

Office of Charter Schools Oversight

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**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Agenda

- OCS Oversight Background
- OCS Oversight Framework
 - Academic Quality
 - Equitable Enrollment
 - Operations and Governance
 - Fiscal Management
- Tiered Accountability System

Authorizing Oversight

Charter school governing boards and leadership are expected to be the primary leaders in oversight for their school(s). However, authorizers have the responsibility to act as an additional layer of oversight to ensure all students and families have access to a high quality education.



Authorizing Oversight

According to California Education Code, authorizers are required to fulfill the following oversight responsibilities:

- 1 Identify at least one staff member as a contact person for the charter school.
- 2 Visit each charter school at least annually.
- 3 Ensure that each charter school under its authority complies with all reports required of charter schools by law, including the LCAP and annual update to the LCAP required pursuant to Education Code section 47606.5.
- 4 Monitor the fiscal condition of each charter school under its authority.
- 5 Provide timely notification to the California Department of Education if (a) a renewal of the charter is granted or denied (b) a charter is revoked (c) a charter school will cease operations for any reason.

Office of Charter Schools Oversight

In addition to the required responsibilities, OCS carries out additional oversight duties in four categories to ensure all charter schools in Oakland are serving students equitably and effectively. OCS strives to develop oversight procedures and priorities which are **transparent, meaningful, and proactive**, with the health, safety, and academic achievements of students at the center.



Programmatic
Quality



Equitable
Enrollment



Operations and
Governance



Fiscal
Management



OCS Oversight Priorities

Programmatic Quality

Providing oversight in the areas of programmatic quality and academic achievement is essential for OCS to ensure that OUSD-authorized charter schools are providing all enrolled students with a high-quality educational program.



Annual Site Visits

Occur at least once annually; Include classroom observations and interviews with school site leaders with a focus on academic achievement



Academic Achievement Data

Evaluate student achievement data to determine how charter schools are performing on a variety of indicators



Student Discipline Procedures

Monitor compliance with OCS-developed Discipline Policy, including documentation requirements and timely communication with involved parties



Teacher Credential Monitoring

Annually audit teacher credentialing and assignment data through CalSAAS and monitor corrections of misassignments

Equitable Enrollment

According to California Education Code, charter schools are prohibited from denying admission to any student and from encouraging any student to disenroll for any reason. They must also take steps to recruit and enroll a population reflective of the community in which they serve.



Enrollment Data Analysis

Evaluate enrollment trends at each charter school using Census Day data, including total enrollment and enrollment of student subgroups



Student Exit Data Analysis

Collect and analyze student exit data monthly to monitor for trends in continuous enrollment and for potential cases of pushout



Complaint Intake

Intake and investigate all complaints related to enrollment and admissions at OUSD authorized charter schools



Collaboration with OUSD Offices + Charter Leaders

Work with OUSD Offices to monitor potential violations and with Charter Leaders to collaborate on effective practices

Operations and Governance

OCS provides oversight in the areas of Operation and Governance to ensure that all OUSD-authorized charter schools are operating in accordance with relevant laws and regulations and are creating safe and accessible environments for students, staff, and families.



Board Observations and Brown Act Compliance

Monitor for Brown Act compliance and conduct observations at each charter board meeting at least once annually



Document Review

Collect and review a variety of operations-related documents (school safety plans, student/family handbooks, facility leases, etc.) annually



Website Audit

Annually conduct website audits of each charter school to monitor for posting compliance (LCAP, Title IX, UCP, etc.)



Accountability Monitoring

Monitor responses and remedy execution for all Notice of Concerns and evaluate trends in violations or escalating issues

Fiscal Management

As required by Education Code §47604.32(a)(4), OCS conducts a variety of oversight procedures to monitor the fiscal condition of each OUSD-authorized charter school to evaluate the short-term and long-term sustainability of the school.



Document Review

Collect and review fiscal documents including unaudited actuals, multi-year budget projections, interim reports, and more



Fiscal Analysis

Conduct fiscal analysis for each charter school including evaluation of expenditures, reserve maintenance, fund balance, and more



Enrollment and Attendance Review

Analyze enrollment and attendance data monthly through a fiscal health lens for each charter school



Fee Collection

Collect 1% Oversight Fees and other fees related to services provided to charter schools (special education, facilities, etc.)

