



TENNESSEE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

AUTHORIZER CONNECT

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

ENGAGING WITH GOVERNING BOARDS

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
- Authorizer Spotlight: TN Public Charter School Commission
- Engaging with Governing Boards
- Resources and Wrap Up

WELCOME & WHIP AROUND

Please unmute yourself to share the following:

- Name, District and Role
- What is one topic that you could lead a 30-minute lesson about without any preparation?

AUTHORIZER SPOTLIGHT

TN PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION



Tennessee Charter
School Center

Governing Board Presentation



Agenda

- Who are we?
- Engaging Governing Boards
- Governing Board Compliance
- TCSC Governing Board Training Communication Timeline
- RFP Process To Become an Authorized Training Provider
- Authorizer / LEA Process
- Governing Board Feedback
- Next Steps



Who Are We?

At the Tennessee Charter School Center, we support charter schools by offering services and advocating for policies that ensure:

- High-performing schools have the resources and conditions they need to thrive in Tennessee.
- High potential schools have the support they need to achieve and sustain excellence.
- Low performing schools are not allowed to persist without intervention and, in some cases, closure.
- Communities are educated and engaged in the option and impact of public charter schools.



Who Are We?

Joshua Perkins, Director of Quality Schools & Programs

Joshua@tnchartercenter.org

- School Support
- School Resources
- Governing Board Professional Development

Jaques Hamilton, Manager of Quality Schools

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- Governing Board Training Compliance
- Charter 101 Cohort Series
- School Support



Engaging Governing Boards

Communicating with board members can be very challenging, however, it is important to keep them informed and engaged.

Let's discuss.

What are some ways that you all communicate with board members and how often? How effective is this communication with governing boards and/or chairs?



Engaging Governing Boards

TCSC engages with governing board members at least twice a month by

- Emails
- Newsletter

Most successful engagement comes through

- Attending board meetings
- Communicating with Board Chairs
 - personal email
 - personal cell - (only used for emergencies cases)



Engaging Governing Boards

The benefits of Authorizers communicating with board chairs.

- Streamlines communication
- Information sharing is consistent
- Accountability partner (tasks, due dates, etc.)

Reasons TCSC Communicate with Governing Boards

- Governing Board Compliance Training
- Authorized Governing Board Training Provider Process (RFP)
- Annual Governing Board Survey
- Funding Opportunities



Authorized Governing Board Training Provider (RFP)

- SBoE and TCSC opens Request for Proposals (RFPs) for all potential board compliance training providers. (January)
- All RFP's must be submitted to TCSC by March 1st
- TCSC reviews Request for Proposals (RFPs) and submit their recommendations to SBoE by March 15th. The SBoE board members make the final decision.
- All evidence of approved board compliance training providers is communicated to TCSC, School Leaders and Board Chairs. (June)



Governing Board Compliance

- New board members must complete six (6) hours of training.
 - New members have twelve (12) months from their start date to complete training and submit documentation to TCSC.
- Current members must complete (4) hours of training.
 - Current members have six (6) months to complete training and submit documentation to TCSC by November 15 annual deadline.
- All board members must take training courses ONLY approved by [SBoE](#).

Governing Boards must pay a one time \$75 certification fee each year. This process allows for all paperwork and compliance to come from one entity (TCSC). Each approved training provider must submit all their documentation to TCSC. TCSC then reports this information to all Authorizers.

Authorizers let's discuss: Who should be responsible for tracking and submitting training completion to Authorizers? Should it be on governing boards to submit directly to Authorizers?



TCSC Governing Board Training Communication Timeline

Communications Timeline

- Reach out to board chairs statewide and provide board compliance training opportunities and deadlines. (June)
- Reach out to board chairs statewide 2 months before the deadline and give them a friendly reminder. (July - August)
- Reach out to board chairs and school leaders statewide 1 month before the deadline and give them a friendly reminder. (September - October)
- All evidence of completion of required board training should be turned in to TCSC by November 15th, each year.
- All reports are submitted to LEA's by December 1st.



Authorizer / LEA Process

Authorizer's Feedback on Timeline

- Does this timeline work for you all?
- Is there anything missing or needing to be added?
- What are Authorizers communicating to Governing Boards after the December 1st deadline?



Governing Board Feedback

TCSC spent a year meeting with each governing board collecting feedback. Here are the top responses we received regarding accountability.

- Process seems different for each Authorizer regarding compliance.

If a school does not meet training requirements, how are you as an Authorizer holding governing boards accountable?





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Thank you!

RESOURCES & WRAP UP

RESOURCES

- State Board Governing Body Training [Rule 0520-14-01-.07](#) and [Policy 6.112](#)
- National Charter School Resource Center
 - [Identifying Indicators of Distress in Charter Schools](#)
 - [The Role of the Charter School Board in Monitoring School Performance](#)
 - [A User's Guide to Fiscal Oversight for Charter School Governing Boards and Authorizers](#)
 - [Top 10 Mistakes Charter School Boards Make](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

DATE	SPOTLIGHT	TOPIC
November 2022	Knox County Schools	Performance Framework Refresh with the Charter Commission & NACSA
January 2023 *in-person*	Hamilton County Schools	Revisions to the Quality Authorizing Standards
March 2023	Metro Nashville Public Schools	Topic by Memphis-Shelby County Schools
May 2023	Achievement School District	Authorizing Policies with TSBA

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 27, 2022)~~
- ~~Part IV: The Charter Agreement (August 2022)~~
- Part V: Effective Authorizing (October 2022)

THANK YOU!



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