



PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee

February 8, 2017

1:00 PM

Mashburn Hall (306 HOB)

Meeting Packet

**Richard Corcoran
Speaker**

**Chris Latvala
Chair**

Committee Meeting Notice

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee

Start Date and Time: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 01:00 pm
End Date and Time: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 03:00 pm
Location: Mashburn Hall (306 HOB)
Duration: 2.00 hrs

Overview of Charter School Accountability

NOTICE FINALIZED on 02/01/2017 4:18PM by Jones.Missy



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Florida Charter School Sector

House PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee

February 8, 2017

Presented by: Adam Miller, Executive Director
Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice
Florida Department of Education

www.FLDOE.org

What is a Charter School?

- Is a Public School
- School of choice
- Governed by independent non-profit governing board
- Autonomy in exchange for increased accountability

Charter Schools: Principles and Purpose

Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes

- Guiding Principles
 - Meet high standards of student achievement while providing parents choices
 - Promote enhanced academic success
 - Provide parents information about their child's performance and growth
- Purpose
 - Improve student learning and academic achievement
 - Increase learning opportunities for students, with special emphasis on low-performing students
 - Encourage use of innovative learning methods
 - Require measurement of learning outcomes

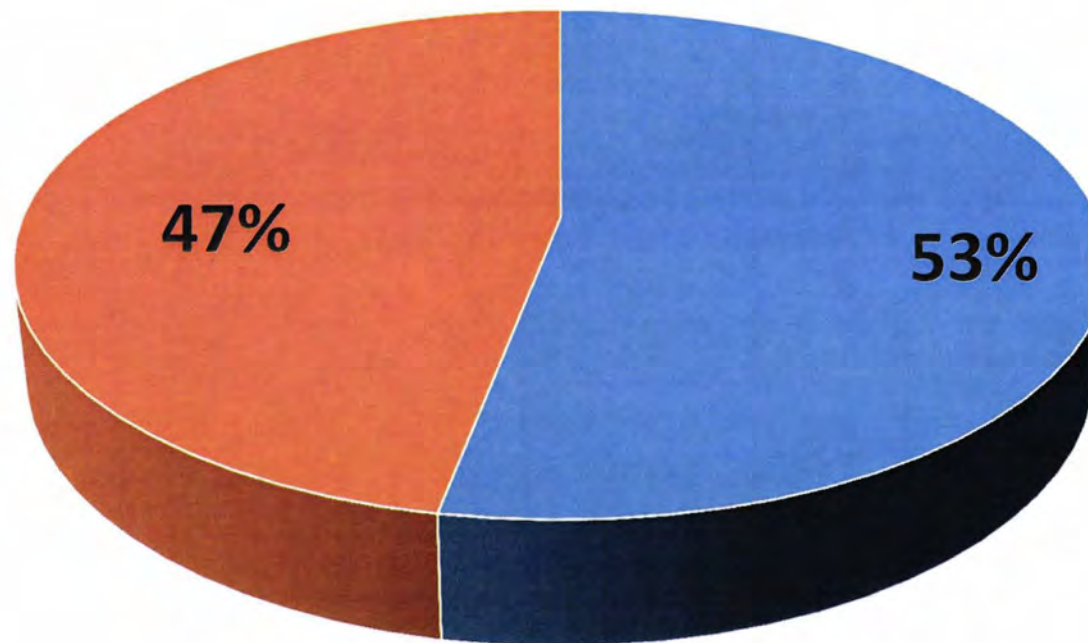
Types of Charter Schools

- Start-Up
 - Brick and mortar or Virtual
 - Standard, Municipality, Workplace, Collegiate High School
- Conversion
 - Parents and Teachers vote to convert traditional public school
 - Majorities needed for both votes
 - Application submitted to local school board after vote
- Developmental Research Laboratory Charters
 - Sponsored and operated by State University