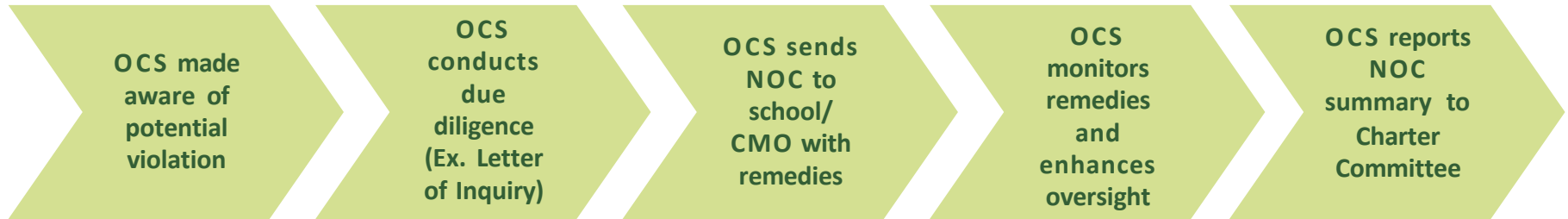


Tiered Accountability System

OCS Accountability System

When OCS discovers a potential violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations (including the charter school petition), OCS takes steps to remedy the issue by sending a Notice of Concern (“NOC”).

NOC Process



Unless it rises to a Notice of Violation, each violation receives the “same” Notice

Difficult for public to understand severity of each NOC

Tiered Accountability System

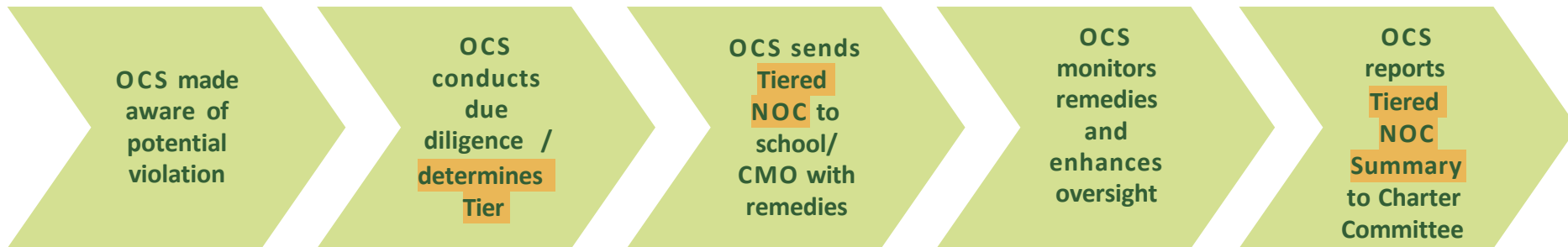
A modification to the NOC process to make the severity of a violation clear to both charter school leaders and the general public.

Notice of Concern <i>Tier: Minor</i>	Notice of Concern <i>Tier: Moderate</i>	Notice of Concern <i>Tier: Severe</i>	Notice of Violation
Indicates a lower level compliance violation; typically a first-time offense	Indicates a repeated lower level compliance violation or a moderate violation regarding one of the four oversight categories	Indicates a repeated moderate level compliance violation or a high-level violation regarding one of the four oversight categories	First step in the revocation process; may be initiated if school fails to remedy issues in Severe Notice of Concern or if the violation is deemed egregious enough to require immediate action be taken.

OCS Tiered Accountability System

When OCS discovers a potential violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations (including the charter school petition), OCS takes steps to remedy the issue by sending a Tiered Notice of Concern (“NOC”).

NOC Process



OUSD Board Appointees

If a school receives multiple “moderate” Notices of Concern or one “severe” Notice of Concern, OCS may choose to appoint a District Representative onto the charter school governing board, pursuant to Education Code 47604(c)¹.

1

Recruit appointees based on current gaps in expertise on the charter school governing board

2

Each appointee serves as a full, voting member of the charter school governing board

3

Each appointee reports back to OCS at least three times per year, via a written report and a virtual check-in with staff. Reports focus on effectiveness of the board and board appointee, areas of needed support, and general updates on board strategic focus.

4

Board appointees **do not** report to OCS regarding topics discussed in closed session.

¹A chartering authority that grants a charter to a charter school to be operated as or by a nonprofit public benefit corporation shall be entitled to a single representative on the board of directors of the nonprofit public benefit corporation.

Questions?

