

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION:
PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATE & PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT
Updated August 23, 2013**

Legislation passed during the 2013 legislative session requires charter school authorizers to develop a performance certificate and a performance framework that clearly sets forth the academic and operational indicators, measures and metrics that will guide the authorized chartering entity's evaluations of each public charter school." (See [House Bill 221a](#), I.C. 33-5209A, effective July 1, 2013.)

How will the PCSC's performance certificate and framework be developed, and may stakeholders provide comment on the topic?

The PCSC and its staff are presently working to develop a performance certificate and a framework that addresses the indicators, measures, and metrics required by Idaho Code. The framework will include academic, mission-specific, operational, and financial performance sections. The PCSC considered a draft certificate and framework (for non-alternative schools) during a workshop on its regular meeting date of June 13, 2013. Revisions to the draft were considered at the August 15 regular meeting. Final revisions will be considered at a special, telephonic meeting on August 30, 2013, which will be open to the public.

In order to understand the nature and purpose of the performance framework, as well as its relevance to the role of the PCSC as and authorizer, we strongly recommend that you review the National Association of Charter School Authorizer's [Core Performance Framework and Guidance](#). Pages 2-5 of the document provide a good overview, while the remainder of the extensive document provides more specific guidance that will help inform the PCSC's development of its Framework.

The PCSC values input from representatives of PCSC-authorized schools, as well as other public charter school stakeholders. The PCSC office hosted a listening session on May 23, 2013, to hear public comment on the development of the certificate and framework, as well as the administrative Rules of the Public Charter School Commission. Stakeholder input was received during the June 13, 2013, PCSC workshop. Round table discussions with stakeholder group representatives were held on July 9, 2013, and August 5, 2013, to consider further revisions.

You are invited to attend the PCSC's regular and special meetings, which are open to the public. Meeting dates and materials are posted on this website. The August 30 special meeting materials will be posted online on August 28 (see the "Meetings" page on this site) and will include what is hoped to be a final draft certificate and framework. Public comment will be taken during the meeting; additionally, written comment is welcome anytime. Please note that the PCSC plans to finalize the performance certificate and framework by the end of

August 2013 in order to allow sufficient time for individualized certificate negotiations with all PCSC-authorized schools.

If you would like to provide comment as the certificate and framework are under development, please feel free to contact PCSC Director Tamara Baysinger.

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Will the same performance framework apply to all public charter schools?

In accordance with Idaho statute, the framework will be designed to help all schools meet the minimum academic, operational, and financial requirements of the state. We recognize, however, that alternative schools must be evaluated somewhat differently than other public schools.

The draft framework available at this time is intended for use with non-alternative schools. A modified framework for alternative schools will be developed during the 2013-14 school year as additional work is done on Idaho's ESEA Waiver and Star Rating System to accommodate alternative schools and programs.

What will be the process through which existing PCSC-authorized public charter schools negotiate their own Performance Certificates?

Idaho statute requires that all existing public charter schools sign performance certificates with their authorizers no later than July 1, 2014. Although much of the performance certificate language will be "boilerplate," there are several sections designed to be drafted during individualized negotiations with each school. These negotiations will include opportunity for schools and authorizers to mutually draft measures within the performance framework that are unique to each school's mission.

Due to the large number of schools authorized by the PCSC, performance certificate negotiation meetings will begin in early September, as soon as the PCSC has formally adopted its certificate and framework. We anticipate that the process will involve several meetings with each school, as follows:

Meeting	Attendees	Purpose
Initial Idea Discussion	PCSC Staff, School Representatives (must include at least 2 board members; administrator participation also encouraged)	School brings ideas for mission-specific measures. Parties discuss which ideas should be pursued. School follow-up: research metrics, targets, & weight.
Drafting Meeting	PCSC Staff, School Representatives (the same individuals)	Parties work together to draft measures, targets, ratings, and formulas.
Committee Meeting	PCSC Committee, PCSC Staff, School Representatives	Committee reviews draft measures, negotiates re. differing opinions, if any, and forms recommendation to PCSC. School follow-up: present to full board for approval.
PCSC Approval	PCSC, PCSC Staff, School Representatives	PCSC considers measures and Committee recommendation. Possible consent agenda item.

PCSC staff will work with each school to schedule these meetings at the most convenient times possible. Please note that alternative schools and schools with alternative programs will be scheduled for later in Spring 2014 due to the delayed availability of a performance framework specific to alternative schools.