



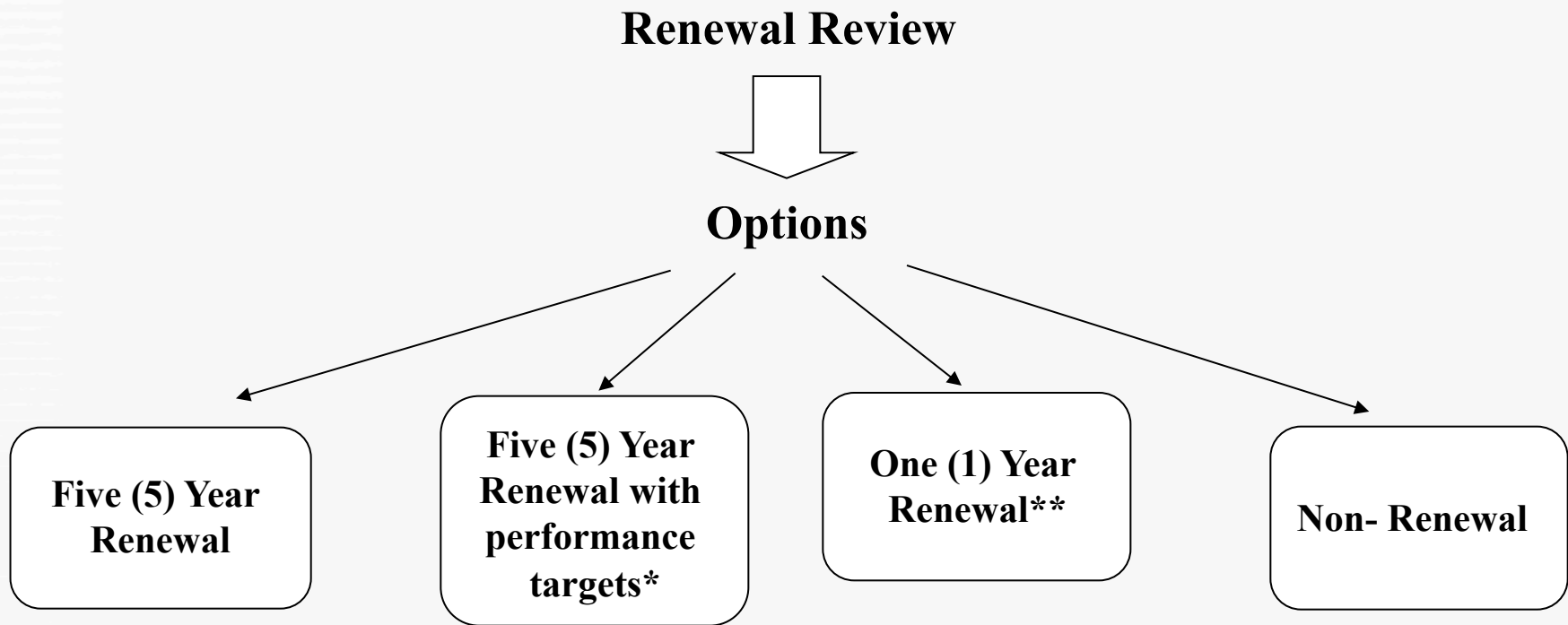
Charter School Renewals

Strategy, Policy, & Priority Meeting

April 16, 2012



Pennsylvania Charter School Law directs local school boards to conduct reviews of charter schools prior to granting five-year renewals.



* Permitted for charter schools in Corrective Action; see Charter School Law, Section 17-1729A(6).

**Permitted if additional academic data is required; see Charter School Law, Section 17-1720A(b)(1).



- Facilitate a renewal kick-off meeting to acquaint charter school leaders with the process.
- Act as a team member on the quality school reviews visits conducted by SchoolWorks consultants.
- Collect and review all data submitted with the renewal application.
Data and materials collected/reviewed by
- Analyze all data inputs to form a renewal recommendation.
- Prepare renewal report with final recommendations.
- Submit report to Charter School Operators to solicit responses to the renewal report.
- Present renewal report and the responses to the report to the SRC.



Staff conducts a comprehensive review of four domains.

1. **Academic Performance**: Analyze the charter school's academic performance including the PSSA results, absolute and growth-based student performance measures.
2. **Financial Health**: Data and materials collected/reviewed by renewal evaluation team. Assess the fiscal stability and ongoing financial viability.
5. **Governance/Compliance**: Examine the charter school's adherence to statutory requirements and board governance.
4. **Customer Satisfaction**: Measure the results of school surveys, parent complaint logs, teacher and student retention rates.



