



SCSB Legislative Report

2021



Who is the State Charter School Board?

Charter schools must be authorized by an approved authorizer who:

May authorize and promote the establishment of charter schools

Shall annually review and evaluate the performance of charter schools and hold a charter school accountable for the school's performance



Who is the State Charter School Board?

SCSB is Utah's largest authorizer

91%
**of operating
charters in Utah**

Mission:

Advancing choice, innovation, and student success through rigorous authorizing and supportive oversight

Vision:

Every student has access to an excellent education that meets their unique learning needs



Fast Facts about Utah Charter Schools

79,179

students enrolled in a charter school
(12% of total public-school enrollment)

28%

of charter students are on **free or reduced-price lunch**

31%

of charter students are **students of color**

7%

of charter students are **English learners**



Fast Facts about Utah Charter Schools

14%

of charter students are in **special education**

136

charter schools in operation
(from all authorizers)

Charters authorized by the SCSB were provided flexibility in their charter agreement to respond to the pandemic



SCSB Ongoing Budget

\$1,830,500
Annually for operations

- \$159,200 for new school monitoring and technical assistance (normally \$200,000; 53F-2-705)
- Remainder in general fund
- Includes \$425,000 of new funds



SCSB Budget

\$400,000

**Annually for contracted
third-party mentoring
and trainings**

- \$200,000 for a mentoring program (53F-2-705)
- \$200,000 for regional seminars



SCSB Budget

\$1,630,800

**of start-up grants for
new charter schools;
grant reduced by
\$510,000**

- 53F-2-705
- Large carry-forward balance from not opening as many charter schools; have increased award amounts



SCSB Performance Data

**125 OPERATING
CHARTER SCHOOLS**
SERVING ALL 41 DISTRICTS (91%)

**176 NEW SCHOOL
APPLICATIONS**
SINCE 2006 WITH 39% APPROVAL RATE

28 SATELLITE APPLICATIONS
SINCE 2008 WITH 79% APPROVAL RATE

107 TRAININGS
PROVIDED TO GOVERNING BOARDS AND STAFF
INCLUDES FINANCIAL TRAININGS AND
INCREASED OUTREACH TO GOVERNING BOARDS

**VISITED OR MET WITH
38 CHARTERS**
LOWER DUE TO COVID-19
INCLUDES VIRTUAL VISITS



SCSB Oversight Performance Data SY2020

RECEIVED 431 COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIANCE ISSUES

178 WERE QUICKLY RESOLVED AND NEEDED NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION

253 CONCERNS INVESTIGATED

229 INVESTIGATIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED (90%)

24 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

NOTICE OF CONCERN, WARNING, PROBATION, CLOSURE

RESOLVED 15



Impacts from the COVID-19 Pandemic

REMOTE MEETINGS AND TRAININGS

INCREASED PARTICIPATION

In many cases

MORE EQUAL ACCESS

For those not on Wasatch Front

BETTER CONNECTION

With authorizers in other states

FEW IN-PERSON VISITS

To schools



Support to Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Based on feedback, determined most pressing needs for students

June 2020:

Made available the option of digital learning to every charter school we authorize who did not already have it in their charter agreement through the 2021-22 school year

August 2020:

Allowed flexibility in the enrollment caps for the statewide online charter schools who requested it



Support to Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic

PROVIDED TECHNICAL SUPPORT



Regular Directors Meetings



Answer Questions



Support Where Can



THANK YOU

Utah State Charter School Board

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