



**I. GOVERNANCE**

**1. Which governing entity or entities should be granted the power to authorize a charter school? [*choose one*]**

- a. BESE and the local school boards (current law)
- b. Only BESE
- c. Only local school boards
- d. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**2. Should the number of BESE-authorized Type 2, 4, and 5 charter schools in Louisiana be limited or “capped”?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**3. Current Louisiana law allows each charter school’s board to contract for the charter school’s day-to-day operations with either a non-profit or for-profit charter management organization. Should contracting with for-profit charter management organizations be legal?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**4. Should it be a requirement for authorization that charter school boards *[choose all that apply]*:**

- a. include at least one parent/guardian of children attending that school
- b. include some representation of the various demographic groups within that school board's jurisdiction
- c. represent the geographical area of the students attending that school, regardless of type of charter school
- d. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**5. Act 91 by New Orleans Senator Karen Carter Peterson, passed in the 2016 Regular Legislative Session, required all Recovery School District schools to be returned to the jurisdiction of the Orleans Parish School Board by July 1, 2019. In the same way, should there be a general law applying to any local school district in Louisiana to establish a formal process and timeline for the return of a Recovery School District's charter school, or schools, to the jurisdiction of its local school board?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**6. What further steps beyond early revocation or in the contract's renewal should BESE, local school boards, and the legislature take to ensure full compliance with federal and state applicable laws and with BESE policies? *[Select all that apply]***

- a. Require unannounced visits and assessment of each charter school throughout each year
- b. Require higher and more specifically outlined academic, financial and/or organizational standards, or goals, to be met for both initial and renewal contracts

\_\_\_ c. Authorize a maximum of only five years for renewal for any charter, regardless of its outcomes

\_\_\_ d. Reduce a school's board contract to one year before renewal upon any violation of its charter, unless preferable to close the school by the end of that school year

\_\_\_ e. Limit the number of charter schools that can be authorized until full compliance is reached by those schools BESE or the local school board has already authorized or has closed

\_\_\_ f. Require a new contract for each charter school proposed by the same existing charter school operator; disallow any operator whose charter school was closed from opening another in Louisiana

\_\_\_ g. Protect whistleblowers from retaliation

\_\_\_ h. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**7. For transparency, BESE should require each charter school's board to maintain which of the following (*check all that apply*):**

\_\_\_ a. open access to a website that provides its entire contract with its authorizer

\_\_\_ b. timely public notice that meets Open Meetings law for public bodies.

\_\_\_ c. a list of the current board and board member's contact information

\_\_\_ d. approved minutes of each board meeting sequentially for each year and past years

\_\_\_ e. the school's most current School Performance Score

\_\_\_ f. an explanation of the complaint and appeal process

\_\_\_ g. discipline policies or student/parent handbook containing them

\_\_\_ h. contact information for the school, including the address and name of the school leader

\_\_\_ i. school's annual financial reports.

COMMENTS:

**8. Louisiana Department of Education's duties should include:**

- a. marketing and recruitment of qualified applicants as charter operators
- b. negotiating or brokering agreements towards charter school approval by BESE
- c. both a. and b.
- d. neither a. nor b.
- e. no consensus

**II. FINANCE AND FUNDING**

**9. Should all state of Louisiana public education mandates be funded so as not to place a financial burden on the budgets of local districts that have charter schools in their enrollment zones?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**10. Should the allocation of state funding per student to virtual charter schools (computer-based distance learning) be reviewed and evaluated at required intervals to determine whether their funding level is appropriate?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No Consensus

COMMENTS:

**11. If a facility used for a charter school is privately owned and leased using MFP or other public funds, the terms of the mortgage or lease shall be disclosed, evaluated by the Louisiana Department of Education and the Board of Elementary Education, and reported publicly to protect the taxpayer's interest in the facility being retained at reasonable cost.**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No Consensus

COMMENTS:

**12. When a charter school board contracts with not-for-profit or for-profit charter school management organizations, should the financial records of the management organization be required to be disclosed, subject to financial oversight, and audited annually?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**13. Should the Louisiana Department of Education require prompt compliance by the charter school to any material findings issued by Louisiana’s legislative auditor in its review of Types 2, 4 and 5 charter schools?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No Consensus

COMMENTS:

**14. As a recipient of public education funds, should charter school boards be required to meet the same procurement requirements as other public schools, including competitive bids and public disclosure for: *[choose all that apply]***

- a. Acquisition of sites                       Yes    No    No consensus
- b. Construction of facilities               Yes    No    No consensus
- c. Purchasing of supplies                   Yes    No    No consensus
- d. Purchasing of equipment               Yes    No    No consensus
- e. Purchasing of services                   Yes    No    No consensus
- f. Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

**15. Should all movable property, equipment, and reusable supplies purchased by a charter school with public dollars be surrendered to the authorizer if the charter school closes for any reason?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**III. ACCESSIBILITY AND EQUITY**

**16. How should the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education work to ensure that the needs of special education students are met in Louisiana’s charter schools? (*Check all that apply*)**

- a. Regular monitoring by LDE staff of charter school identification and evaluation processes for student populations suspected of having a disability.
- b. Well-trained, certified LDE staff to conduct on site monitoring of school practices for students with special needs
- c. Transparent and easily accessible recourse for parents/guardians of students with special needs for understanding rights of students and responsibilities for schools, as well as process to register grievances
- d. Discipline plans consistent with best practices for special needs students and monitored for compliance
- e. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**17. Should transportation services for all charter schools be consistent with those required for traditional public schools?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No Consensus

COMMENTS:

**18. Should any transportation waiver issued by the Louisiana Department of Education and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education require a public process and provide for public details outlining the reasons for the waiver?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No Consensus



COMMENTS:

**19. Should BESE and the local school board as authorizers prioritize the proposed location of a charter school? (*Choose one*):**

a. No, the location should be determined by market forces.

b. Yes, the authorizer should determine the location of the charter school in negotiation with the charter school operator.

c. No consensus

COMMENTS:

**20. Should Louisiana’s charter school authorizers exercise authority over enrollment practices of charter schools to ensure that they meet their statutory obligations for a balance of enrollment that reflects the enrollment of the school district in which the charter school resides?**

a. Yes

b. No

c. No Consensus

COMMENTS:

**21. Which of the following measures should the Louisiana Department of Education take to ensure that each charter school complies with at risk enrollment law (*check all that apply*):**

a. Require demonstration of their yearly progress toward the target enrollment resulting from recruitment efforts

b. Revoke the charter of schools that fail after a specified period of time to show substantial growth.

c. Decline to renew the charter of a school that is unable to meet the at risk enrollment requirement

d. Annually monitor and report to public efforts on the part of the non-compliant charter schools to recruit and retain at risk students

COMMENTS:

**22. Should charter school authorization be contingent upon a detailed review and impact analysis of enrollment across the school district in which the charter school applicant seeks approval?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No Consensus

COMMENTS:

**23. Should the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Louisiana Department of Education ensure that students' civil rights are protected in every education setting, including charter schools?**

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. No Consensus

COMMENTS:

**24. Should the Louisiana legislature allow for special charter schools that serve only populations such as students with federal disabilities or 504 classifications as a: (*check which apply*)**

**A. Day special school?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No consensus

**B. Residential special school**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No consensus

COMMENTS: