

OVERSIGHT AND EVALUATION

Oversight Transparency

Mid-Ohio ESC shall provide oversight to and evaluation of each school that it sponsors. These processes and methods shall be made transparent to the schools Mid-Ohio ESC sponsors. Mid-Ohio ESC shall regularly communicate the processes and methods used to monitor and evaluate a school, including by providing information about how the sponsor intends to evaluate a school's academic, operational, and financial performance. Mid-Ohio ESC shall also notify schools of any timelines or changes to existing processes and methods of oversight and evaluation. The timing for reporting and performance of oversight depends on the type of review and is delineated below.

Whenever practical, Mid-Ohio ESC will proactively communicate information about its methods and procedures for providing oversight and evaluation of schools.

Enrollment and Financial Reviews

Mid-Ohio ESC shall conduct, enrollment and financial reviews each month. The Board of Governors directs the Superintendent to develop specific procedures to conduct enrollment and financial reviews consistent with this policy.

Financial reviews will include budget ledgers, transactional detail reports, and at least one review of the five-year forecast. Should a review indicate an area of financial concern, including but not limited to enrollment, revenue, and expense fluctuations, Mid-Ohio ESC shall provide the sponsored school's governing authority with feedback after all reviews, including recommendations to achieve greater efficiencies regarding financial and enrollment decision making when a review indicates areas of financial concerns (e.g., enrollment, revenue and expense fluctuations, etc.). Whenever practical or appropriate, Mid-Ohio ESC will offer proactive recommendations for addressing such concerns.

Enrollment reviews will include a monthly assessment of the number of students enrolled during that time. Review of samples of a school's monthly residency verifications will be a part of the monthly enrollment report.

Mid-Ohio ESC will use enrollment and financial reviews as an opportunity to provide proactive technical assistance, reporting and monitoring of the school's finances and compliance with written feedback.

Onsite Reviews

Mid-Ohio ESC will conduct at least two onsite reviews while school is in session—one during the first half of the year, and the other during the second half of the year—to examine the school's compliance with applicable laws, rules, contractual obligations, and academic performance

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measures. An onsite review will include data from at least three (3) of the following stakeholder groups over the course of the year: the governing authority members, administrators, teachers, instructors, staff, management company staff if any, students, parents, or other stakeholders. Each onsite review shall also require at least one interview to be conducted with an administrator and a teacher, respectively. Observations and interviews shall be conducted at each site visit. Guidance as to interviews and observations will be provided to the staff conducting the site visits.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures and protocols for conducting onsite reviews. Provided however, during the 2021-2022 academic year, onsite reviews may be deemed “onsite” if conducted via video conference when visiting a school utilizing remote learning or hybrid learning due to the Covid-19 pandemic, or if in the Sponsor’s discretion an onsite visit cannot reasonably be conducted safely due to social distancing measures to prevent the further spread of Covid-19.

Provisions in the Community School Contract and the Performance Standards shall be used and assessed at each review.

After each onsite review, Mid-Ohio ESC shall provide the reviewed school with a report that includes at least: (1) the information collected during the onsite visit; (2) a summary of the sponsor’s findings, which shall include a summary of the sponsored school’s compliance with applicable laws, rules, and contractual obligations and its progress towards academic performance measures; (3) areas of strength and areas needing improvement; and (4) the specific steps or timeframes for the sponsored school to take appropriate actions to improve any areas of weakness or concern to the sponsor. Mid-Ohio ESC will request and review status updates for further monitoring. For each area of improvement identified, Mid-Ohio ESC shall provide the school with steps and timeframes to make the improvements and request and review status updates regarding the school’s improvement efforts.

Performance Monitoring

Mid-Ohio ESC shall review a school’s academic, financial, and organizational/operational performance annually by collecting data for multiple years related to all applicable contractual, academic, financial, and organizational/operational measures. Mid-Ohio ESC shall also analyze the data collected against contractual targets specified on the sponsored school’s performance framework and evaluate the overall performance of the sponsored school based on the outcomes of data analysis. The data analysis and evaluation will include multiple years and the majority of sponsored schools. This analysis and evaluation shall determine subsequent actions required of the sponsored schools.

Performance Reports

Mid-Ohio ESC shall provide an annual, cumulative performance report to each school it sponsors that summarizes fiscal, operational/organizational, and academic performance, along with the sponsored school’s areas of strength and areas where there is a need for improvement. This report

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shall relate the sponsored school's performance and compare the school's performance against the performance framework in the contract. The report shall include multiple years of performance data. Based on the information gathered for the report, Mid-Ohio ESC will summarize performance over the contract term, including identifying areas of strength and areas for improvement, and state the sponsored school's prospects for renewal.

This report, and the prospects for renewal, shall be communicated and discussed with the sponsored school's Governing Authority.

Audits

When Mid-Ohio ESC is provided timely notice, Mid-Ohio ESC shall attend all audit and closing audit conferences for sponsored schools. Mid-Ohio ESC shall also address all issues identified in the annual audit, shall require corrective action for issues identified in an audit, and shall follow up with to ensure that identified issues are resolved.

Quality Practices Rubric: D.01 – Oversight Transparency; D.02 – Enrollment and Financial Reviews; D.03 – Onsite Visits; D.04 – Site Visit Reports; D.05 – Performance Monitoring; D.07 – Annual Performance Reports

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