

John R. Kasich, Governor
Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction

To: Community School Sponsors

From: Office of Quality School Choice

Date: Sept. 1, 2016

Re: Community School Sponsor Evaluation Update

We all share the same goal of providing Ohio's children with a quality education. The Office of Quality School Choice knows that the sponsor evaluation process may have been challenging for you and your schools since its original enactment and since the subsequent enactment of House Bill 2. However, looking to the immediate future, our goal is to complete the evaluation in a fair manner, compliant with state law and resulting in published ratings by the statutory deadline of Oct. 15, 2016.

Last week, the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) voted to send the department's proposed administrative rule for the compliance component of the sponsor evaluation rating (Ohio Administrative Code 3301-102-08) back to the office of the Common Sense Initiative in order to better understand its cost impact. This proposed rule was supposed to be used to complete the compliance portion of the sponsor evaluation for the 2015-2016 school year.

With complete respect for the actions of JCARR, it does not change the department's obligation to complete the 2015-2016 sponsor evaluations by Oct. 15. So, after careful consideration, we have determined that the best way to proceed is to use the existing administrative rule to complete the compliance portion of the 2015-2016 community school sponsor evaluation.

Moving forward with the existing rule requires a couple of minor adjustments to the 2015-2016 compliance evaluation process. Our vendor, ICF, is conducting the compliance reviews on behalf of the department and will complete the following:

For 2015-2016:

1. Review each sponsor's compliance with all applicable rules and laws;
2. Review compliance with all applicable rules and laws for 10 percent of each sponsor's schools, selected at random by ICF;
3. Conduct on-site reviews for all randomly selected schools.

For 2014-2015:

1. Conduct an on-site review of each of the randomly selected 10 percent of each sponsor's schools.

In order to provide sponsors with more detailed information relative to their compliance with laws and rules, we also will be publishing for the public **all** of the schools' compliance data by sponsor as a supplement to the published ratings.

The department will host a webinar to provide additional clarity and to address any questions you may have on the compliance component of the sponsor evaluation rating on Sept. 6 at 3 p.m. Directions to register for the webinar are below. We hope you can join us.

Instructions to access the Sept. 6 webinar

The webinar requires a phone and internet connection to view the slides and hear the presenter.

To access the video portion of the webinar, go to www.anywhereconference.com and click, "I'm a participant." To join the meeting, enter your name and then input the web login number 130235639 and the participant PIN 6103365. To access the audio portion of the webinar, call toll free, 1-866-551-1530, and enter participant PIN 6103365#.