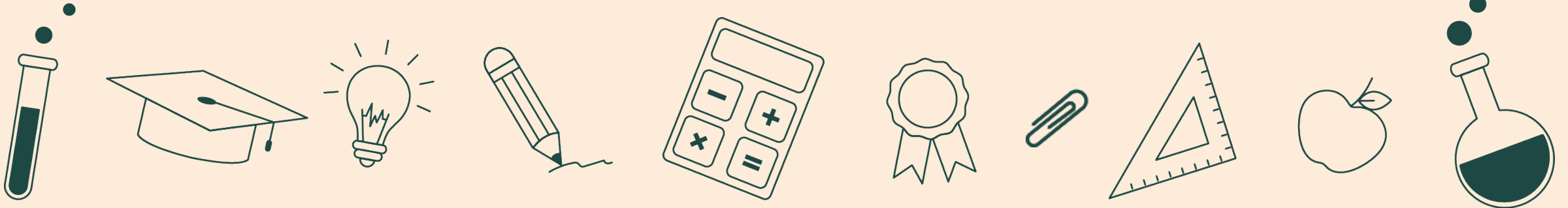




Comprehensive Performance Framework Updates 2023

State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia



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.



CPF Overview

In 2016, the SCSC adopted a Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) to set forth clear, quantifiable, rigorous, and attainable goals for state charter schools.

The three areas of performance covered by the framework—**academic achievement, financial management, and operational compliance**—correspond directly with the three components of a strong charter school.

In each of the three areas, the framework asks a fundamental question:

1. Academic Performance: Is the educational program offering students a **better educational opportunity** than they would otherwise receive in the traditional district schools to which they are zoned?
2. Financial Performance: Is the school **financially viable**?
3. Operational Performance: Is the organization **effective, compliant, and well-run**?





Academics

2022-2023 Academic Accountability Updates



No assessment or accountability waivers were granted.

