

TCSA Quality Framework

What is it?

What it IS

- Common definition of quality
- Continuous improvement process
- Holistic—operational, financial, academic

What it IS NOT

- NOT a separate accountability system
- NOT pass / fail
- NOT an evaluation without action

Quality Framework: A Simple, 3-step Process

Step 1. Progress Self-Evaluation

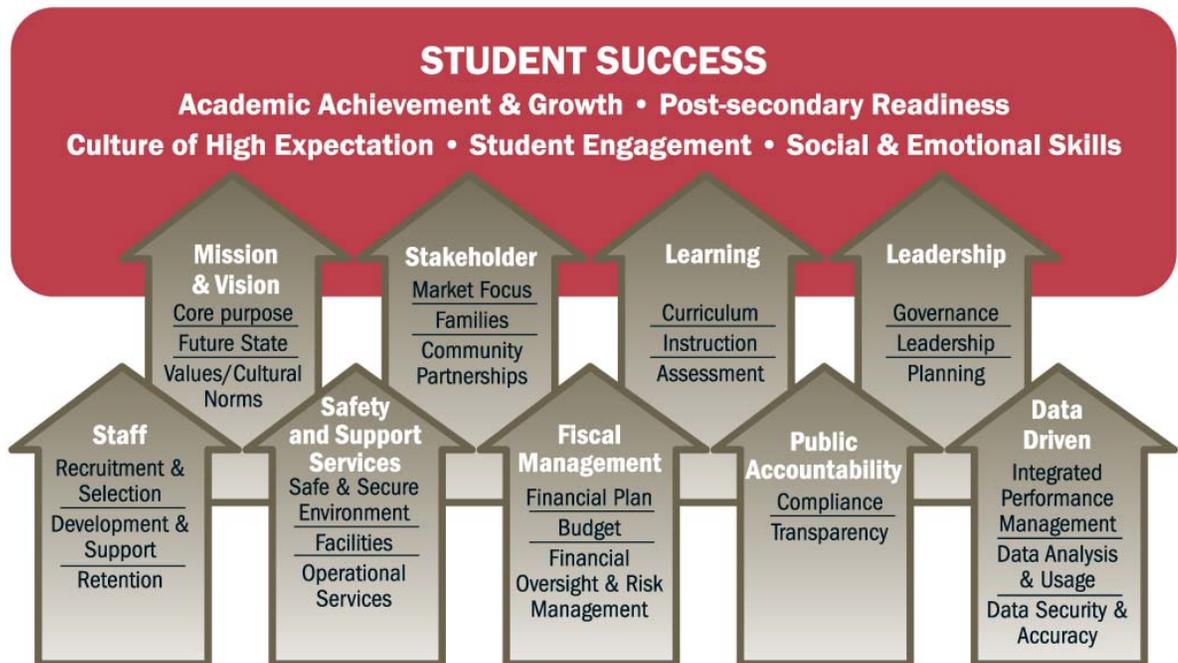
School leaders begin by engaging in a self-assessment of the current status of their schools within 10 Quality Framework systems. TCSA staff members are available to help support the process, but school leaders themselves choose how to conduct the evaluation.

Step 2. Review + Data Pack

TCSA visits with school leadership to review the Results Report and the Data Pack, two comprehensive reports that present both qualitative and quantitative school-level and district-level data to help schools identify and prioritize needs.

Step 3. Tools + Resources

TCSA works to match identified priorities with the tools, resources, and technical assistance that will help schools improve.



Highly Effective / Model Charter

Indicator: A succession plan is in place.

Level	Guiding Statements
<input type="radio"/> Model	Succession plan is updated annually to reflect changes in organizational structure.
<input type="radio"/> Highly Effective	Professional development is aligned to building core skills for sustainability.
<input type="radio"/> Effective	Succession plan includes actions during short-term emergencies to fill gaps in leadership. Succession plan includes development of leadership from within the organization. Succession plan includes description of ideal leadership candidates based appropriate job requirements as well as mission, vision, and values.
<input type="radio"/> Early Effective	Succession plan for key senior leaders is documented.
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Evident	No evidence consistently in place at the organization.

