



OPERATIONAL WALKTHROUGH OVERVIEW

Operational Walkthroughs for all Opportunity Network contract programs focused on the systems and structures that are required to deliver high quality instruction to students. Operational Walkthroughs assessed program performance across three domains: 1) Academic & School Climate Accountability; 2) Organizational Compliance; and 3) Accommodative & Financial Compliance. Taken together, the three domains encompass key operational expectations that are based on the program’s contract with The School District of Philadelphia, as well as applicable federal, state and local laws.

Operational Walkthroughs are one part of the School District’s three-part approach to the formal annual evaluation of all contracted Opportunity Network programs. In addition to Operational Walkthroughs, Instructional Walkthroughs and Alternative Education Progress Reports (AEPR) provide qualitative and quantitative data for program performance that inform decisions related to contract renewal, termination, and program expansion. This report summarizes the program’s performance for each of the three domains reviewed during the Operational Walkthrough. In addition, this report provides ratings for select contract requirements indicating whether the program met those requirements or standards based on evidence reviewed during the Operational Walkthrough. All 2021-22 school year Operational Walkthroughs were conducted in person and onsite.

A  indicates that the program met the contract requirement. A  indicates that the program did not meet the contract requirement. The basis for the rating is provided in the Additional Notes section for each standard.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Walkthrough Date: October 14, 2021

Contract Term: FY 2018- FY 2022

Program Type: Accelerated (Grades 9-12)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MISSION

“At SESI our mission is to provide educational services for K-12 students who require specialized educational and positive behavioral supports to overcome challenges that impede their success in a traditional school setting. We believe that all children deserve an education that goes beyond academics and enables them to grow into responsible, self-sufficient adults.”

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

Milton Alexander, Deputy Superintendent

Scott Cruttenden, Regional Director

Kevin Marx, Executive Director

Cassandra Oshinsky, Instructional Specialist

Michelle Hilt, Principal

Adelain Gingalewski, ESOL Teacher

WALKTHROUGH REVIEW TEAM

Majeedah Scott, Director, Office of Multiple Pathways to Graduation

Daniel Turner, Director, Instructional Resources

Marcus De Vose, Assistant Director, Transition Services

Tiana Wilson, Assistant Director, Re-engagement Center

Charla Hill, Transition Liaison

Brett Zaba, Special Education Case Manager

The School District of Philadelphia's official demographic information is reported on October 1st of each school year. The Opportunity Network's demographic information is reported here as of November 2021 to more closely align with the student population on the date of the walkthrough.

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

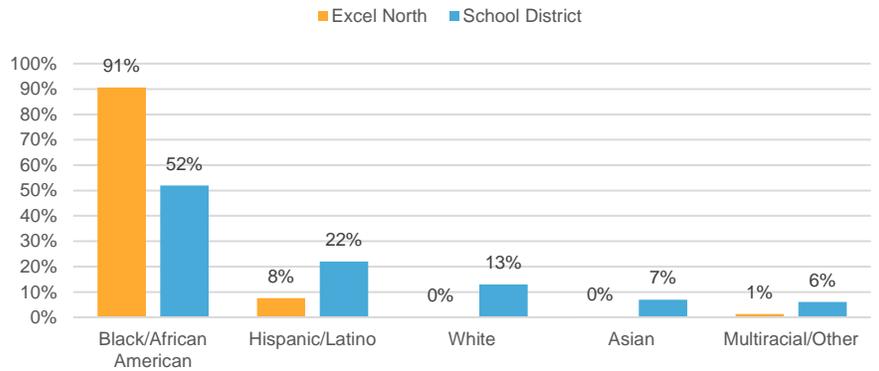
Enrollment as of November 2021

223

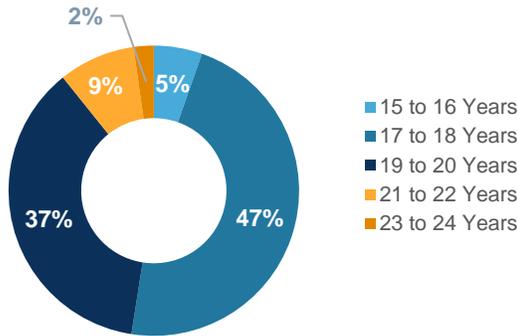
Contracted Maximum

200

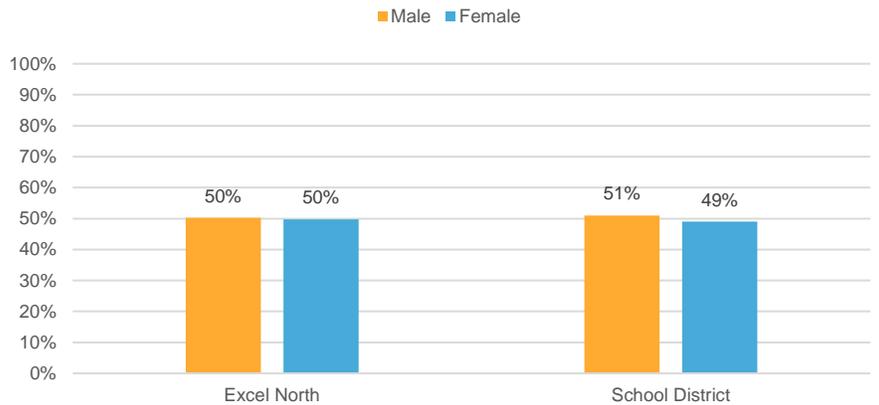
RACE & ETHNICITY



ENROLLMENT BY AGE

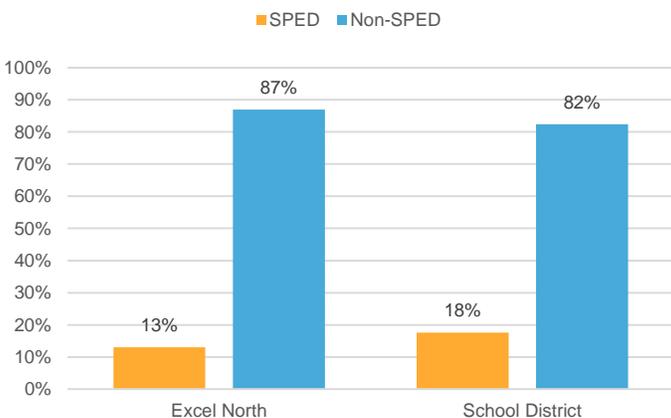


GENDER

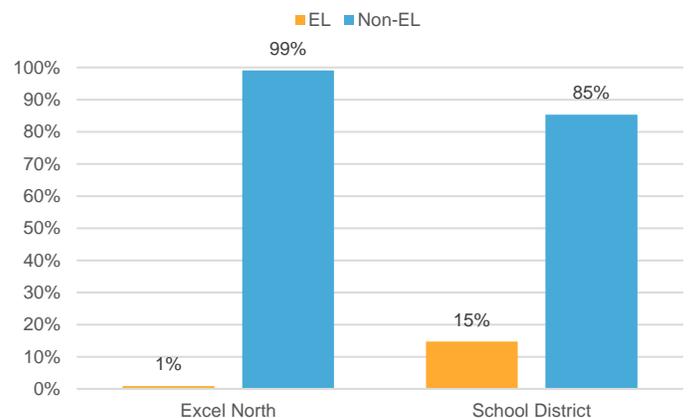


DIVERSE LEARNERS

SPECIAL EDUCATION



ENGLISH LEARNERS



DOMAIN 1: ACADEMIC & SCHOOL CLIMATE ACCOUNTABILITY

The table below summarizes the number of standards by category that met expectations consistent with contract requirements during the 2021-2022 Operational Walkthrough. Information regarding how standards in the Academic and School Climate Accountability domain are measured can be found in the performance framework for Opportunity Network contract programs.

CATEGORY	REQUIREMENTS MET
Academic Quality (Page 4)	4 / 5
School Climate Quality (Page 5)	4 / 6
TOTAL	8 / 11

DOMAIN 2: ORGANIZATIONAL COMPLIANCE

The table below summarizes the number of standards by category that met expectations consistent with contract requirements during the 2021-2022 Operational Walkthrough. Information regarding how standards in the Organizational Compliance domain are measured can be found in the performance framework for Opportunity Network contract programs.

CATEGORY	REQUIREMENTS MET
Student Progress Monitoring & Reporting (Page 8)	5 / 8
Record Keeping & Communication (Page 10)	3 / 4
Personnel (Page 11)	5 / 7
Governance & Enrollment (Page 12)	4 / 5
TOTAL	17 / 24

DOMAIN 3: ACCOMMODATIVE & FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE

The table below summarizes the number of standards by category that met expectations consistent with contract requirements during the 2021-2022 Operational Walkthrough. Information regarding how standards in the Accommodative & Financial Compliance domain are measured can be found in the performance framework for Opportunity Network contract programs.

CATEGORY	REQUIREMENTS MET
Accommodative Quality (Page 14)	5 / 5
Financial Compliance (Page 15)	4 / 4
TOTAL	9 / 9

CATEGORY I: ACADEMIC QUALITY

STANDARD: CURRICULAR QUALITY – Evidence of systems and structures to ensure quality curriculum and instruction offered by contractor		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>BASELINE and REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS: Offers baseline (pre-test) and required assessments (Basic Assessment in Reading & Math, PA PSSA/Keystone Exams, P/SATs) for academic progress monitoring.</p>	✘	Less than 80% of students had STAR assessment scores at the time of the walkthrough (Reading 37%; Math 34%).
<p>BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION/CHARACTER EDUCATION: Educational program offered includes behavior modification/character education.</p>	✔	The program offers Guided Group Interaction to all students in which themes and topics are discussed that focus on Character Education. Additionally, program-wide behavior norms and daily Townhouse Assemblies evident.
STANDARD: STUDENT PERFORMANCE – Evidence of systems and structures to ensure expected student progress in the program as defined in the AEPR and consistent with contract expectations		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: Collects and uses data to track and monitor student progress to evaluate academic achievement and makes appropriate instructional shifts and/or differentiate instruction.</p>	✔	The program meets regularly to discuss the progress of individual students and utilizes a MTSS tracker to record student progress and tiered interventions. Program has also developed an early warning system to proactively identify students in need of support. CPT meeting occur weekly to discuss student data and instructional strategies.
<p>POST-SECONDARY READINESS: Collects and uses data to track and monitor student post-secondary readiness.</p>	✔	Post-secondary planning and tracking system evident. Student completion of career Interest profiles, college applications, SAT prep, FAFSA, resume and cover letter writing, etc., are monitored and tracked.

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE BARRIERS: Collects and uses data to track and monitor school climate and identifies appropriate student supports to improve school climate outcomes.</p>	✓	The program updates student ratings for behavior and attendance on a weekly basis and developed an early warning system to proactively identify students in need of support. Ratings used to determine incentives for on-track students and interventions for struggling students. Recommend program moves discussion of student performance in MTSS meetings to actualization of supports in teacher practice.

CATEGORY 2: SCHOOL CLIMATE QUALITY

STANDARD: DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT – Evidence of systems, structures and contractor efforts to effectively manage student behavior and employ positive behavior intervention & supports system		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>RESTORATIVE JUSTICE and POSITIVE CLIMATE PRACTICES: Employs restorative justice practices (e.g. facilitated mediation, reflective writing, peer court/advising). Evidence of policies and practices to combat bullying including cyber bullying.</p>	✗	Some guidance documents evident but unclear how practices are used. Recommend utilizing and documenting restorative circles as an immediate first step toward regular practice.
<p>STUDENT INCENTIVES: Employs developmentally appropriate individual or group based incentives (e.g. admission to school events, recognition awards, tangible rewards).</p>	✓	Students are recognized on a weekly basis for being on-track with academics, attendance and behavior. Student Government membership is based on weekly progress and members benefit from a number of incentives, including special events and meals, and the ability to provide input on programmatic decisions.
<p>TAILORED SOCIO-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS: Develops and implements plan within 30 days of receiving student and adheres to personalized socio-emotional development plans.</p>	✓	

STANDARD: ATTENDANCE & DISCIPLINE REPORTING – Evidence of systems, structures and contractor efforts to track, monitor and report student attendance and behavior, including compliance with Safe Schools Act