- All students are required to test
- All schools will receive a CCRPI score*

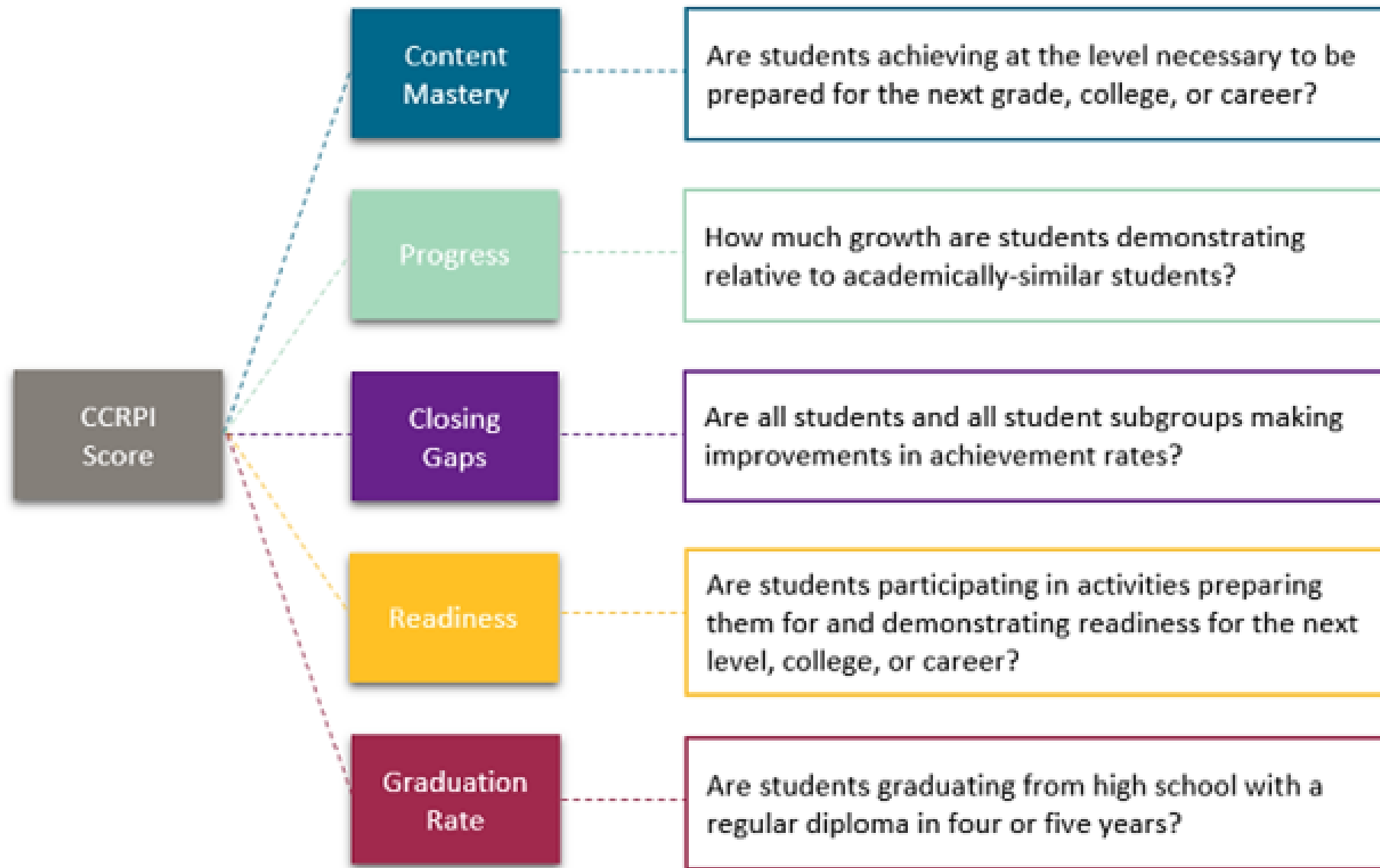
However, Georgia Dept. of Ed. did submit an addendum to U.S. Dept. of Ed. requesting some modifications to the statewide accountability system (CCRPI).

*No Summative Ratings: 0-100 scores for all indicators and components, but there will be no overall 0-100 scores or letter grades for the state, districts, or schools.

This change is meant to apply to the 2022-23 school year and all future years.

Other updates can be found on [GaDOE Accountability website](https://doe.ga.gov/CCRPI).





Academics Metrics Within the CPF

(pending GaDOE ESSA Amendment Approval)

Schools may satisfy annual academic requirements by outperforming the comparison zone in all relevant grade bands on any one or combination following measures:

- CCRPI Content Mastery,
- CCRPI Progress,
- ~~CCRPI Grade Band Score,~~
- ~~CCRPI Single Score (weighted by grade band enrollment),~~
- Value-Added Impact on Student Achievement

OR by earning a “Beating The Odds” designation from GaDOE



SCSC calculates CCRPI Grade Band Score

Rationale: Generating a CCRPI Grade Band Score allows SCSC schools to demonstrate performance across all components in the CCRPI.

A school will be considered “Meeting” academic standards if it has a higher CCRPI Grade Band score than its comparison zone in all grade bands served or on a whole school score calculation.

Recommendation:

The SCSC will calculate the CCRPI Grade Band score using GaDOE data files following the methodology as described in the CCRPI Calculation Guides.

	Elementary	Middle	High
Content Mastery	30%	30%	30%
Progress	35%	35%	30%
Closing Gaps	15%	15%	10%
Readiness	20%	20%	15%
Graduation Rate	--	--	15%



Streamlining Comparison Scores



Reminder: No longer calculate comparison scores based on the attendance zone in the charter contract, also called the Simple Average Comparison Score.

Using the enrollment-based comparisons we:

- Increase the precision and accuracy of the comparison. Comparisons are based on actual enrollment residency numbers for the given year, and
- Reduce incentive to “game” the accountability/attendance zone system.