Comprehensive Review: Four Domains

Academic Performance

- PSSA Results
- PVAAS Data
- PDE Assessment Reports
- Renewal Application
- Annual Report
- Renewal Site Visit

Financial Health

- SDP Financial Audit
- SDP Enrollment Audit
- Independent Audits
- Renewal Application
- Annual Report
- Renewal Site Visit

Governance & Compliance

- PDE Special Ed Audit
- Renewal Site Visit
- PDE Annual Report
- Renewal Application
- PDE Reports

Customer Satisfaction

- SDP Survey Results
- Student Retention Rates
- Teacher Retention Rates
- Complaint Logs
- Renewal Application



School	Domain Assessment
Charter School A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ Academic Performance ▲ Financial Health ▲ Governance & Compliance ✓ Customer Satisfaction
Charter School B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Academic Performance ▲ Financial Health ▲ Governance & Compliance
Charter School C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Academic Performance ✓ Financial Health ✓ Governance & Compliance ✓ Customer Satisfaction
Charter School D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Academic Performance ✓ Financial Health ▲ Governance & Compliance ✓ Customer Satisfaction
Charter School E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Academic Performance ✓ Financial Health ✓ Governance & Compliance ✓ Customer Satisfaction

Data and Customer Satisfaction reviewed by renewal evaluation team

✓	Acceptable
▲	Minor Deficiencies
✘	Major Deficiencies



<p>Academic Performance ✖</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School is in its fourth year of Corrective Action II. • Low levels of proficiency in both Reading and Math. • Little growth in academic performance over time. • Consistently lags District school and Charter School average PSSA scores as well as State targets • Small decreases in % of students scoring Below Basic. <p>Data and materials collected/reviewed by renewal evaluation team</p>
<p>Financial Health ✖</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School has maintained negative fund, negative net income and negative net working capital balances during the charter term.
<p>Governance & Compliance ▲</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major areas of concern, although some issues around truancy reporting and regular evaluation of staff are of note.
<p>Customer Satisfaction ✓</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School is generally a safe environment. • Parents/guardians speak positively about the quality of the learning environment.



Academic Performance ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistently meets or exceeds state performance targets and District and charter averages in Math.• Exceeded state performance targets and District and charter averages in Reading in last three years.• Strong gains in Reading and Math proficiency levels over the past 5 years.• Good decreases in % of students scoring Below Basic. Data and materials collected/reviewed by renewal evaluation team.
Financial Health ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good financial ratios and metrics.
Governance & Compliance ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No major areas of concern.
Customer Satisfaction ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School is a safe environment with a positive school climate.• Parents/guardians routinely speak positively about the quality of the learning environment.



School	Renewal Recommendation
Charter School A ✘	<i>Non-Renewal</i> – based on unacceptable academic performance
Charter School B ✓ Data and materials collected/reviewed by renewal evaluation team	<i>5-Year Renewal</i>
Charter School C ✓	<i>5-Year Renewal</i>
Charter School D ✓	<i>5-Year Renewal</i>
Charter School E ✓	<i>5-Year Renewal</i>