* A succession plan is in place.



Not Evident

Helped **high-performing school** discover need for and formulate succession plan to ensure school's sustainability.

Early Effective / Struggling Charter

Reading/ELA			
	2008	2009	2010
All Students	94	89	87
African American	92	73	50
Hispanic	94	92	90
White	93	90	90
Asian/Pacific Islander		99	99
Native American			

Math			
	2008	2009	2010
All Students	68	72	76
African American	43	36	50
Hispanic	89	75	71
White	68	75	80
Asian/Pacific Islander		80	80
Native American			

Perception versus actual data prevented an **improving school** from dedicating limited resources to an area of low need.

School leaders get real-time data on how their schools perform in order to prioritize needs and access best practices.





TCSA Quality Framework

TCSA Data Insights Into Actions

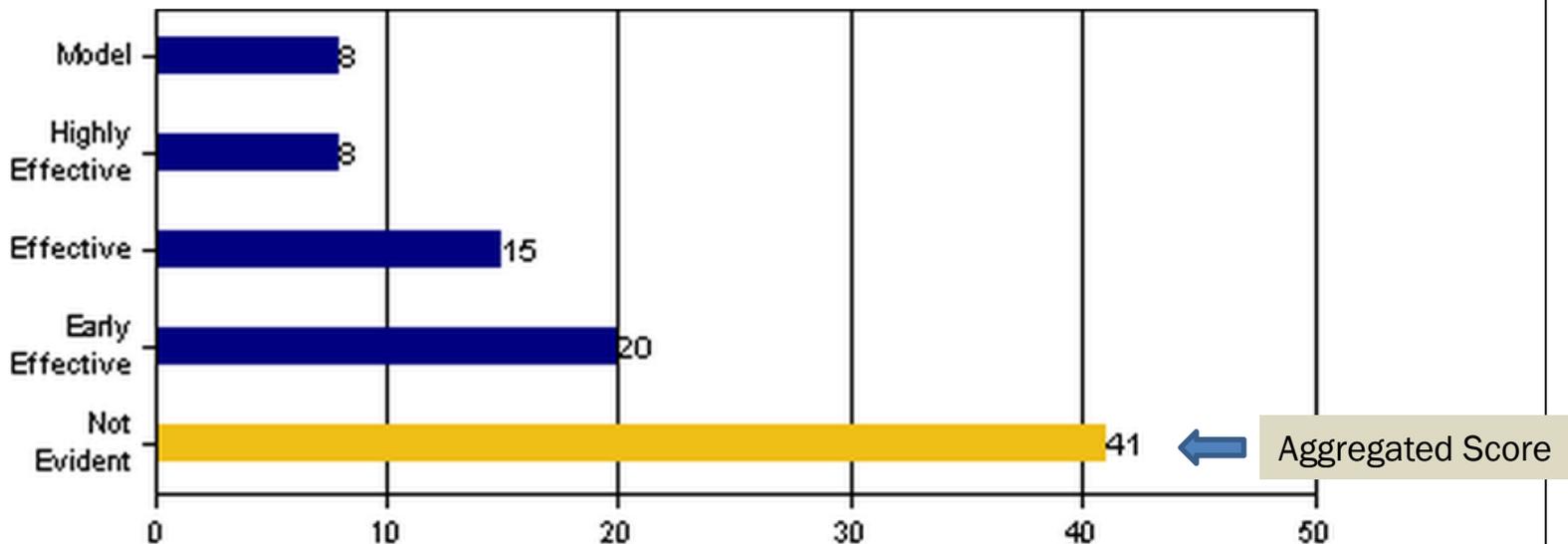
Aggregated data informs TCSA to provide statewide training, best practices, tools, and resources statewide in areas of highest need.

