TCSA Quality Portal

An Introduction

October 29, 2015
Raise your hand if you think you know what a quality charter school is.
Raise your hand if you think everyone in this room would agree on what a quality charter school is.
National Charter School Resource Center

- Funded through the U.S. Department of Education
- Makes accessible high-quality resources to support the charter school sector
WHAT IS THE TCSA QUALITY PORTAL?
Overview: What the TCSA Quality Portal Is

- A web portal that contains a self-evaluation tool that facilitates charter leaders’ understanding of the gaps and strengths in the school
- An algorithm designed by consensus of Texas charter leaders
- A system that utilizes both leader-provided data and state data
- A tool that evaluates performance in ten areas of function
- Supporting content that helps charter leaders improve quality
- Vendor information that allows charter leaders to find assistance
WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT THE TCSA QUALITY PORTAL?
Reason 1: Widely-Used

- Has become the standard tool for online charter quality assessment
- Is the basis for other states’ derivative tools
- Being used by hundreds, if not thousands, of school leaders
Reason 2: Consensus of Charter Leaders

- Framework was created by Texas charter leaders
- Facilitated over 18 months in repeated meetings
- Systems, questions, elements and weightings all decided by consensus
Reason 3: Focus on Continuous Improvement

- It is intended to be used more than once
- Not pass-fail
- Gives a variety of quanta as scores in ten systems
- Gives supporting content to assist in improvement
Reason 4: Framework of Performance Excellence

- The Baldrige Performance Excellence Model is the basis.
- Six systems from Baldrige became ten systems in the Quality Portal.
Reason 5: Self evaluative rather than external

- Tool increases honesty by focusing on self evaluation
- Not an accountability or authorizer tool, although other states do use it for that
THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TCSA QUALITY PORTAL
The Beginning

- In 2008, TCSA approached UT’s IPSI about building a framework to define quality for and with charter schools in the state of Texas.
- TCSA contracted with IPSI for a two-year project to create what would be known as the TCSA Quality Framework.
- Consultant facilitators spent 18 months with charter leaders creating quality framework in Excel form.
A Brief Timeline

- Charter leaders piloted the Excel framework
- E-Stream Technologies built the web tool
- Additional pilot schools were engaged
- Rolled out to TCSA schools
- Rolled out beyond Texas
States Currently Using the Tool or Considering Using it

- **Current**
  - Texas -- Required of all TCSA members
  - California -- Part of evaluation for closure
  - Tennessee -- Part of replication-readiness evaluation

- **Considering**
  - Hawaii
  - Colorado
HOW THE TCSA QUALITY PORTAL CURRENTLY WORKS
Algorithm Uses Ten Systems

- **Student Success**: Academic growth and achievement, post-secondary readiness, high expectations, student engagement and social and emotional development.
- **Learning**: Curriculum, instruction and assessment.
- **Stakeholder**: Community partnerships, family and organizational outreach strategies and focused marketing.
- **Leadership**: Board development, governance and planning.
- **Staff**: Recruitment and selection, development, support and retention.
- **Data**: Integrated performance management, data security, accuracy, analysis and usage.
- **Safety & Support Services**: Facilities, environment and operations.
- **Mission & Vision**: Develop your core purpose, values and campus culture.
- **Fiscal Management**: Financial planning, budget, and oversight and risk management.
- **Public Accountability**: Transparency and federal and state regulation compliance.
Data Entry for a Single System

Indicator: Classroom observation and coaching ensures effective instruction.

View resources

Please select one of the options below.

Level
- Model
- Highly Effective
- Effective
- Early Effective
- Not Evident

Guiding Statements

School captures and shares effective instructional processes and tools. School regularly reviews effectiveness of classroom observation and instructional coaching processes and tools.

Upload your model and highly effective practices.

Each teacher has the opportunity to receive and provide peer reviews. In addition to the annual formal evaluation, each teacher has additional opportunities to receive instructional coaching. Intervention processes are in place to support teachers not meeting school standards for teaching effectiveness. Teachers are encouraged to observe other teachers’ effective practices. Support processes are in place for effective teachers who wish to improve.