Models

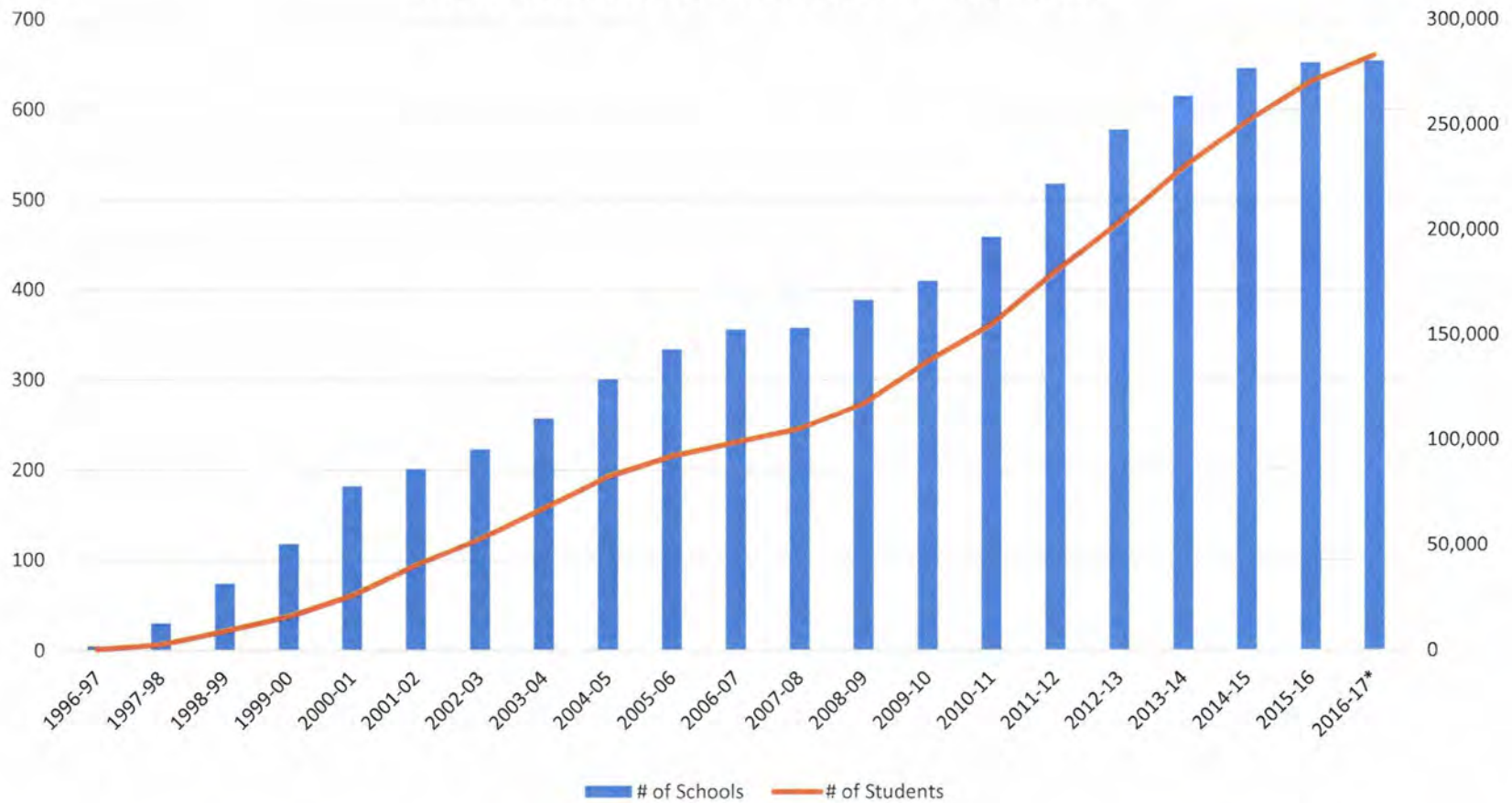
- Independent
 - Non-Profit governing board
 - May have contracts with individual vendors
 - No contract for comprehensive services
- Charter Management Organization (CMO)
 - Non-profit governing board
 - Non-profit network affiliation
- Educational Management Organization (EMO)
 - Non-profit governing board
 - Performance-based contract with EMO for comprehensive services