Based on 2022 enrollment, 26 (out of 37, 70%) state charter schools enroll 75% or more of their students from one district. Only 6 of those 26 have a defined attendance zone of one district.



Remove Simple Average Example



Defined Attendance Zone	District 1	District 2	District 3
Enrollment	60%	38%	2%
CCRPI Grade Band Score	68	75	58
CCRPI Grade Band Score			
Charter Academy	68		
Simple Average Comparison	67	each county score is multiplied by .33 then summed	
Weighted Average Comparison	70	each county score is multiplied by the % enrollment then summed	

Comparison Scores based on Actual Enrollment

District Comparison Zone Score

- This score is calculated based on the proportion of students the state charter school enrolls from each district served. If a school serves a single district, it is compared to that district's score because 100% of students enrolled in the state charter school are zoned to attend that district. However, if a state charter school serves multiple districts or has a statewide attendance zone, weights are applied to the scores of those districts that students would otherwise attend in proportion to their share of a State Charter's total enrollment. For instance, if a state charter school enrolls 80% of its students from District A and 20% from District B, then the comparison score will comprise 80% of District A's CCRPI score and 20% of District B's CCRPI score. The SCSC uses the GaDOE Data Collections Student Record report to determine district enrollment proportions.

School Comparison Zone Score

- Weights are applied to the scores of those schools that students would otherwise attend in proportion to their share of a State Charter's total enrollment. This is the same process as the District Comparison Zone Score, just at a more granular level. SCSC utilizes the student-level address element in the GaDOE Data Collections Student Record report to determine the school a student is zoned to attend.

System of Residence	Zoned School	Comparison Score	% of Total Enrollment	Weighted Score
District 1	School A	90	40%	$(90 \times 40\%) = 36$
District 1	School B	80	30%	$(80 \times 30\%) = 24$
District 2	School C	70	30%	$(70 \times 30\%) = 21$
School Weighted Comparison Score			100%	81



Academic Updates to the CPF

Go into effect 2022-2023 CPF

- SCSC calculated CCRPI Grade Band Score
- Streamline Comparison Scores

Go into effect 2023-2024 CPF

- Adding an Exceeds Standards Category
- Adjusting the Approaches Standards Category
- Grade Band and Whole School Score Reporting
- Rounding to whole numbers



How do we distinguish between schools that are meeting standards and those that are far exceeding?



In the 2021-22 school year, 84% of state charter schools outperformed the schools from which they enroll students.

- The point difference between the school's score and the comparison score for schools meeting standards ranged from 1 to 55.

A school that was one point higher had the same designation as a school that was 55 points higher.



Exceeding Academic Standards



Recommendation: Add an Exceeds category to the academic section of the CPF. Applicable to all CCRPI measures (Content Mastery, Progress, Grade Band).

Rationale: Acknowledges those schools outperforming their comparison district above the minimum standard. Provides greater clarity and transparency to stakeholders.



Exceeding Academic Standards



A school will be considered “Exceeding” academic standards if it scores **10 or more** points higher than the comparison score.

- Most independent charter board state authorizers (11 of 15) include an “Exceeds” designation in their performance framework.
- 10 points is the threshold used by other well-regarded authorizers with a geographic comparison measure.
- The alignment with a 10-point grading scale is commonly understood (i.e., a school exceeding standards is performing a letter grade higher than the comparison district)
- The average variation of the difference between the school’s score and the comparison score across measures, was 10 points (using 2019 CCRPI data)



Adjust Approaches Standard Designation



Recommendation: *Approaches Standards: The charter school earned a score that is the same as ~~or higher than the comparison score in at least one~~ but not all of the grade bands served (elementary, middle, and/or high school).*

- “The same as” or “As well as” will be defined as no more than 2 points below the comparison zone score.



