Technical Documentation for the 2021-2022 Community School Operator Reports

Background and Overview

Ohio Revised Code 3314.031 requires the Ohio Department of Education to publish an annual performance report for all operators of community schools in the state based on their performance from the previous school year. The reports are published by November 15th annually.

Another section of law, ORC 3314.016, requires the Ohio Department of Education to develop an evaluation system that rates any entity that sponsors a community school based upon three components. One of the components in each sponsor evaluation is a rating based on Academic data. For consistency in evaluations, the Department has opted to use the same calculation for operators as is used for sponsors. The results of the operator reports do not hold consequences for operators and are informational only. The data are reported as state law requires. In addition, the Department opted to include other pieces of pertinent data on students, staff and funding to allow readers to have additional information to compare and contrast the operators across the state.

When determining which entities meet the definition to be labeled an operator, state law says that for purposes of this section, "operator" has the same meaning as in division (A)(8) of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code.

Determination of Relationship Between Community School and Operator

Operators manage the daily operations of a community school and/or provide programmatic oversight and support to the school. A school is not required to contract with an operator, so the first step in creating the report is to determine whether each community school had an operator for the 2021-2022 school year and if so which one. The relationship between operator and school is determined by the Office of Community Schools and the agency's legal counsel through emails, phone calls and a review of the contracts between sponsors and the various management companies.

Provisions in the law require the Department to exclude schools from the sponsor evaluation if they have not been in operation for more than two full years. Schools where a majority of the enrolled students are children with disabilities also are excluded per statute. Since the Department is using the identical calculation for operators as it does sponsors, schools meeting those criteria were removed from their operator's portfolio.

When the review was complete, it was determined that 243 of the 324 community schools open during the 2021-2022 school year contracted with an operator. When the exclusions were applied, a total of 201 schools were attached to an operator for the 2021-2022 school year.

Academic Component Calculation

The Academic Component is then calculated in a similar manner to the sponsor evaluation system, but applied to operators and all of their contracted schools. Details on this calculation can be found on the Department's Sponsor Evaluation webpage: **https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Community-Schools/Sponsor-Ratings-and-Tools/2021-2022-Sponsor-Evaluation-Tools** and selecting the "**2021-2022 Sponsor Evaluation Technical Document**" link.

Other Reported Data

Additional student, staff and financial data were also included in each report to allow readers to compare and contrast operators. The following data pieces are included on each school's report card and were aggregated to the operator based on the portfolio of schools they operated.

Student Data

1. Student Attendance Rate
2. Percent of American Indian/Alaskan Native Students
3. Percent of Asian/Pacific Islander Students
4. Percent of African American Students
5. Percent of Hispanic Students
6. Percent of Multi-Racial Students
7. Percent of White Students
8. Percent of Students with Disabilities
9. Percent of Economically Disadvantaged Students
10. Percent of English Learner Students
11. Percent of Migrant Students

Staff Data

1. Percent of Teachers with at Least a Bachelor's Degree
2. Percent of Teachers with at Least Master's Degree
3. Percent of Core Classes Taught by Properly Certified Teachers
4. Percent of Core Classes Taught by Teachers with Temporary/Conditional or Long-Term Substitute Licenses
5. Number of General Education Teachers
6. Number of Career-Technical Teachers
7. Number of Special Education Teachers
8. Number of Teacher Aides
9. Number of Gifted Intervention Specialists
10. Number of Fine Arts Teachers
11. Number of Music Teachers
12. Number of Physical Education Teachers
13. Number of EL Specialists
14. Number of Lead or Senior Teachers

Finance Data
1. Expenditure Per Pupil