



Legislative Feedback regarding SCSB

In cooperation with the Administrative Rules Review and General Oversight Committee, this survey is being sent to charter schools in the hopes of providing useful feedback to the legislature and State Board of Education for the purposes of providing oversight to the State Charter School Board (SCSB).

These questions are designed to gather information related to how the SCSB handles complaints and whether the complaints or and subsequent investigations are handled properly. This will allow the committee to determine whether existing practices conform with the intent of statute, rule, and policy.

The survey is to be completed by the school leader and/or board chair. Nothing in the survey requires you to provide identifying information about your charter school unless you choose to provide the identifying information (e.g., name of school, name of school leader or board persons, or location). Note, all responses could be subject to the Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA). The intended use of this information is to inform and improve, not to focus on an individual within the SCSB. Utah should have the greatest charter school market in the nation. With your help, we are confident we can make sure Utah has healthy authorizing as a key component of a healthy charter school market.

Background Information

- 1. What grades does your charter school serve?**
- 2. How many years has your charter school been in operation?**
- 3. State statute lists the purposes of charter schools, including that they "establish new models of public schools and a new form of accountability for schools that emphasizes the measurement of learning outcomes and the creation of innovative measurement tools;" Do you feel your type charter school should be allowed to develop "a new form of accountability" to serve your specific student population?**
- 4. Have you ever avoided the SCSB out of concern that information provided would be used against you in a disciplinary proceeding?**

Complaint Details

- 5. Were you notified by the SCSB of compliance questions raised, or complaints made against your charter school prior to receiving a Notice of Concern?**
- 6. Were you able to have a meaningful discussion with the SCSB to resolve the question or complaint prior to any action being taken, to include a Notice of Concern?**
- 7. Do you believe the question, complaint and resulting action by the SCSB was more appropriately covered by an area of law overseen by another government agency (such as employment, food services, School Trust Lands, special education, etc.)?**
- 8. Was the basis of the complaint employment related?**



9. Did the SCSB engage in regulatory oversight of a question or complaint that should have remained the purview of the charter school board?

Resolution Process

10. Once notified by SCSB of a question, complaint or investigation, did the SCSB provide timely feedback to your response or inquiries?
11. At any point in the process did the SCSB staff engage in conduct such as contacting your parents or staff on social media without your knowledge or consent?
12. Were you able to reach, and raise concerns with SCSB members about the question, complaints, nature of process of the investigation, conduct of SCSB staff and/or your response?
13. Were you notified of the ability to appeal the decision by the SCSB?
14. Were you given a fair hearing before the SCSB Board, including the ability to call witnesses, provide exculpatory evidence, evidence of SCSB misconduct, etc.?
15. At any time was the investigation taken into an executive session, and you were not allowed to participate?
16. At any time were you told by legal counsel from the State Office or Attorney General's office that if you did not do as directed, they would, or it may be grounds for further, much more aggressive legal action, such as civil or criminal action against individual board members?
17. Do you believe, or have evidence that you were targeted by the SCSB for any reason?

Statutory Adjustments

18. Do you believe the SCSB is measuring success by the number of notices sent to charters? And, if so, is this the proper measurement of job performance?
19. Do you believe an Authorizer should be a trusted partner with charter schools to resolve concerns, or that they should solely observe compliance requirements?
20. Do you believe a charter school should be able to appeal the recommendation of SCSB staff prior to the SCSB Board taking action?
21. Do you believe the SCSB should adopt a Code of Ethics relative to how they treat charter schools, boards of directors, directors, staff, and parents, relative to questions, complaints, and investigations?
22. A healthy relationship between charter schools and their authorizers is essential for a vibrant charter school market. Do you believe that reforming the SCSB is sufficient? Should we have another authorizer with the capacity to oversee dozens of charter schools?



Additional Information

23. If allowed, would you like to address the State Legislative Administrative Rules Review and General Oversight Committee to tell your story?

24. Do you fear retaliation from the SCSB for sharing your opinion?