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>DRILLS and SAFETY REPORTING: Conducts and reports appropriate school safety drills, designates rally and shelter-in-place locations, and reports school safety incidents as required.</p>		
<p>CODE of CONDUCT: Adopts and provides to students a code of conduct aligned to School District's Code of Conduct.</p>		<p>Program has adopted the SDP Code of Conduct. Recommend Student/Family Handbook include a link to the SDP Code of Conduct.</p>
<p>TRUANCY and DISCIPLINE REPORTING: Accurate and timely reporting of attendance, truancy and disciplinary incidents as required by contract. Develops Student Attendance Improvement Plans (SAIP) and communicates with parents/guardians timely to prevent chronic absenteeism.</p>		<p>At the time of the walkthrough, attendance was entered inconsistently in SIS. Not all teachers entered attendance daily. SAIPs were inconsistently completed and lacked well-developed student goals tied to student-specific needs and lacked tailored interventions and support.</p>

CATEGORY I: STUDENT PROGRESS MONITORING & REPORTING

STANDARD: STUDENT LEVEL PLANS – Evidence that contractor creates, maintains and effectively implements student-level plans for learning, behavior and post-secondary and communicates student progress to student and family for all students		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>PERSONALIZED LEARNING PLANS (<i>AEDY Transition & Continuation only</i>):</p> <p>Creation (upon enrollment of student) of a Personalized Learning Plan that includes a Transition Plan for student to return to School District.</p>	Not applicable	
<p>PERIODIC ACADEMIC and BEHAVIOR REPORTING:</p> <p>Provides timely reporting of student academic progress (on quarterly or semester basis to students, parents and/or guardians) including information for coursework attempted/completed, level of achievement and progress, behavior and attendance.</p>	✓	
<p>GRADUATION AND POST-SECONDARY PLANS:</p> <p>Creation and maintenance of plan for progress towards graduation (including credits needed) and a student-specific post-secondary plan aligned to student interests.</p>	✓	Students complete Occupational Career Interest Surveys and Post-Secondary Institution Questionnaires, the results of which are reflected in the student level graduation plans which also include updated credit maps for all students.

STANDARD: DIVERSE LEARNER POPULATION – Evidence of systems, structures and contractor policies to appropriately identify, support and monitor instruction for special education students and English Learners (ELs)		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>ENROLLMENT of SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS:</p> <p>Enrolls special education population no less than 15% and no greater than 20% of the program capacity.</p>	✓	At the time of the walkthrough, 13% of students had an IEP and 4 additional special education students had been accepted into the program, bringing the percentage of IEP students up to 15%.
<p>BASELINE MEASURES:</p> <p>Provides baseline measures for both special education and EL students against which to monitor growth. Monitors progress toward IEP goals and communicates this progress routinely to parents/guardians.</p>	✗	7 out of 10 IEP files reviewed included sufficient evidence of progress monitoring. Recommend attendance be updated biweekly in progress monitoring tool and students not attending should be considered for a NOREP.

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>IEP IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION & REVIEW: Identifies, evaluates, reviews and implements IEPs timely and with fidelity, in accordance with applicable laws.</p>		<p>8 of 10 IEP files reviewed included sufficient evidence of transition planning.</p>
<p>ANNUAL IEP UPDATES: Ensures IEPs are updated on an annual basis according to federal and state directives including December 1 Child Count compliance. Includes Transition Services in IEPs for students 14 years or older. Documents participation of all required IEP team members.</p>		<p>29 of 29 IEPs were in compliance for December 1 Child Count (100% compliance rate).</p>
<p>IEP MEETINGS: Assumes lead role for scheduling, convening, and completion of IEP meetings as well as all special education related paperwork. Collaborates with the School District as necessary and appropriate to support students.</p>		
<p>EL IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION & REVIEW: Identifies potential ELs using the Home Language Survey, evaluates students using screener, and assesses ELs annually using ACCESS exam to provide all required services for success of EL students.</p>		<p>20 of 20 enrollment files reviewed contained a completed Home Language Survey. 0 of 2 EL files reviewed included WIDA scores for school year 2021-2022.</p>

CATEGORY 2: RECORD KEEPING & COMMUNICATION

STANDARD: COMMUNICATIONS WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT – Evidence that contractor timely and accurately reports information to the School District either directly or via provided systems consistent with contract requirements and written updates from the School District		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM UPLOAD: Provides student enrollment, attendance, behavior and coursework information to School District (via SIS) within contractually outlined period.		Attendance was not taken daily for all students at the time of the walkthrough. Recommend program follow guidance for master schedule (daily) attendance for remainder of school year.
ARCHIVE OF HISTORICAL RECORDS: Maintains an archive of all historical student academic and behavioral records.		