Models: 2014-15 School Year

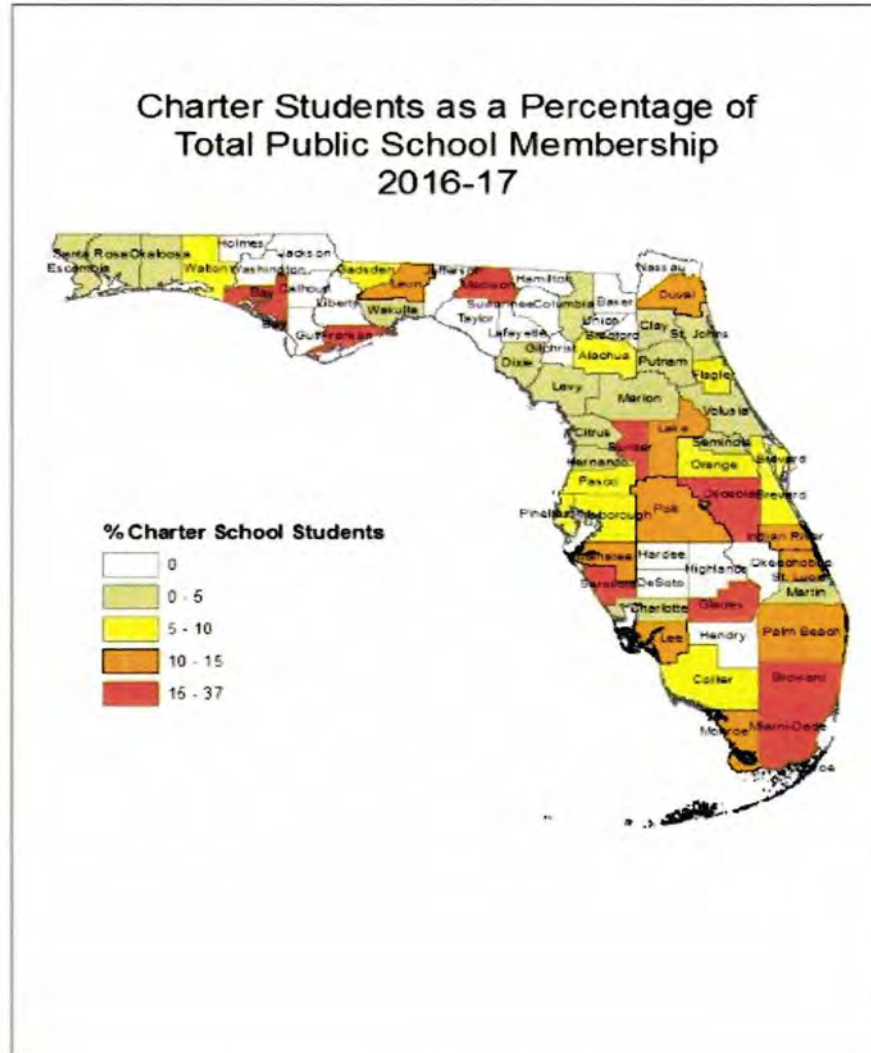


■ Independent ■ Management Company

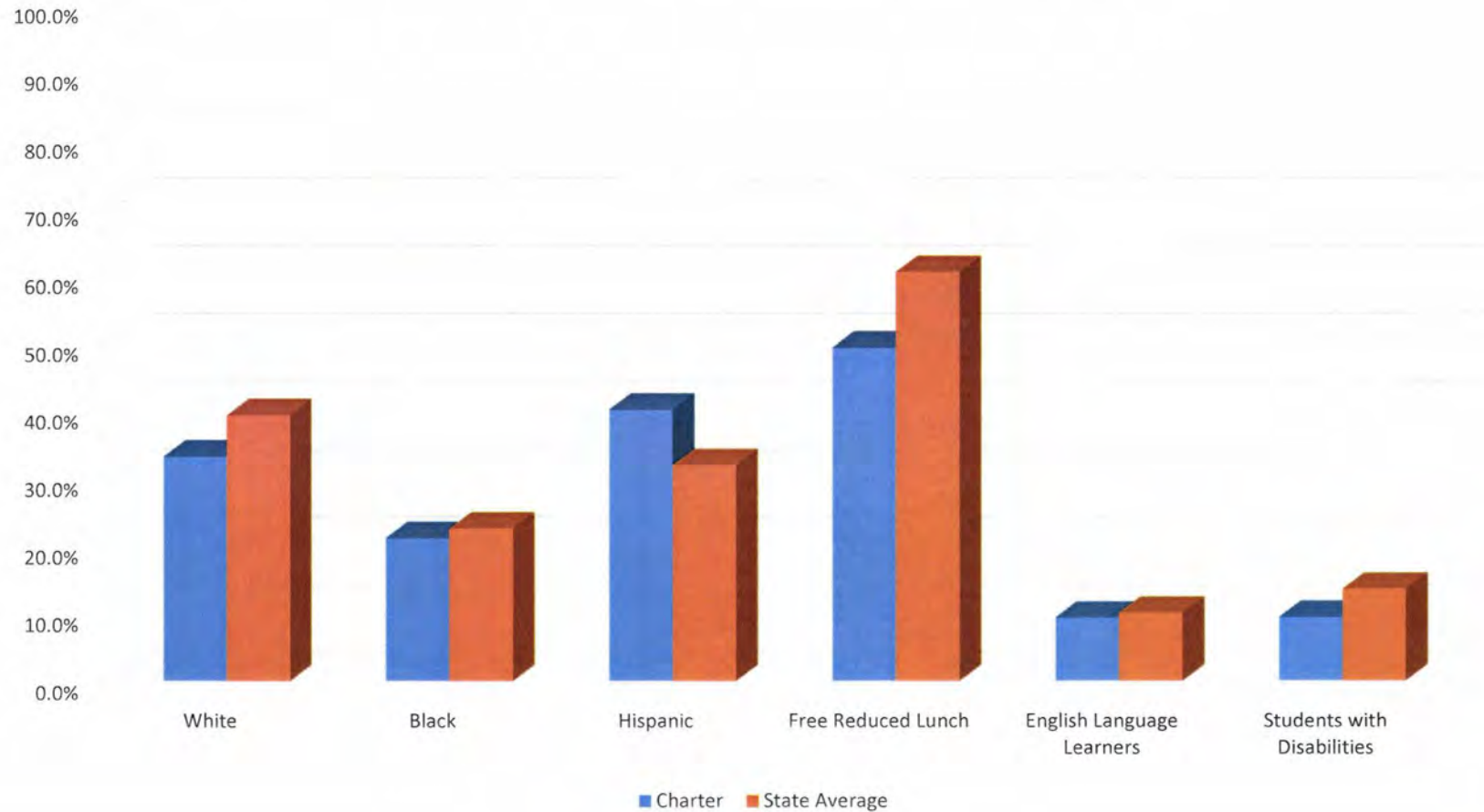
Charter School Growth: 1995-2017



Charter Students as a Percentage of Total Public School Membership 2016-17



Demographic Comparison: 2015-16



Funding: Operational

- Students enrolled in a charter school, regardless of the sponsorship, shall be funded as if they are in a basic program or a special program, the same as students enrolled in other public schools in the school district
- District withholds administrative fee of up to 5% of FEFP
 - 5% for up to 250 students
 - 2% for charter schools designated as high-performing
 - Example: 250 student middle school- \$75,000

Funding: Federal

- If the district school board is providing programs or services to students funded by federal funds, any eligible students enrolled in charter schools in the school district shall be provided federal funds for the same level of service provided students in the schools operated by the district school board

Charter School Fixed Capital Outlay Funding

Section 1013.62, Florida Statutes

- Annual appropriation
- Eligibility criteria (s. 1013.62, F.S.)
 - 2 full years of operation complete
 - Several exceptions to the 2-year requirement, including SACS accreditation
 - Financial and academic standing
 - Approved by District to operate
 - Cannot operate in District owned facility
- Approximately 80% of existing charter schools receive charter school capital outlay
- Allocated to schools on per FTE basis
- Weighted funding for schools that serve certain populations
 - > 75% Free or reduced lunch
 - > 25% Students with disabilities
- Avg. \$217 per FTE (2015-16)

Charter School Authorizing Process

Applications

Application Review
Applicant Interview
Due Diligence

Contract Negotiations

Academic Expectations
Renewal/Non Renewal
Terms
Financial Accountability

Monitoring and Oversight

Academic, Financial,
Operational Performance
Compliance
Renewal/Closure Decisions

Model Forms for Charter Schools and Sponsors

- Model Forms
 - **Charter School Application**
 - Application Evaluation Instrument
 - Charter School Standard Contract
- Purpose
 - Ensure rigor and consistency
 - Set high standards for charter approvals and performance