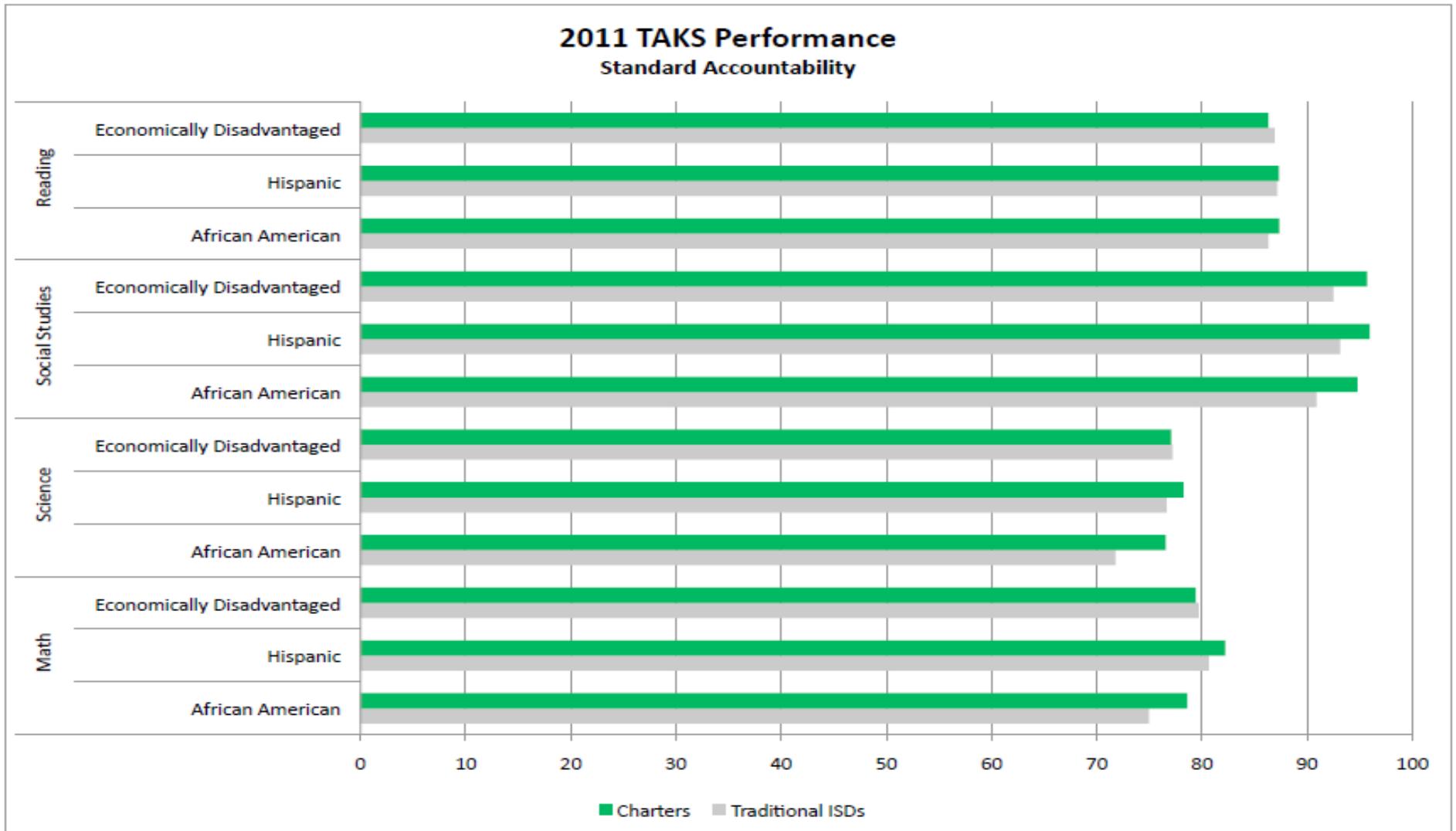
Indicator: A succession plan is in place.

* Note: this is a charter-holder level Indicator

Your score:  Not Evident  Individual School Score

How others rated themselves (your score category, if available, is denoted by the gold bar):





TODAY

Across the United States, there are more than 5,500 charter schools, educating more than two million children. Over 500 new public charter schools opened their doors in the 2011-12 school year, an estimated increase of 200,000 students. This year marks the largest single-year increase ever recorded in terms of the number of additional students attending charters.