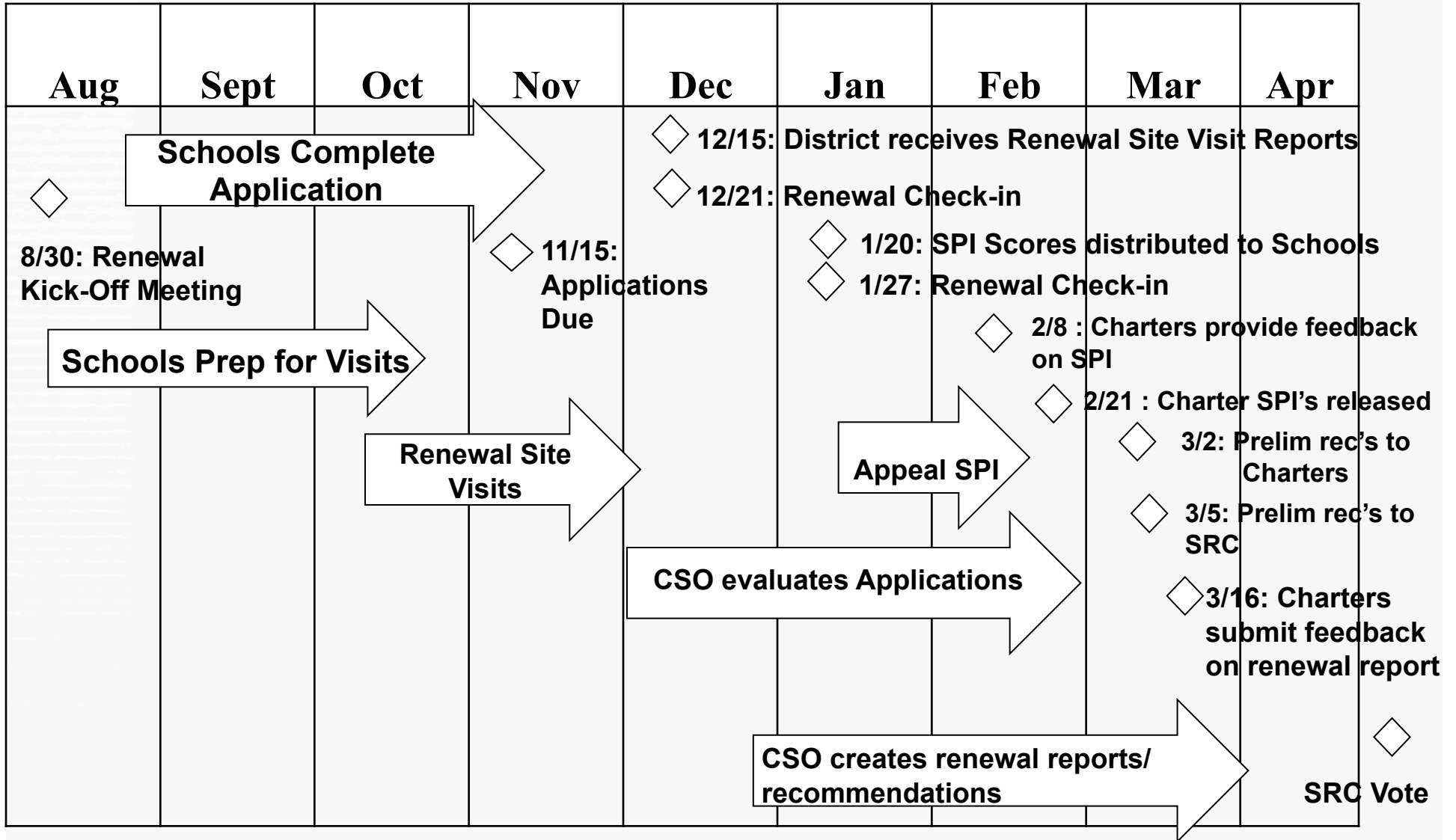
School District of Philadelphia

Charter Renewal Process: 2011-2012 Timeline



Thomas Knudsen, Chief Recovery Officer & Acting Superintendent of Schools

Thomas Darden, Deputy Chief, Strategic Programs



School District of Philadelphia

Charter Renewal Process: 2011-2012 Staff Recommendations



Thomas Knudsen, Chief Recovery Officer & Acting Superintendent of Schools

Thomas Darden, Deputy Chief, Strategic Programs

Twenty-five charter schools have charter agreements that are set to expire this year. The twenty-five charter schools are:

No.	School	Was the domain Acceptable?				Renewal Recommendation
		Academic Domain	Financial Health Domain	Governance & Compliance Domain	Customer Satisfaction	
1	Alliance for Progress	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
2	Arise Academy	No	No	No	Yes	Non-Renewal
3	Belmont	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
4	Belmont Academy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
5	Boys' Latin	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
6	Eastern Academy University	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
7	Franklin Towne Elementary	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
8	Green Woods	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
9	HOPE	No	Yes	No	Yes	Non-Renewal
10	Imhotep Institute	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
11	KIPP West Philadelphia	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
12	Mastery--Pickett	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
13	Multi-Cultural Academy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
14	Philadelphia Elec & Tech	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
15	Preparatory Charter	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
16	Sankofa Freedom Academy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
17	Southwest Leadership Academy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
18	Truebright Science Academy	No	Yes	No	Yes	Non-Renewal
19	West Oak Lane	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
20	Wissahickon	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5-Year Renewal
1	First Philadelphia	Recently submitted all required documents.				Pending finalized review
2	Laboratory Charter	School has yet to complete all evaluation requirements.				Pending finalized review
3	Planet Abacus	School has yet to complete all evaluation requirements.				Pending finalized review
4	Tacony Academy	Recently submitted all required documents.				Pending finalized review
5	World Communications	School has yet to complete all evaluation requirements.				Pending finalized review



Questions ?



The School District of Philadelphia's renewal application focuses on four broad areas:

1. **Academic Performance**: Is the educational program a success?
2. **Financial Health**: Does the charter school have sufficient financial resources to ensure stable educational programming?
Data and materials collected/reviewed by renewal evaluation team.
3. **Governance/Compliance**: Does the charter school comply with federal and state laws and regulations?
4. **Customer Satisfaction**: Is the charter school meeting the needs of parents, teachers, and students?



1. One or more material violations of any of the conditions, standards or procedures contained in the written charter.
2. Failure to meet the requirements for student performance set forth in 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 (replacing Chapter 5) or failure to meet any performance standard set forth in the written charter.
3. Failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management or audit requirements.
Data and materials collected/reviewed by renewal evaluation team.
4. Violations of any provisions of the Charter School Law.
6. Violation of any provision of law from which the charter school has not been exempted, including Federal laws and regulations governing children with disabilities.
6. The charter school has been convicted of fraud.



In the fall of 2009, the School District engaged School Works, an educational consulting firm with a national reputation for evaluating school performance, to develop and implement a site visit protocol for charter schools under renewal.

The Renewal Site Visit (RSV) was designed to increase the transparency and consistency of the renewal process for charter schools authorized by the School District.

Data and materials collected/reviewed by
renewal evaluation team.