Model Charter School Application

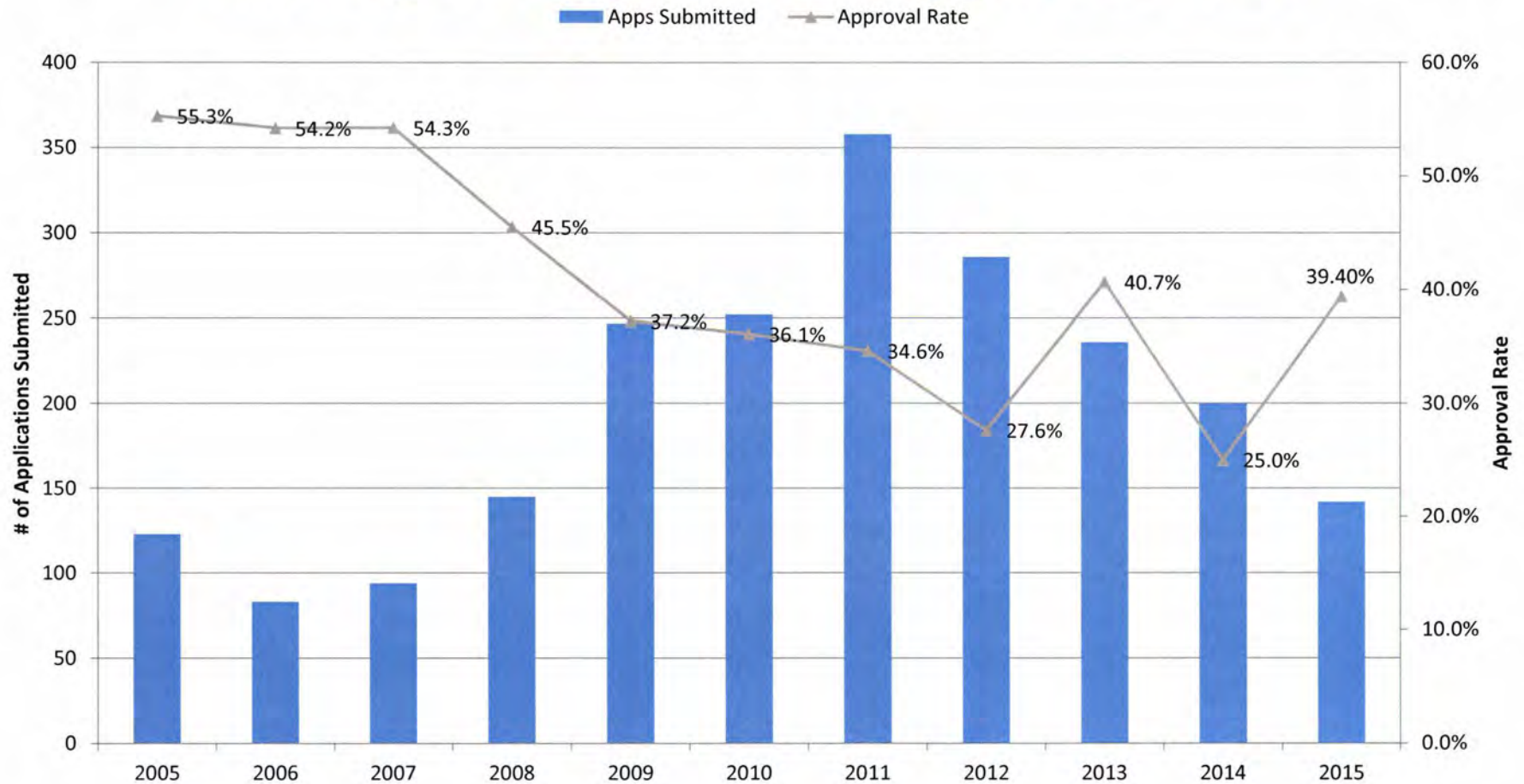
- Required for all applicants
- Developed in consultation with districts, operators, and national experts (2009)
- Districts may request information of the applicant in addition to what is on the model application
- Originally adopted in 2010, with subsequent revisions

Model Application Outline

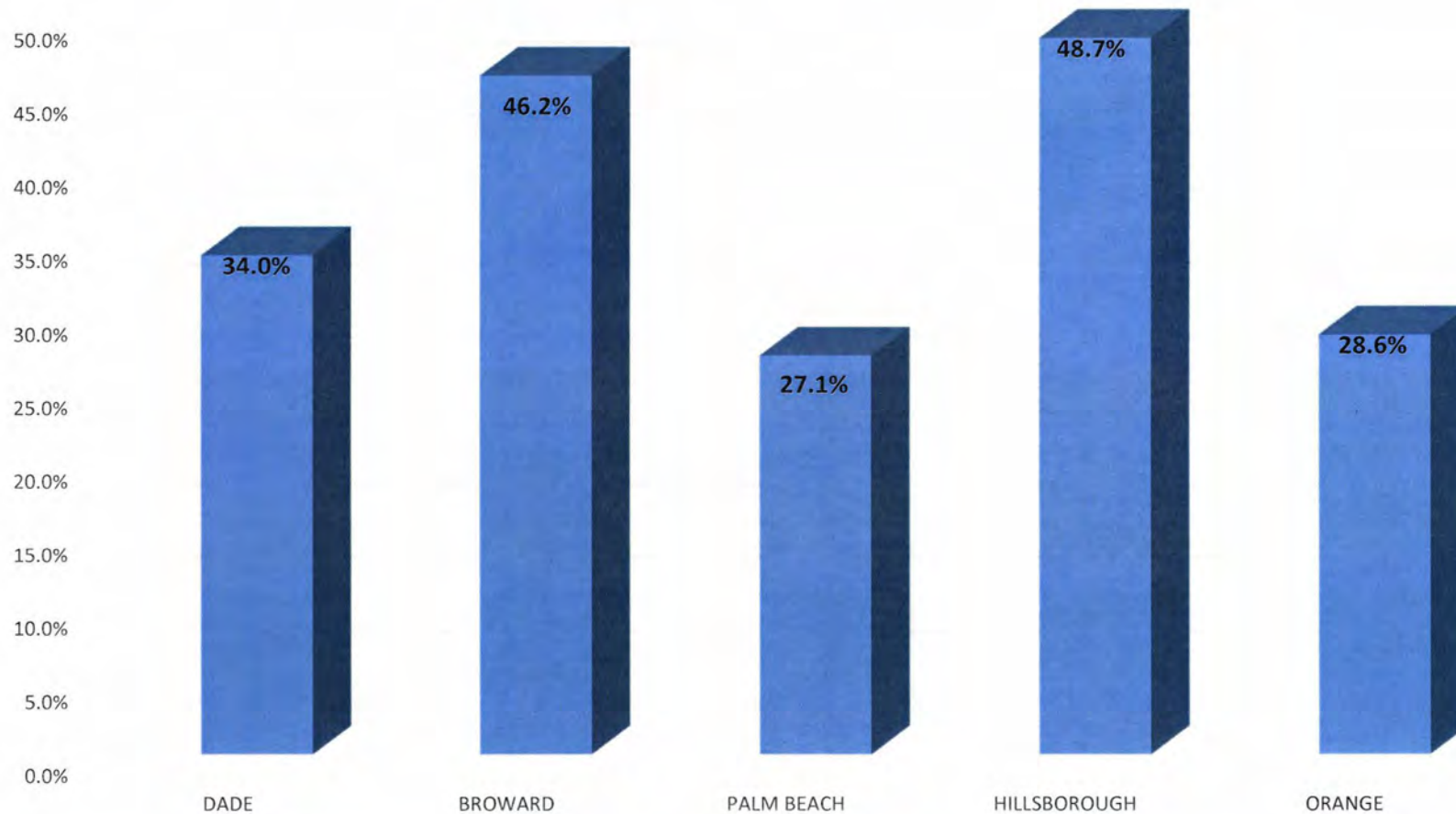
Cover Sheet		
Executive Summary		
Educational Plan	Organizational Plan	Business Plan
Mission, Guiding Principles and Purpose (4)	Governance (12)	Facilities (5)
Target Population and Student Body (3)	Management & Staffing (5)	Transportation Service (1)
Educational Program Design (5)	Human Resources and Employment (6)	Food Service (1)
Curriculum Plan (6)	Professional Development (4)	School Safety and Security (1)
Student Performance, Assessment and Evaluation (12)	Student Recruitment and Enrollment (3)	Budget (7)
Exceptional Students (11)	Parent and Community Involvement (3)	Financial Management and Oversight (8)
English Language Learners (4)		Start-Up Plan (1)
School Climate and Discipline (8)		
Supplemental Programming (1)		
Replications (7)		
Education Service Providers (20)		
Applicant History Worksheet		

