

**AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**I. Public Education Commission Meeting Date: June 15, 2017**

**II. Item Title:**

PEC Comments

**III. Proposed Motion:**

**IV. Executive Summary:**

PEC Chair Patricia Gipson will ask Commissioners for comments.

# AUTHORIZER'S GUIDE TO TRANSPARENCY

Many of NACSA's 12 essential practices are centered around one touchstone: transparency. Why is this so important to quality authorizing?

## 5 EXAMPLES OF QUALITY AUTHORIZING PRACTICES ELEVATED THROUGH INCREASED TRANSPARENCY



### 1 • APPROVING HIGH QUALITY CHARTER APPLICATIONS

- Publicly posting process timelines and application materials well in advance of due dates.
- Sharing the rubrics or criteria used to evaluate applications.
- Communicating authorizer priorities for new school models, themes, or geographic locations.
- Describing each stage of the review process.
- Making successful applications available for review by potential applicants and community members.



### 2 • CLEARLY COMMUNICATING PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

- Posting performance frameworks or charter agreements that outline consistent expectations for each school.
- Referring to renewal requirements early and often throughout each school's charter term.
- Delineating the types of decisions that fall within schools' autonomy and which require authorizer input or approval to modify a charter contract.



### 3 • MONITORING AND REPORTING ON EACH SCHOOL'S RESULTS AND COMPLIANCE RECORD REGULARLY

- Providing pre-opening checklists and procedures to allow schools to prepare adequately.
- Sharing and posting reporting timelines to streamline school to authorizer communications.
- Preparing and making public an annual report summarizing each school's progress towards meeting academic, financial, and organizational goals each year.



### 4 • INTERVENING WHEN SCHOOLS ARE NOT MEETING EXPECTATIONS

- Sharing intervention protocols, including information on what triggers authorizer intervention.
- Documenting communication with schools of concern and their boards.
- Providing clear expectations and timelines for improvement.
- Articulating charter revocation criteria and processes prior to decision making.



### 5 • MAKING SOUND RENEWAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS

- Posting renewal criteria to inform all stakeholders.
- Describing renewal application and evaluation processes in detail, and making them readily available online.
- Providing a review window to allow for school leadership and boards to respond to written findings and preliminary recommendations.
- Sharing closure protocols and means of informing the community of any non-renewal recommendations.

## BONUS

Operationalizing transparency can positively impact office culture by:

- Rallying staff around a shared mission and vision for high quality authorizing that will result in high quality educational outcomes for students.
- Improving internal communication patterns, such as frequent and candid feedback cycles, to drive continual professional development.
- Generating buy in from staff around goal setting and change management directives, increasing staff satisfaction, growth, and retention.