



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

Overview of Philadelphia Charter Schools

October 22, 2019

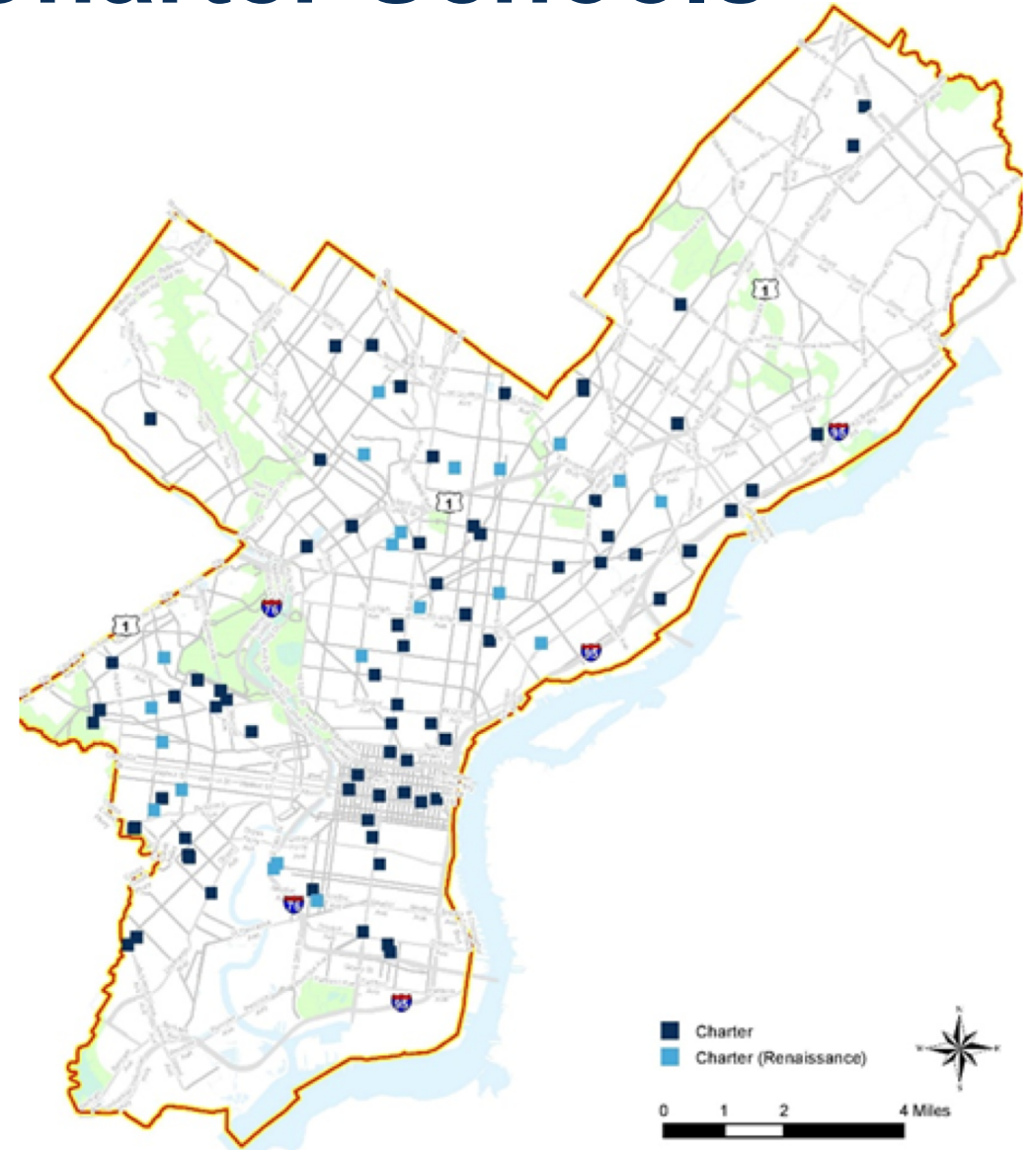
Presentation Overview

- **High Quality Charter Authorizing**
 - Sector at a glance
 - Charter Authorizing Initiatives
 - Charter Performance Framework Overview

