



Annual Report

Of

The Educational Service Center of Central Ohio

Sponsored

Community Schools

2021-2022

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The Educational Service Center of Central Ohio (ESCCO) considers the well-being of students the fundamental value informing all decisions and actions. The ESCCO'S purpose for charter school authorizing is to improve the quality of each school by holding schools accountable for their performance and using objective and verifiable measures of student achievement to verify success.

The Community School Department has a mission to monitor each of its community schools through quality sponsorship for the benefit of the students in each of the sponsored schools. Although sponsoring is a small part of the ESC's portfolio, it is dedicated to best practices for effective school choice options for parents, as supported by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) and has the following goals:

- Education: To monitor and assess the goals of the Education Plan of the sponsorship agreement, aligning them with the Assessment and Accountability Plan.
- Governance: To monitor and assist with governance compliance.
- Finance: To monitor and provide feedback for fiscal viability and sustainability, providing intervention if needed.
- Accountability: To monitor and evaluate legal compliance as well as areas of the contract.
- Technical Assistance: To provide technical assistance in all aspects of successful school programming.

The ESCCO expects clarity, consistency and transparency in implementing all contractual responsibilities defined for both the authorizer and each school governing board. Additionally, the ESCCO will be equally insistent that the rights and responsibilities of each party, their autonomy, expected outcomes and gains, as well as, measures for success or failure are clearly communicated in the contract.

The ESCCO conducts contract oversight that evaluates performance, monitors legal and contractual compliance, protects student rights, ensures autonomy and informs intervention and renewal decisions. The ESCCO is committed to a comprehensive performance accountability system that demonstrates transparency and rigor and that uses comprehensive data over the term of a charter to inform a fair and rigorous renewal decision-making process.

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[ESC Department of Community Schools Guidance Document](#) -- descriptions of our oversight and evaluation systems that include processes, and policies.

2021-2022 ESCCO Sponsored Community Schools RATINGS
Followed by Individual School Annual Reports

The ESCCO sponsored eight (6) schools during the 2021-2022 school year. They were:

Early College Academy	(IRN – 000912)
Graham Elementary and Middle School	(IRN – 011461)
Oakstone Community School	(IRN – 000679)
The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University	(IRN – 007999)
The Graham School	(IRN – 133421)
The Maritime Academy of Toledo	(IRN – 000770)

Each school was rated in the areas of academic performance, fiscal performance, organization/operation, and legal compliance. Ratings were **met**, **exceeded**, or **did not meet**. Legal compliance was rated as **met** or **did not meet**. Each school will be going through the sponsorship renewal process next school year culminating in a High Stakes Review. That process was delayed last year to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Current expiration dates of the contracts follow the titles of each school. Individual Annual Reports representing each school follow the Performance Report Ratings. These six schools served over 1600 students as enrollment fluctuated due to the pandemic. Nevertheless, all remained open providing remote, hybrid, and in-person instruction.

Performance Report Ratings

Please note that the state's education community experienced unprecedented disruptions during the 2020-2021 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. State report cards continue to look different than in prior years. There were no ratings available from 2019-2021. For the 2021-2022 report card, the indicators were changed and not as much information was available as in past report cards. Additional information can be found on the Department's [Report Card Resources webpage](#). The schools successfully completed academic meetings throughout 2021-2022 using internal data to

monitor students growth by comparing baseline, mid-year, and year-end student data through extended state standards, STAR Assessments, and MAP Assessments.

Each school utilizes an on-line compliance repository system known as Epicenter for the submission of compliance items needed by the sponsor and the state. All documents are archived from year to year and schools have a master calendar of submissions for each school year.

Early College Academy (Contract expires June 30, 2024.)

Academic Performance – Met

Met or exceeded all components of the report card with the exception of needed improvement in achievement.

Fiscal Performance -- Met

All fiscal documents were found to be compliant. There had been a decline in enrollment with a potential effect on funding and future budgets. The school ended the year with 108.31 FTE's which was a decrease from the year before.

Operation/Organization -- Met

The school's governing authority complies with the community school contract, Code of Regulations, meeting and training requirements, monthly fiscal reviews, board minutes, and meeting requirements. Epicenter submissions for the year were submitted and completed. Board leadership and member participation, as well as policy development have continued to improve. The sponsor has no concerns related to overall operation of the school. The school completed a move during the summer of 2021 resulting in a new address – 137 E. State Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215. Full occupancy of the building was awarded for the upper floor in February of 2022.

Legal Compliance -- Met

The school has met all requirements for state and local laws, statute, policies, and procedures and the community school contract.

Graham Elementary and Middle School (Contract expires June 30, 2024.)

Academic Performance – Met

The school showed great gains in the progress component on the report card.