CHARTER HISTORY

1991

The first public charter schools in the United States were created in 1991 in Minnesota.



MINNESOTA

74th Legislative Session

1995

Texas was not far behind when charter schools were authorized by the Texas Legislature in 1995 to provide another option to traditional public schools. In statute, legislators asked charter schools to improve student learning; increase choice and opportunities within the public school system; create professional opportunities to attract new teachers; establish a new form of accountability for public schools; and encourage different, innovative learning methods.

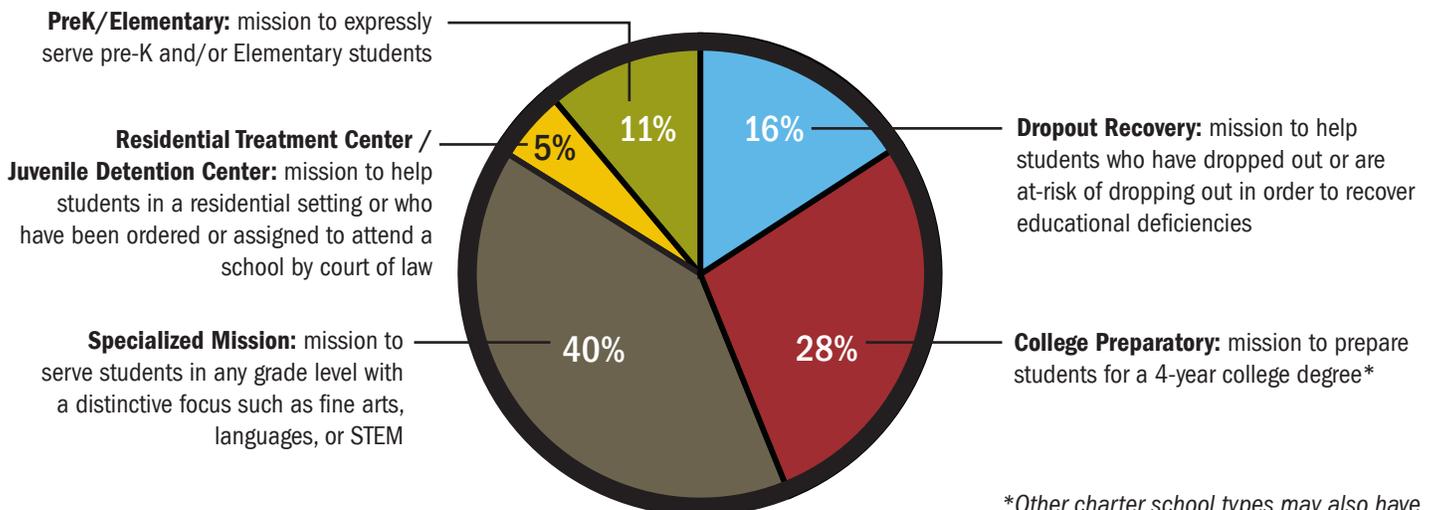


TEXAS

2008

Near the end of 2008, the Texas Charter Schools Association (TCSA) was formed by charter operators, philanthropic foundations, and business and community leaders to accelerate student achievement by improving and promoting a diverse set of effective and quality-driven public charter schools to provide opportunities and innovative education in Texas. Providing one voice for public charter schools in Texas, TCSA has advocated for favorable legislation to advance the charter school movement; created needed member services; established standards to measure academic results, leadership, public accountability and fiscal management at charter schools in Texas; and served as a resource for charter schools across the state.

FIVE CHARTER SCHOOL TYPES IN TEXAS



*Other charter school types may also have a college preparatory mission in addition to their main mission type.