STANDARD: COMMUNICATIONS WITH STUDENTS, PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND FAMILIES – Evidence that contractor communicates timely and accurately with students, parents/guardians and families regarding student performance and progress in a manner accessible to all; protects student record information		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
SECURE PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION: Secures personally identifiable information, does not request or require prohibited information at time of enrollment (e.g. SSNs), and ensures that if student is 18+ years of age, student provides consent to release records.		0 of 20 enrollment files included personally identifiable information.
ENGAGEMENT WITH PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND FAMILIES: Contractor ensures that it communicates with all stakeholders as appropriate to maintain levels of engagement including reporting of student academic progress, information regarding program events (e.g. back to school nights) and student expectations (e.g. orientation and handbook) in a manner that is accessible to all.		Evidence of consistent outreach and engagement with parents/guardians, including parent meetings, and daily attendance call logs.

CATEGORY 3: PERSONNEL

STANDARD: BACKGROUND CHECKS, LICENSES & EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION – Evidence of contractor compliance with relevant contract, state and federal educator personnel requirements		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>EMPLOYEE BACKGROUND CHECKS: Provides evidence of all relevant employee background checks and clearances. Checks and clearances are valid, timely and up to date as appropriate.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>FBI Background Check: 4 of 4 eligible employees reviewed had a check on file for the purpose of childcare and not education, rendering them invalid for schools. PA Child Abuse Clearance: 5 of 5 employees reviewed had a valid clearance on file. PA Criminal History Check: 5 of 5 employees reviewed had a valid check on file. Act 168 documentation: 5 of 5 eligible employees reviewed had documentation on file. Reviewed 3 existing employees, evidence that program is maintaining valid, up to date background checks and clearances; however for all 3, the FBI background check was for "Childcare" which is an invalid category. This remains unresolved from prior years.</p>
<p>PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS: Provides PA certificated teachers in all core instructional areas.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>As of the date of the walkthrough, one math teacher and one science teacher were not appropriately certified for the classes that they teach.</p>
<p>PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS (ADMINISTRATOR): Provides at least one PA certificated administrator per site.</p>	<p>✓</p>	
<p>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES STAFF: Provides sufficiently trained and certified/licensed professional staff for student support services including special education and ELs.</p>	<p>✓</p>	

STANDARD: PERSONNEL RATIO & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – Evidence of contractor adherence to contractual Personnel Ratios, contractually or statutorily required trainings, and relevant staff professional development		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>PERSONNEL RATIOS: Provides staffing to meet contractual student to teacher ratios and ensures student to support staff ratio is within contractual limits.</p>	<p>✓</p>	

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>OBLIGATORY TRAININGS: Provides all employees with Act 71, Act 126, and other obligatory PDE professional trainings and monitors timely completion and updates as required.</p>	✓	<p>Act 71 Training: 3 of 3 employees reviewed had a completion certificate on file. Act 126 Training: 3 of 3 employees reviewed had a completion certificate on file for the required 3-hour training.</p>
<p>ENGAGEMENT IN DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONTRACTOR MEETINGS: Ensures that teachers and administrators engage in School District professional development opportunities and monthly contractor meetings.</p>	✓	

CATEGORY 4: GOVERNANCE & ENROLLMENT

STANDARD: PROGRAM GOVERNANCE – Evidence of systems, structures and contractor activities to support compliance with contractual expectations for program governance		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Engages community and non-profit providers to provide a diverse and relevant range of non-academic student services and support.</p>	✓	<p>Evidence of partnerships in place to provide a wide variety of supports to students. These include supports for multiple barriers such as housing instability (Project Home), pregnant/parenting youth (ELECT), LGBTQ+ (The Attic), Behavioral Health (Resources for Human Development), Mental Health (NAMI), and Employment (Work Ready). Recommend that the program develop additional partnerships for workforce development programming to align with the new PA high school graduation requirements.</p>
<p>COMMUNITY ELICITATION: Has active school or community advisory board or process by which the school community can provide input and feedback to the contractor regarding the program. Encourages parent/guardian participation in the District-wide annual survey.</p>	✓	<p>10.2% of parents participated in the 2020-2021 district-wide survey (minimum of 10% required).</p>