Currently, schools that serve across grade bands (i.e., K-8, E-elementary, M-middle) can have varying performance but have the same designation- Approaches Standards

1

E- Outperforms
M- Performs Below

2

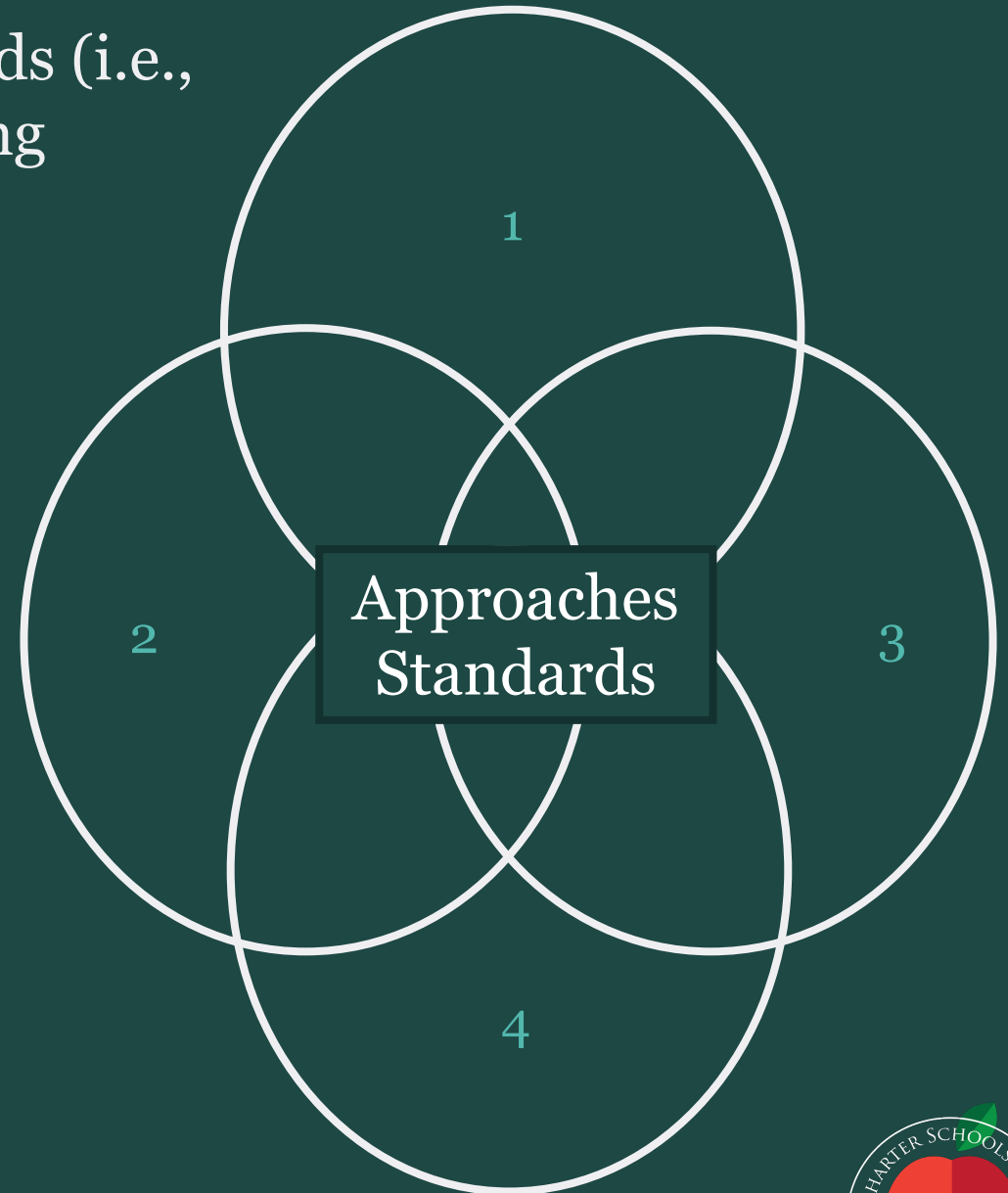
E- Performs Same As
M- Performs Same As

3

E- Performs Same As
M-Outperforms

4

E- Performs Below
M-Performs Same As



Adjust Approaches Standards



Approaches Standards: The state charter school performed as well as (no more than 2 points below) the comparison zone score.