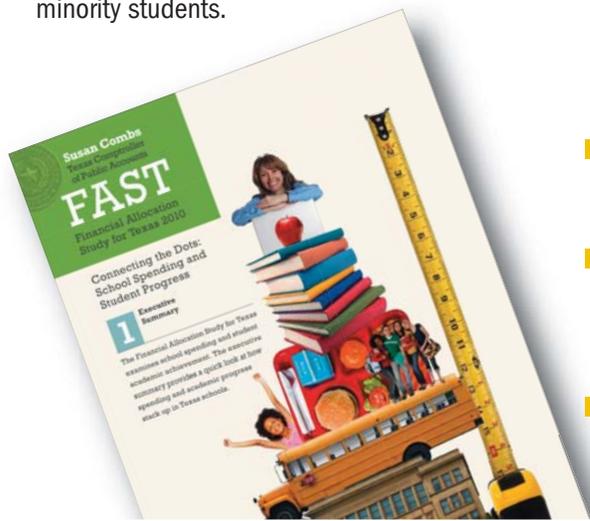
CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING

- Charter schools receive state funds based on the average daily attendance of students (same as traditional public schools).
- Charter schools **DO NOT** receive funds from local tax revenue and **DO NOT** receive state facilities funding (less funding than traditional public schools).



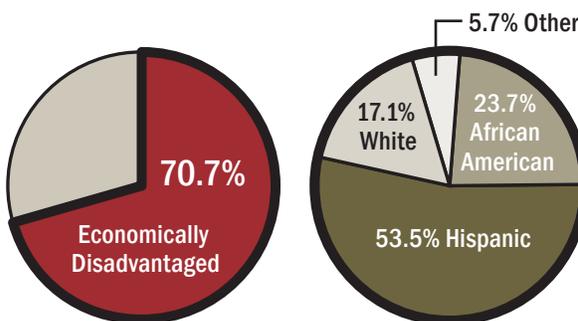
Texas Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools average general fund revenue per student 2005-2009.

- Charter schools receive approximately \$1,500 LESS in general fund revenue per pupil than traditional public schools, according to a Feb. 2011 Rolle study on funding inequities.
- According to the Texas Comptroller's FAST study, a quarter (25 percent) of the most effective schools in Texas are charter schools which means they improved student achievement while keeping expenditures relatively low. All this while Texas charter schools account for almost 3 percent of the student population, and educate a higher percentage of economically disadvantaged and minority students.



CHARTER SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY IN TEXAS

- Charter schools are tuition-free, open-enrollment public schools that have the flexibility to adapt to the educational needs of individual students and allow taxpayer education dollars to support student and parent choice.
- Charter school leaders are permitted more freedom in managing their schools with the complete autonomy over budget, staffing and curriculum. However, charter schools must still meet the rigorous academic and financial standards dictated by the State of Texas for all public schools.
- All charter school students take the same STAAR and TAKS tests as traditional public school students, and receive accountability ratings from the TEA.



Our charter schools, as a percentage, serve more African-American students, more Hispanic students, more economically disadvantaged students and more at risk students than traditional public schools. We serve only slightly fewer limited English proficient and special education students, as a percentage, than traditional public schools.

- In the most recent standard accountability TAKS passing rates (2009-2010), charter school students outperform traditional public school students in Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies for economically disadvantaged, Hispanic and African American students.

CHARTER SCHOOL NUMBERS AND CAP IN TEXAS

- The Texas State Board of Education is the sole authorizer for open-enrollment charter schools in Texas.
- Charter schools in Texas are arbitrarily capped at 215, which limits the growth of quality charter options for families and students. As of 2012, 205 charters are taken, which leaves ten available. There are at least 56,000 students on a waiting list to get into a charter school in Texas, and many times, charter schools will use a lottery-based admission system to fairly allocate those limited opportunities for a seat.
- Charter schools accept any student who applies (including using the lottery system), and many are serving at-risk, delinquent, or special needs students.
- Across Texas, there are 482 charter schools with an estimated 135,000 students attending. This represents 3% of the more than 4.9 million students in Texas schools.
- Nearly one tenth of charters are based in Texas, placing Texas third in the nation in the number of charter schools.