



Academics

Measuring Academic Success:

- Charter board membership can get complicated. To help navigate through it, make sure board operations stay in service of your board's mission specific goals.
- Most charter schools have a specific academic focus. Make sure your school's academic results are excellent, especially in your area of specialization.
- Test results and GPAs are important indicators of success, but they're not the only ones. Other factors, like student happiness and parental satisfaction, are equally important.
- Start by forming an 'Academic Excellence Committee' - a special team of board members that is dedicated to tracking academic results. Once established, they can decide what indicators to track, and how often to track them.

Staying Compliant:

- A charter school's autonomy is one of its most attractive features. However, the basic essentials of the curriculum can't be forgotten. If they are, your charter can and will be revoked.
- A unique approach is key - but effective student learning is the most important duty of any school.
- Once you've established your charter, you need to set up a comprehensive performance framework in order to keep it.



“How are we giving kids the tools? How are we putting our spin on it to align with our mission?”

Dynisha Smith
Board Member - Future Public School





Challenges:

- A positive relationship with the local community is a necessity for any charter school, especially since funding is typically much lower than that of district schools.
- Be open to finding creative solutions: pool resources where you can, and accept help in the form of donations and time from local organizations.

Hiring:

- While you aren't in control of specific hiring decisions, you can help the school leadership form a well-rounded idea of what kind of teachers they should be looking to hire.
- The school leader is the one responsible for most day-to-day operations of the school. Because of this, they will be the most important hire you make. Choose wisely, and build a good working relationship.

Resources:

More resources are available at charterschoolgovernance.info