STANDARD: STUDENT ENROLLMENT – Evidence of systems, structures and contractor practices to meet contractual and statutory requirements for student enrollment and eliminate barriers to entry

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>TIMELY ENROLLMENT: Contractor does not create barriers to enrollment and enrolls students referred and/or who apply timely. Enrollment and/or student files contain information as required by PDE for enrollment. Program has procedures in place to confirm eligibility of students prior to enrollment.</p>		
<p>RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT: Contractor does not serve students from other LEAs without written consent of School District. Contractor confirms residency of student prior to or at time of enrollment.</p>		<p>No evidence to suggest that the program enrolls students from other LEAs, however, only 7 of 20 enrollment files reviewed included proof of residency.</p>
<p>RE-ENGAGEMENT CENTER REFERRALS: Contractor has reserved 50% of seats for School District's Engagement Center (REC) and/or partners with the REC to receive referrals.</p>		

CATEGORY I: ACCOMMODATIVE QUALITY

STANDARD: FACILITIES – Evidence of contractor compliance with established facility guidelines, contractual/statutory requirements and lease terms (if in School District-owned properties)		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>FEDERAL, STATE, & LOCAL REGULATIONS: Complies with all federal and state regulations regarding access to individuals with (physical or otherwise) disabilities. The program is housed in a non-sectarian facility. If in a privately-owned facility, contractor is compliant with any local requirements for facility condition including lead and water testing.</p>	✓	The program is housed in a District facility.
<p>FACILITY MAINTENANCE: For privately-owned facilities, contractor maintains regular upkeep of facility including structure, student and staff related spaces as well as outside grounds. For School District-owned facilities, contractor fulfills the obligations of their lease agreement regarding maintenance and reports facility condition issues timely.</p>	✓	

STANDARD: SCHOOL CALENDAR, TRANSPORTATION AND UNIFORMS – Evidence that contractor operates a program that meets the minimum number of days of instruction as required by the contract and makes the program accessible to all eligible students		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>CALENDAR: Maintains an academic calendar that minimally has at least as many instructional days as that of the School District. Submits operational calendars timely and appropriately notifies the School District departments of any changes in the calendar.</p>	✓	
<p>TRANSPORTATION: Maintains accurate student information to allow the School District to appropriately manage transportation services for students. No corrective action initiated regarding required student transpass usage reports.</p>	✓	

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>UNIFORMS: Establishes a clear dress code for students inclusive of expectations regarding school uniform. Provides uniforms to students upon request due to financial need. Does not have policies or practices that create barriers to instruction based on dress code or school uniform.</p>	✓	

CATEGORY 2: FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE

STANDARD: PROCUREMENT OF OPERATING CERTIFICATES – Contractor provides School District with relevant operating licenses and certificates; maintains current insurance consistent with contract requirements		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>TAX LIABILITIES: Provides School District with Certificate of Tax Clearance absolving any city tax liabilities.</p>	✓	
<p>PROOF OF INSURANCE: Provides Proof of Insurance related to: (1) Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability, (2) General Liability Insurance, (3) Automobile Liability Insurance, (4) Professional Liability Insurance, (5) Educator Legal Liability Insurance, (6) Excess/Umbrella Liability, and (7) Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance.</p>	✓	The program's insurance documentation was approved by the Office of Risk Management.

STANDARD: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING – Evidence the contractor adheres to standards of financial management including with monitoring and reporting of revenues and expenses, invoicing to the School District and ability of contractor to maintain financial viability		
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: Provides detailed information upon request regarding program annual budgets, as well as actual expenses and revenues. Upon request, provides independent third-party financial audit timely; audit does not indicate any material weakness or going concerns.</p>	✓	

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS	RATING	ADDITIONAL NOTES
<p>MONTHLY INVOICING: Submits monthly invoices timely with complete and accurate student-level information. Information provided can generally be validated against the School District's SIS.</p>		