www.FLDOE.org

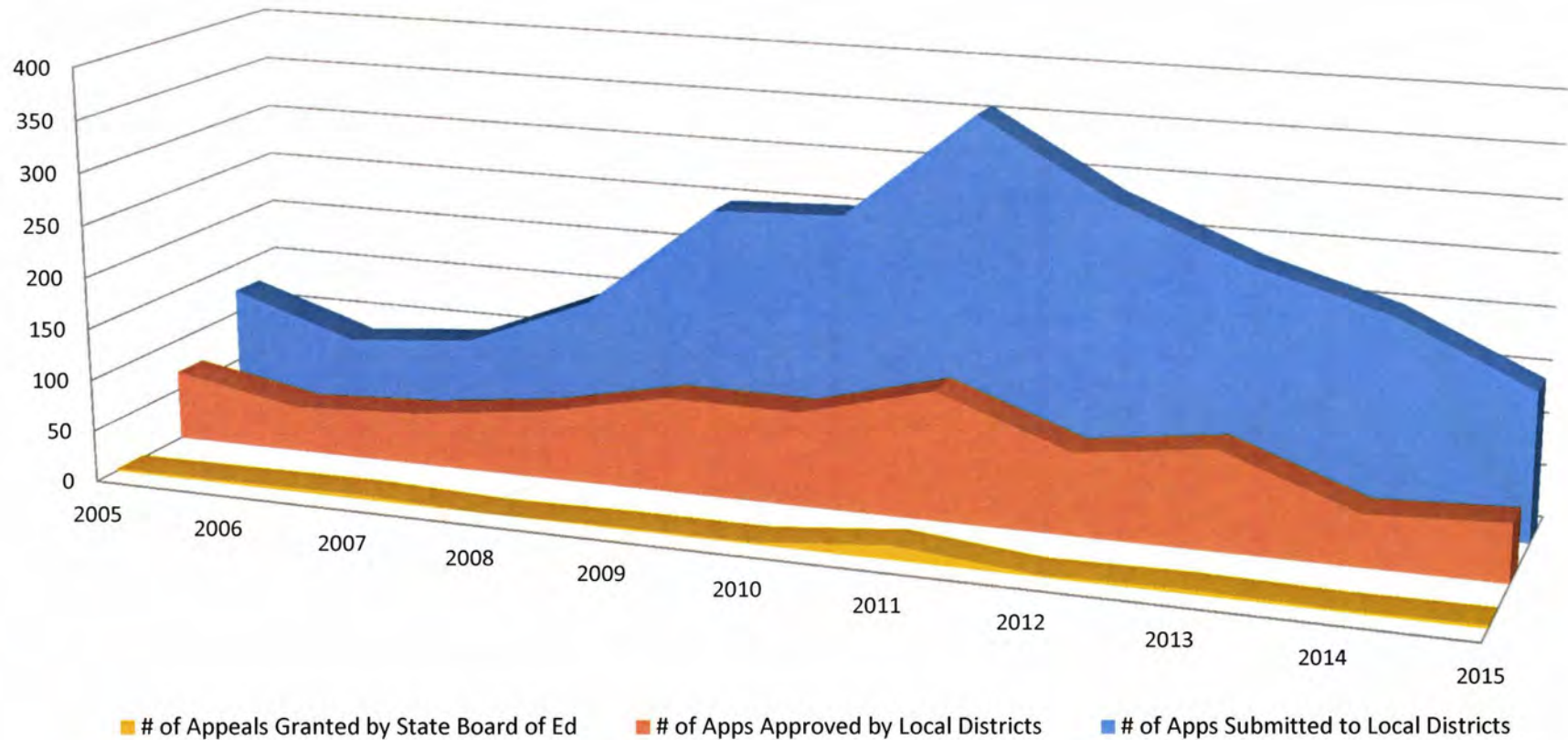
History of Application Approval Rate



Application Approval Rates for 2013 - 2015



2005-Present: Charter School Applications



Charter School Authorizing Process

Applications

Application Review
Applicant Interview
Due Diligence

Contract Negotiations

Academic Expectations
Renewal/Non Renewal
Terms
Financial Accountability

Monitoring and Oversight

Academic, Financial,
Operational Performance
Compliance
Renewal/Closure Decisions

Standard Charter School Contract

- Department developed standard charter contract
- Authorized in 2013
- Developed in two stages
 - Draft to Legislature November 1, 2013
 - Rule adopted November 2014
 - Rule making initiated at conclusion of 2014 session
 - Six rule development workshops
- May be amended by parties
 - Standard contract must be starting point for negotiations
 - Does not become default if parties cannot agree

Standard Contract: Provisions

- Approved application is incorporated
- Assets considered public unless otherwise documented
- District may withhold payment to cover cost of school's final audit
- If actual enrollment is less than 75% of projected enrollment, school must adopt revised budget
- Funding adjusts immediately if actual enrollment is less than 75% of projected enrollment for initial FEFP payments (now in law)
- District may withhold FEFP payments if school's certificates expire
- District may withhold FEFP payments if school fails to submit monthly financial reports or annual audit

Charter Contract Requirements

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes

- Contract must include academic performance expectations
 - The current incoming baseline standard of student academic achievement, the outcomes to be achieved, and the method of measurement that will be used. The criteria listed in this subparagraph shall include a detailed description of:
 - How the baseline student academic achievement levels and prior rates of academic progress will be established.
 - How these baseline rates will be compared to rates of academic progress achieved by these same students while attending the charter school.
 - To the extent possible, how these rates of progress will be evaluated and compared with rates of progress of other closely comparable student populations.
- Financial, operational and administrative expectations
- Term of the charter which shall provide for the closure of the school if insufficient progress has been made in attaining student achievement objectives

Charter School Authorizing Process

Applications

Application Review
Applicant Interview
Due Diligence

Contract Negotiations

Academic Expectations
Renewal/Non Renewal
Terms
Financial Accountability

Monitoring and Oversight

Academic, Financial,
Operational Performance
Compliance
Renewal/Closure Decisions