- Each grade band will receive its own designation (Meets, Approaches, Does Not Meet)
- To account for cases where a school has different designations in each grade band served, a whole school score will be generated by weighting the grade band scores proportionally based on the state charter school's enrollment in each grade band and summing the total.
- A school that serves across grade bands can still be designated as Approaches Standards if performs as well as the comparison score in all relevant grade bands or its whole school score is the same as the comparison score.



Schoolwide Score Example: Approaches to Does Not Meet

Grade Band Scores				
Grade Band	Measure	SCS Score	District Weighted	School Weighted
E	Content Mastery	67	80	78
E	Progress	66	87	84
E	Grade Band	65	86	80
M	Content Mastery	72	78	78
M	Progress	89	78	79
M	Grade Band	84	80	78

Whole School Scores			
Measure	SCS Score	District Weighted	School Weighted
Content Mastery	68	79	78
Progress	72	85	83
Grade Band	70	84	79

Grade Band	Enrollment%
Elementary	74
Middle	26

Whole School Score



A whole school score will be calculated for each CCRPI grade band measure (Content Mastery, Progress, and Grade Band score) for any school that serves across grade bands.

Grade Band	SC School Score	Comparison Score	SC School % Student Enrollment	SC School Score	Comparison Score
E	90	70	80%	$(90 \times 80\%) = 72$	$(70 \times 80\%) = 56$
M	70	80	20%	$(70 \times 20\%) = 14$	$(80 \times 20\%) = 16$
Whole School Score (grade band enrollment weighted)				86	72

- Both grade band scores and whole school scores will be reported.

Grade Band and Schoolwide Scores

Performance Expectations:

Meets: A state charter school can meet standards by outperforming in all grade bands or on a schoolwide score.

Approaches: A state charter school performs the as well as the comparison in all grade bands served or on the schoolwide score.

Does Not Meet: A state charter school performs below the comparison in all grade bands served or on all schoolwide scores.



Proposed Academics Metrics Within the CPF

Schools may satisfy annual academic requirements by outperforming the comparison zone [the schools/districts from which its students are zoned to attend] in all relevant grade bands on any one or combination following measures:

- CCRPI Content Mastery,
- CCRPI Progress,
- CCRPI Grade Band Score [SCSC calculated] , or
- Value-Added Impact

OR by outperforming the comparison zone on a schoolwide calculated:

- CCRPI Content Mastery score,
- CCRPI Progress score,
- CCRPI Grade Band Score [SCSC calculated]

(IF BTO continues to be calculated, it will be included as well)





Finances

Financial Metrics (current)

Schools may satisfy annual financial requirements by:
Demonstrating adequate performance on the following near-term measures:

- Current ratio
- Unrestricted days cash
- Enrollment variance
- Debt to income ratio, and
- Default on debt

AND on the following sustainability measures:

- Efficiency margin, and
- Debt to asset ratio.



Financial Metrics (proposed)

Schools may satisfy annual financial requirements by demonstrating adequate performance on the following near-term financial health and long-term sustainability measures:

- Current ratio
- Unrestricted days cash
- Debt to income ratio
- Default on debt
- Efficiency margin
- Debt to asset ratio

AND by demonstrating adequate fiscal management and oversight as measured by adherence to the following:

- GAAP standards
- Federal financial requirements
- Local Units of Administration
- School policies
- Enrollment variance
- Audit submission timeline



Add Fiscal Management and Oversight Indicator



Recommendation: Move Fiscal Oversight measures from the Operations section of the CPF to the Financial section.