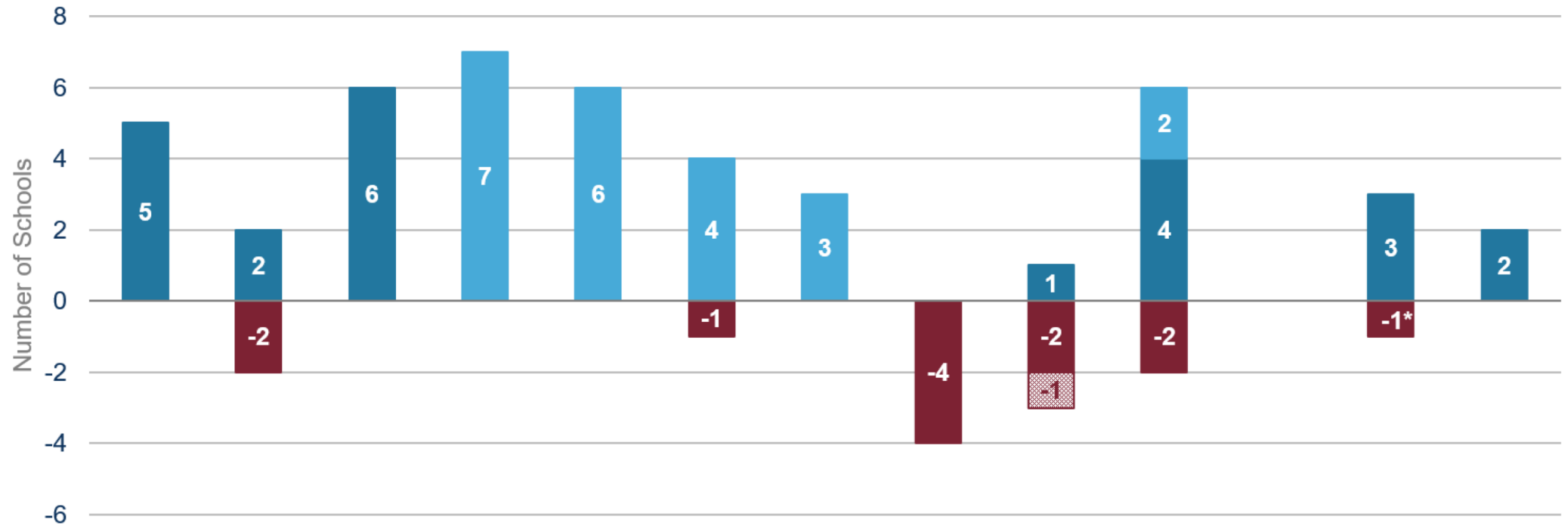
- **Authorizing Experience**

SY2019-20 Philadelphia Charter Schools

- 87 brick-and-mortar Charter Schools
 - 66 Traditional Charter Schools
 - 21 Renaissance Charter Schools
- Approximately 67,000 students



Charter School Openings and Closures



	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Count of Schools	61	63	67	74	80	84	86	86	83	86	84	87	88*
Total Charter Seats	30,174	32,324	34,317	40,717	47,288	55,351	60,821	58,327	61,812	64,761	64,999	66,153	TBD

- Traditional Charter School Openings
- Renaissance School Openings
- Traditional Charter School Closures
- Renaissance Charter School Closures

Notes:

Data from 10/1 Snapshot; Enrollment numbers do not include Philadelphia students attending cyber charters and out of District (non-Philadelphia) public schools. School openings correspond with the first year of operation and occur at the beginning of the school year, while school closures are reflective of end of year closures. Data in graph does not reflect pending closure of Eastern University Academy Charter School.

Charter Authorizing Initiatives

We are committed to addressing inequities by implementing initiatives that go beyond required authorizing practices.

Strong Authorizing Practices

- Establish a performance framework that is rooted in laws and regulation
- Ensure alignment across all evaluations
- Created a split-renewal process that accelerates decision making timeline for consistently high-performing schools

**Note: This work is aligned to statutory requirements of charter authorizers in Pennsylvania*

Initiatives that Promote Equity and Quality

- Published framework to provide a clear roadmap to renewal
- Visited schools to discuss performance and ensure common understanding of the Framework (57 Charter Schools were visited during SY2018-19)
- Met with leaders of 58 charter schools to review SPRs
- Improved communication to ensure schools have access to the same level of information
 - Held Sector convenings
 - Distribute a Monthly Newsletter that highlights operations updates, upcoming deadlines, and professional growth opportunities.

The Charter School Performance Framework

Under the 2012 Authorizing Quality Initiative (AQI), the CSO developed the Framework (CSPF) as part of its commitment to quality, equitable, and transparent authorizing principles.

The CSPF is the rubric through which schools are evaluated. Rooted in applicable laws and regulations, it transparently establishes how the CSO holds charter schools accountable.



Area	Academic Performance	Organizational Compliance	Financial Health & Sustainability
Why?	The CSO vision and mission prioritizes equitable, high-quality schools that provide strong educational opportunities and outcomes.	The CSO ensures that charter schools meet regulatory requirements with a focus on protecting student rights and improving equity and transparency.	The CSO ensures schools are effective stewards of public dollars, recognizing the impact of fiscal and financial instability on charter school closures and student success.
How?	Comparisons against District and Similar Schools Groups* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proficiency on State assessments ● Attendance ● Post-secondary Readiness Meeting PA Standard for Academic Growth	Compliance on various standards including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Special Education ● English Learners ● Enrollment ● Student Discipline 	Performance on various short-term and long-term financial health metrics Fiscal management practices

* The method of comparison for the Academic Performance Domain ensures that all schools have the opportunity to exceed the performance of both comparison groups for each category.

Authorizing Experience

- Reviewed and decided on over 70 new charter applications in the last 5 years.
 - For 2019-20, 6 additional letters of intent received for new applications.
- Produce evaluation reports for every charter school every year (~3,000 pages of content).
- Lead in-depth renewal evaluations for schools in the last year of charter term.
 - 16 schools in the 2019-20 renewal cohort.
- Share authorizing practices at statewide and national convenings of other authorizers.