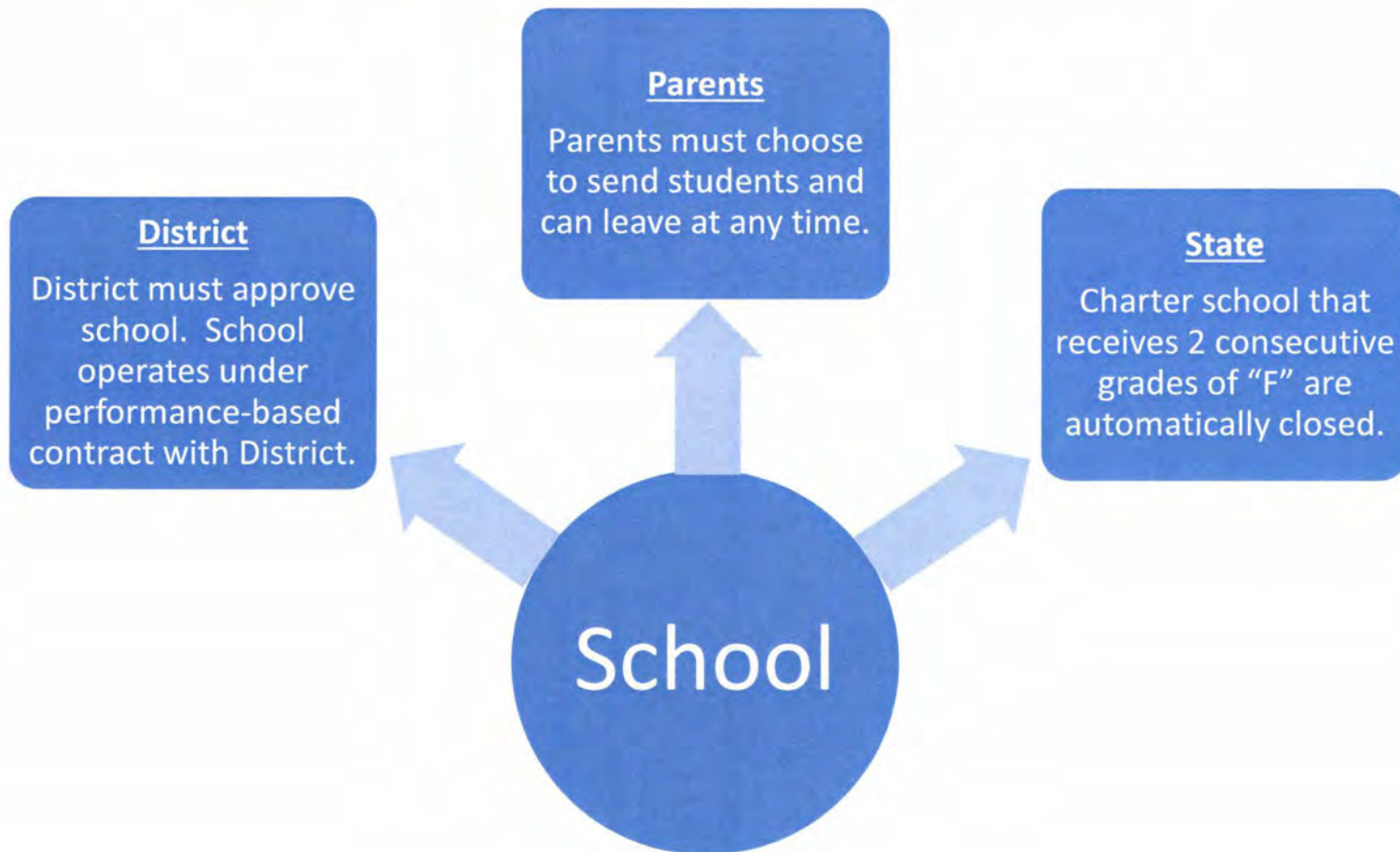
Reporting Requirements in Law

- Monthly financial statement that contains balance sheet and statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance
- Annual audit
- Annual program cost report
- Annual progress report
 - Student achievement data
 - Financial status
 - Documentation of current facilities in use
 - Descriptive information about personnel, including salaries and benefits

Charter School Autonomy

- Exempt from School Board policies
- Exempt from portions of Education Code
- Must abide by core requirements for all public schools, such as:
 - Florida Standards
 - State required assessments
 - School grades
 - Graduation requirements
 - Services to students with disabilities
 - Civil rights
 - Teacher certification, evaluation, salary schedules
 - Public records and meetings
 - Class size (measured at school-wide average)

Multi-Layered Accountability



Statutory Accountability: Financial

- Sponsor shall monitor the revenues and expenditures of the charter school
- Charter school may be terminated for failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management
- Charter school may be terminated if charter school has two consecutive audits with a financial emergency condition

Expedited Reviews and Financial Corrective Action

- Districts can require financial corrective action plans if:
 - Charter fails to comply with reporting requirements
 - Audit reveals financial condition or deteriorating financial condition
 - Review of monthly financial statement reveals deteriorating financial condition
 - Enrollment less than 70% of projected
 - Enrollment insufficient to generate necessary revenues
 - Actual expenses exceed budgeted expenses for three consecutive months
 - Unbudgeted need arises for which school has insufficient reserves
 - Other

Statutory Accountability: Academic

- Termination
 - Sponsor shall make academic achievement for all students the most important factor when determining whether to renew or terminate the charter
 - Sponsor may terminate charter if school fails to meet requirements for student performance stated in the charter contract

Statutory Accountability: Academic

- School Improvement Plan
 - Required for any charter school that receives a school grade of “D” or “F”
- Corrective Action
 - DDD, DDF, 2 grades of F in 3 years
 - Contract for educational services
 - Contract with outside entity
 - Reorganize under new Principal
 - Voluntarily close
- Default Closure
 - A charter school that receives two consecutive grades of “F” is automatically terminated



www.FLDOE.org



www.FLDOE.org