



TENNESSEE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

AUTHORIZER CONNECT

MARCH 9, 2022

RENEWAL

OUR PURPOSE

- Create a reoccurring time and space for Tennessee's authorizers to **share resources, successes and lessons learned** with each other.
- Provide **professional development** opportunities for authorizers which centers around high-quality authorizing.
- **Build a community** of authorizers who share the same goal of providing high-quality public school options to students across Tennessee.

AGENDA

- Welcome and Whip Around
- Renewals: What's in state law and our Quality Authorizing Standards
 - Small Group Discussion #1
- NACSA's Supplemental Renewal Guidance
 - Small Group Discussion #2
- Resources and Wrap Up

INTRODUCTIONS

Please unmute yourself to share the following:

- Name, District and Role
- On this day is 1959, Mattel debuted the Barbie doll at the American International Toy Fair in New York City. What was your favorite doll/toy when you were a kid?

RENEWALS

WHAT'S IN STATE LAW & OUR QUALITY AUTHORIZING
STANDARDS

T.C.A § 49-13-121

- a) Renewal application are submitted to authorizer by **April 1** of the year prior to which the charter expires using the Department's renewal application.
- b) The application must contain a **report** on the school's operations, test scores, financial statements and audits **for the 8 years preceding** the application.
- c) Three months prior to submitting a renewal application, the authorizer shall provide the school with a **renewal performance report**.
- d) The authorizer shall rule by resolution to approve or deny by **February 1** of the year in which the charter expires. The authorizer shall consider the **application, annual progress reports, and the renewal performance report**.

T.C.A § 49-13-121

- f) A decision to deny may be **appealed** to the Charter Commission within 10 days of the decision.
- g) The term of the renewed agreement is **10 years**.
- h) A decision to deny becomes effective at the **close of the school year**.
- i) The authorizer shall **inform the Department** of its decision, including the reasons for the decision, within 10 days of the resolution to renew or deny.
- j) If a **school closes voluntarily**, the charter agreement ceases to be effective as of the closing date.
- k) The authorizer shall conduct an **interim review** in the 5th year of the current charter term. The charter school must submit **a report to the authorizer on its progress** in achieving its goals and objectives.

QUALITY AUTHORIZING STANDARDS: RENEWAL

- Bases the renewal process and renewal decisions on thorough analyses of a comprehensive body of objective evidence **defined by the performance framework in the charter agreement**.
- Grants renewal only to schools that have **achieved the standards and targets** stated in the charter agreement, are **organizationally and fiscally viable**, and have been **faithful to the terms** of the contract and applicable law.
- Does not make renewal decisions on the basis of **political or community pressure** or solely on **promises of future improvement**.

QUALITY AUTHORIZING STANDARDS: RENEWAL

- Provides to each school, in advance of the renewal decision, a **cumulative performance report** that:
 - Summarizes the school's performance record over the charter term; and
 - States the authorizer's summative findings concerning the school's performance and its prospects for renewal.
- Requires any school seeking renewal to apply for it through a **renewal application**, which provides the school a meaningful opportunity and reasonable time to respond to the cumulative report; to correct the record, if needed; and to present additional evidence regarding its performance.

QUALITY AUTHORIZING STANDARDS: RENEWAL

- Clearly **communicates to schools the criteria for charter renewal** and non-renewal decisions that are consistent with the charter agreement, including any policy changes thereto.
- Promptly **notifies each school of its renewal decision**, including written explanation of the reasons for the decision.
- Promptly **communicates renewal decisions to the school community and public** within a time frame that allows parents and students to exercise choices for the upcoming school year.
- **Explains in writing any available rights** of legal or administrative appeal through which a school may challenge the authorizer's decision, including appeal to the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission.
- Regularly **updates and publishes the process for renewal decision making**, including guidance regarding required content and format for renewal applications.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION # 1

- What does your authorizing office's interim review process look like?
- What does your authorizing office's renewal process look like?
- What information is included in your authorizing office's renewal report?

