

Summary of Proposed SCSC CPF Changes 2024

All of the proposed changes apply to the academic section of the State Charter Schools Commission Comprehensive Performance Framework (SCSC CPF). 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

Currently, the SCSC calculates two comparison scores for state charter schools. The first is a School-Weighted Comparison Score. This 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. For instance, if 80% of a state charter school's students are zoned to attend local school A and 20% are zoned to attend local school B, the comparison score is generated by multiplying local school A's performance score by 80% and local school B's performance by 20% and summing to get the total. The second comparison score is the District-Weighted Comparison Score, which 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 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. For instance, if the school serves grades K-8 and enrolls 70% of students in grades K-5 and 30% in grades 6-8, then the elementary performance score is multiplied by 70% and the middle school performance score is multiplied by 30%. The products are then summed to get the total. The SCSC often referred to this score as the Grade Band Enrollment Weighted Score. The SCSC started calculating scores in this manner in the absence of CCRPI Single Scores. 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. In other words, the grade band(s) enrolling a majority of students did not outperform the comparison score. 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 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. Schools that are approaching standards (no more than two points below the comparison) in one grade band and meeting standards in the other are still designated as "Approaches". Schools are approaching standards in one grade band, and more than two points below in the other grade band are still designated as "Does Not Meet". The "Varied" designation will be color-coded orange and only applies when one grade band(s) are meeting, or green and the other grade band(s) are red or not meeting.