Fiscal Performance – Met

All fiscal documents were found to be compliant. The Graham School served as the management company/operator for the Graham Elementary and Middle School and The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University. The school ended the year with 319.06 FTE's which was a decrease from the year before.

Operation/Organization -- Met

The school's governing authority complies with the community school contract, Code of Regulations, meeting and training requirements, monthly fiscal reviews, board minutes, and meeting requirements. The school's on-time and accuracy percentages were at 100%. The sponsor has no concerns related to overall operation of the school. The board complied with and executed the educational program and defined in the contract.

Legal Compliance – Met

The school has met all requirements for state and local laws, statute, policies, and procedures and the community school contract.

Oakstone Community School (Contract expires June 30, 2024.)

Academic Performance – Met

The school utilizes extended state standards for special education students since 100% of their students are on IEP's with the vast majority being on the autism spectrum. Assessments are designed in conjunction with the standards and individualized to students. The school made gains in the progress component which reflects growing individual students from year to year.

Fiscal Performance – Met

All fiscal documents were found to be compliant. The school ended the year with 217.2 FTE's.

Operation/Organization - Met

The school's governing authority complies with the community school contract, Code of Regulations, meeting and training requirements, monthly fiscal reviews, board minutes, and meeting requirements. Epicenter submissions were on time, often early, and accurate. Enrollment is stable and board member participation, self-evaluation, and policy development are well done. Board members are exceptionally involved in committee work and the treasurer is very communicative with the board.

Legal Compliance – Met

The school has met all requirements for state and local laws, statute, policies, and procedures and the community school contract.

The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University (Contract expires June 30, 2024.)

Academic Performance – Met

The school improved on the progress component of the report card.

Fiscal Performance – Met

All fiscal documents were found to be compliant. The Graham School served as the management company/operator for Graham Elementary and Middle School and The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University. The school ended the year with 302.73 FTE's – a decrease from the year before.

Operation/Organization – Met

The school's governing authority complies with the community school contract, Code of Regulations, meeting and training requirements, monthly fiscal reviews, board minutes, and meeting requirements. The school's on-time and accuracy percentages were at 100%. The sponsor has no concerns related to overall operation of the school. The board complied with and executed the educational program and defined in the contract.

Legal Compliance – Met

The school has met all requirements for state and local laws, statute, policies, and procedures and the community school contract.

The Graham School (Contract expires June 30, 2024.)

Academic Performance – Met

Fiscal Performance – Met

All fiscal documents were found to be compliant. The Graham School served as the management company for Graham Elementary and Middle School and The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University. The school ended the year with 195.38 FTE's remaining fairly stable in enrollment.

There has been an ongoing concern for TGS because the financial statements cannot reflect the obligation the other two schools have to help resolve the liabilities TGS takes on as a result of hiring all the staffing. Liabilities for salaries and benefits coupled with their debt are the reason they have this issue. In 2021-2022, federal monies were still available which assisted the school. Monitoring will continue; however, the school met fiscal performance in 2021-2022.

Operation/Organization -- Met

The school's governing authority complies with the community school contract, Code of Regulations, meeting and training requirements, monthly fiscal reviews, board minutes, and meeting requirements. The school's on-time and accuracy percentages were at 100%. The sponsor has no concerns related to overall operation of the school. The board complied with and executed the educational program and defined in the contract.

Legal Compliance – Met

The school has met all requirements for state and local laws, statute, policies, and procedures and the community school contract.

The Maritime Academy of Toledo (Contract expires June 30, 2024.)

Academic Performance – Met

The school received its second strike towards potential closure for 2018-2019 state testing results. The school submitted an improvement plan for the 2019-2020 school year. Safe harbor was issued to community schools as a result of the global pandemic and report cards were not issued for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. Community schools were issued safe harbor and, therefore, strikes were erased. Report cards returned for the 2021-2022 school year and all schools start with zero strikes. They showed some improvement in the progress component; however, continue to need improvement across state reported areas. The Ohio strike policy is scheduled to return in 2023 based on the 2022-2023 performance ratings.

Fiscal Performance – Met

All submitted fiscal documents were found to be compliant. The five-year financial forecast is projecting financial challenges that must be addressed by the school to ensure their continued operations. The school ended the year with 259.21 FTE's – a decrease from the year before.

Operation/Organization - Met

The school submitted compliance documents via Epicenter. Enrollment is down but stable, and board leadership and member participation, as well as policy development are excellent. Staffing has changed quite a bit over the course of the year causing the need to train faculty in school initiatives as well as some retraining. The school receives support from multiple entities and continues to move the organization forward.

Legal Compliance – Met

The school has met all requirements for state and local laws, statute, policies, and procedures and the community school contract.

- *All schools have been reminded that as federal ESSER funds discontinue, budgets should be adjusted accordingly.*