Rationale: Allows for a fuller picture of the school's financial position; provides a more qualitative look at performance irrespective of the near-term and long-term calculations.

All fiscal viability measures are grouped under Indicator 1 and are derived from the school's independent financial audit. All fiscal management and oversight measures are grouped under Indicator 2 and are derived from SCSC and GaDOE data collections and monitoring activities.



Unrestricted Days Cash



Recommendation: *Increase the threshold from 45 days to 60 days*

- *Meets Standard: Days Cash is greater than ~~45~~ **60** days*
*Approaches Standard: Is between 15 and ~~45~~ **60** days*

Rationale: This aligns with national best practices and emphasizes the importance of the measure for financial viability.



Enrollment Variance



Recommendation: *Increase the threshold from 2 percent to 3 percent.*

- *Meets Standard: Equals less than **2** **3** percent.*
- *Approaches Standard: Is between **2** **3** and 8 percent.*

Rationale: Better aligns with national best practice and incorporates feedback from schools regarding the impact of external events on school enrollment.

Note: this measure would now be part of the financial oversight indicator



Timely Audit Submission



Recommendation: *Add a measure for timely audit submission.*

- *Meets Standard:* The school submitted its financial audit on time, on or before November 1st.
- *Approaches Standard:* The school submitted its financial audit late, on or before December 1st.
- *Does Not Meet Standard:* The school submitted its financial audit late, after December 1st.

Rationale: To emphasize the importance of submitting the financial audit by the required deadline. The audit is the SCSC's main tool for measuring a school's near-term financial health and long-term sustainability. Receiving the audit more than 6 months into the new fiscal year prevents the SCSC from exercising proper oversight.



Overall Scoring

Near-term and sustainability measures - TOTAL 100:

- Current ratio (15 pts)
- Unrestricted days cash (20 pts)
- Debt to income ratio (20 pts)
- Default on debt (10 pts)
- Efficiency margin (15 pts)
- Debt to asset ratio (20 pts)

Management and oversight measures - TOTAL 100:

- GAAP standards (20 pts)
- Federal financial requirements (15 pts)
- Local Units of Administration (15 pts)
- School policies (20 pts)
- Enrollment variance (10 pts)
- Audit submission timeline (20 pts)



Overall Scoring

Meets Standards	80-100 points
Approaches Standards	70-79 points
Does Not Meet Standards	0-69 points

- A school must earn a “Meets Standard” designation on Indicator 1 & Indicator 2 to receive an overall “Meets Financial Standards”
- If a school earns a “Does Not Meet” on both Indicator 1 and Indicator 2, it will receive an overall “Does Not Meet Financial Standards”
- Any other combination of points/ratings will result in an Approaches Financial Standards” designation





Operations

Section III: Operational Performance Updates

Indicator	Title	Content and Points
Indicator 2	Financial Oversight → Governance, Ethics, & Transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Existing Governance and Transparency measures replace Financial Oversight measures; measure 2e remainsTotal Point Value: 20
Indicator 3	Governance and Transparency → Obligations to Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Existing measures 4a-4cTotal Point Value: 18
Indicator 4	Students and Employees → Employer Obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Content of existing measures 4d and 4eTotal Point Value: 15
Indicator 5	No changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Updated languageTotal Point Value: 18
Indicator 6	No changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Updated languageTotal Point Value: 12 points

Tentative Timeline

- May 31, 2023: Share proposal at SCSC board meeting, open to public comment. Documents on SCSC website: [CPF Proposed Updates 2023](#)
- June 8, 2023: SCSC staff host a webinar to share proposed updates with schools
- July 26, 2023: SCSC adopts the final proposal.
 - The changes go into effect immediately; thus, they will be applicable to the 2023-2024 school year CPF results. The CPF results for the current school year, 2022-2023, will be reported using current/old format, with the exception of the few necessary academic updates.



