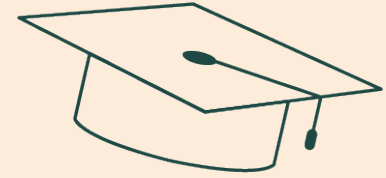
SCSC Renewal Values



1. The purpose of a state charter school is to provide students with a better educational option than they would otherwise receive in the school they are zoned to attend.
2. Excellent fiscal and operational scores do not excuse poor academic performance.
3. Excellent academic performance may override fiscal and organizational failures (if those failures do not put the school at risk of imminent closure).



SCSC Renewal Values



4. Performance trends in more recent years carry more weight in my decision-making.
5. Schools in their first charter term should be afforded more flexibility in consistently meeting standards to account for the difficulties of opening a new state charter school.
6. Renewal decisions should be based on historical data, not future promises of performance.



Proposed Renewal Criteria

- Highlights academics by keeping high-performance standards in that section and by providing more flexibility in financial and operations track record expectations
- Emphasizes performance trends by requiring positive results in more recent years
- Clarifies the use of a 2-year probationary term for first-term schools only, understanding new schools may need more time to build the systems needed to sustain performance and compliance
- Notes other items outside of the CPF that might be considered
- Underscores the fact that these are just guidelines and that the SCSC can make renewal recommendations or approve renewal terms outside of the listed criteria






SCSC Renewal Criteria by Term

These guidelines are for informational purposes only. The SCSC reserves the right to consider other factors and take actions outside of those included in this document when making renewal decisions.



In addition to the information presented above, there are additional factors to consider when making renewal decisions. These may include, but are not limited to:

The SCSC understands that a school might not fit neatly into each box within the given term row. The table is meant to be used as a matrix where academic performance is the main driver behind renewal recommendations.

	 ACADEMICS	 FINANCES	 OPERATIONS
5 YEAR	Earns a Meets or Exceeds designation a majority of the term and in the most recent year.	Earns a Meets or Approaches designation at least 50% of the term and in the most recent year.	Earns a Meets or Approaches designation at least 50% of the term and in the most recent year.
3 YEAR	Performs no more than two points below the comparison score* a majority of the term and in the most recent year.	Earns a Meets or Approaches designation at least 50% of the term.	Earns a Meets or Approaches designation at least 50% of the term.
2 YEAR ONLY AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS IN THE FIRST CHARTER TERM	Performs no more than two points below the comparison score* at least 50% of the term or Meets or Exceeds in the most recent year.	Has a mixed record of performance designations with significant financial concerns.	Has a mixed record of performance designations with significant compliance concerns.
NON RENEWAL	Earns a Does Not Meet Designation a majority of the term or has any other performance record other than those outlined above.	Earns a Does Not Meet Designation a majority of the term.	Earns a Does Not Meet Designation a majority of the term.

*In all grades bands served.

- Grade band enrollment and performance
- Student enrollment trends
- Performance trends across years
- External dynamic events
- Proximity to other high-quality school options
- Governing board capacity
- School leadership stability
- Probation history
- High-risk financial monitoring history
- Sufficiency of operating funds
- Demonstrated ability to appropriately manage funds
- Severe or persistent school compliance or oversight concerns





Renewal Schedule

2024-2025 cycle

- **September – November 2024 – Renewal Site Visits**
- November/December 2024 – GaDOE 2023-2024 School Year CCRPI Scores Released
- November 1, 2024 – School Independent Financial Audits Due
- November 4, 2024 – Renewal Application Released
- **January 3, 2025– Applications Due**
- **January 27 – 31, 2025 – Renewal Interviews**
- February 12, 2025 – Recommendations Letters Sent to Schools
- February 19, 2025 – Recommendations Posted
- **February 26, 2025 – Commission Votes on Recommendations**





CPF and Renewal Criteria Adoption Timeline

- Aug. 28 share at SCSC Board Meeting
 - Aug. 29 share via webinar
 - Aug. 30 – Sep. 20 (3 weeks) public comment
 - Sep. 25 adopt at SCSC Board Meeting
-
- Renewal Criteria and Timeline go into effect immediately
 - CPF Updates go into effect for the 2024-2025 school year



Send feedback via email to:

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by Friday, Sep. 20, 2024