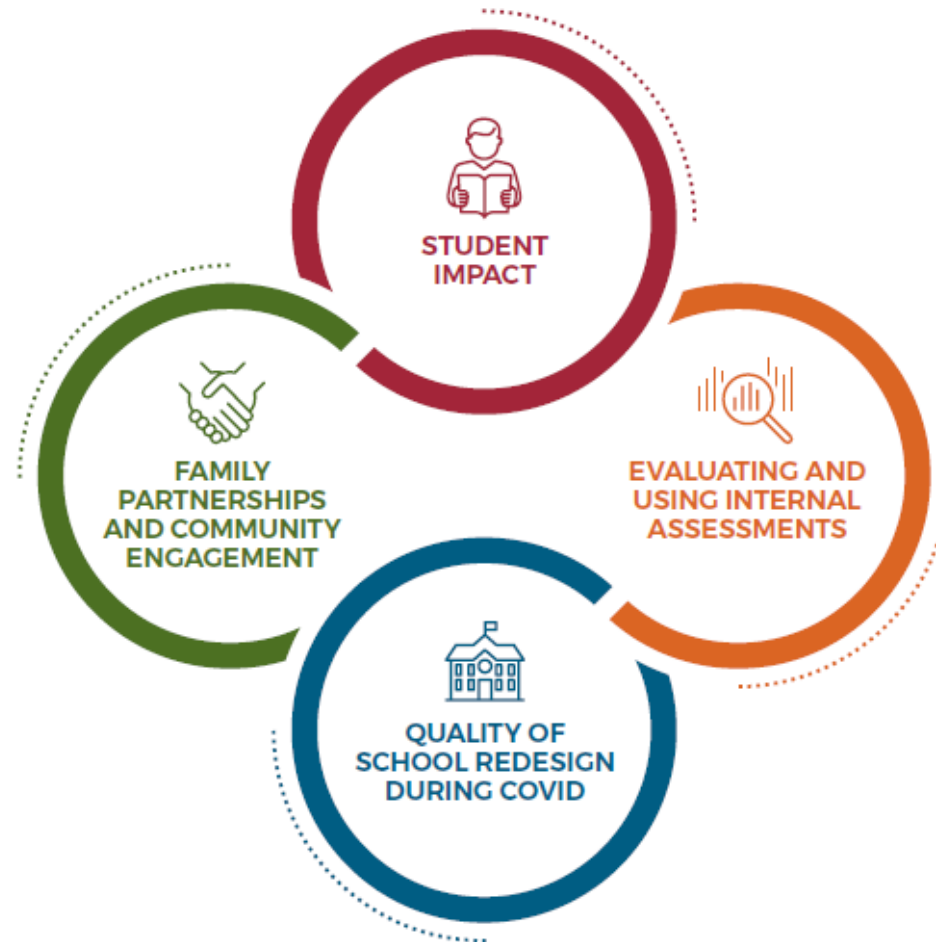
WHOLE GROUP SHARE OUT # 1

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NACSA's SUPPLEMENTAL RENEWAL GUIDANCE

DISCUSSION OF PRE-WORK

FOCUS AREAS FOR EVALUATING SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS DURING THE PANDEMIC



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION #2

- What stood out to you as you read the supplemental renewal guidance?
- How is your authorizing office considering or not considering the hold harmless data in renewals?
- Is your office considering any other factors (that do not contradict what's in your charter agreement) for renewals?

WHOLE GROUP SHARE OUT #2

- What stood out to you as you read the supplemental renewal guidance?
- How is your authorizing office considering or not considering the hold harmless data in renewals?
- Is your office considering any other factors (that do not contradict what's in your charter agreement) for renewals?

RESOURCES & WRAP UP

TDOE MATERIALS

- TDOE's [Interim Review Guidance](#)
- TDOE's [Renewal Application](#)

NACSA RENEWAL FILE SHARE

- **Unchartered Waters: All Things Renewal (April 2021)**
 - Summary of a webinar to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the renewal process during COVID.
- **Addressing Data Gaps During a Pandemic**
 - Authorizer toolkit from NACSA and Bellwether Education Partners which focuses on approaches to measuring student success and wellness. Includes a guidance document and Excel workbook as well.

QUALITY AUTHORIZING SERIES

- ~~Part I: You've Received an LOI – Now what? (January 2022)~~
- ~~Part II: Application Review 101 (February 2022)~~
- Part III: The Appeal Process (July 2022)
- Part IV: The Charter Agreement (August 2022)
- Part V: Effective Authorizing (October 2022)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

DATE	TOPIC
May 18, 2022	Performance Framework Evaluations & Intervention



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THANK YOU!