Each teacher receives an annual formal evaluation. School uses a systematic approach and common tools for observing classrooms and evaluating teacher effectiveness. Guidance and feedback based on classroom observations are provided to each teacher on a timely basis.

Each teacher receives constructive informal feedback based upon observations.

No evidence consistently in place at the organization.

Please describe your organization’s practices as they relate to your response above.

SAVE TOP

Indicator: % of learning environments observed or monitored per week.

View resources
Review for a Single System

Indicator | Score
---|---
Lesson plans are aligned to scope and sequence. | Model
Classroom observation and coaching ensures effective instruction. | Effective
Quantitative Measures for This Indicator
% of learning environments observed or monitored per week. — 30.0 | Highly Effective
Differentiated instructional strategies are aligned to student needs, including instructional strategies specifically related to teaching English learners and students with special needs. | Effective
Individual student learning plans or portfolios are completed for each student.
Quantitative Measures for This Indicator
% of students with individual student learning, education, or graduation plans or portfolios. — 100.0
Students receive academic tutoring. | Model
The school schedule supports the learning needs of all students.

Indicator | Score
---|---
Students receive diagnostic/baseline assessment(s) or diagnostic assessment(s) are analyzed. | Model
Students receive formative assessments for progress monitoring. | Model
Students receive summative assessments to measure outcomes. | Model
Comparison with Other Test Takers
Sample Resource List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Student Success System        | Classroom Walkthrough Tool  
  Description: Here is a sample classroom walk-through tool that enables the observer to note instruction, classroom management, and student engagement by levels of effectiveness. |
| Mission & Vision System       | Enhancing the Art & Science of Teaching With Technology  
  Description: This book includes over 100 classroom strategies using technology and how to implement them in your classroom. |
| Leadership System             | Exemplary Practices in Alternative Education: Indicators of Quality Programming  
  Description: A comprehensive guide to quality practices produced by the National Alternative Education Association defines exemplary practices and supporting indicators for running a superior alternative education School. |
| Learning System               | House Bill 5 Update January 2014  
  Description: This presentation has been updated to reflect the most recent proposed rules for House Bill 5. |
| Safety & Support System       | How to Create a Highly Engaged Classroom  
  Description: In this webinar, Dr. Robert Marzano discusses how to create a classroom that addresses the students' interests, emotions, efficacy, and perceptions. |
| Staff System                  | Middle and High School Intervention Examples  
  Description: This document provides examples of middle and high school intervention schedules as well as a template for planning your school's intervention strategy. |
| Stakeholder System            | Serving English Language Learners: A Toolkit for Public Charter Schools  
  Description: The toolkit offered by National Alliance for Public Charter Schools showcases best practices and model charter schools as it relates to ELL program components, teacher qualifications, evaluations, communication and more. |
| Data Driven System            | Student Specific Interventions  
  Description: Search for proven interventions based on students’ needs. The Institute of Education Sciences, What Works Clearinghouse provides a topical search function and highlights specific interventions that have proven effective based on varying sample sizes and levels of evidence. |
| Public Accountability System  |                                                                            |
| Fiscal Management System      |                                                                            |
## Sample Vendor Offerings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solution Provider</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Likes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDW-G</td>
<td>Technology, IT Consulting</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hertz Furniture</td>
<td>Furnishings, Design/Construction</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;S Worldwide</td>
<td>Equipment Supplies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staples</td>
<td>Furnishings, Supplies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCSA Electricity Program</td>
<td>General Operations</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Websmart by JR3</td>
<td>Student Information Systems Technology</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wortham Insurance &amp; Risk Management</td>
<td>Human Resources Insurance</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academica Southwest</td>
<td>School Management</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieve 3000</td>
<td>Curriculum</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP Direct</td>
<td>Equipment Furnishings</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Showing 1 to 10 of 73 entries
Future Development Plans Include:

▷ Additional states
▷ Additional data aggregation across states
▷ Additional administrative features
To learn more, please visit: http://www.txcharterschools.org/what-is-the-quality-framework/quality-framework-overview/

Contact Us

Mukta Pandit, Safal Partners, President
mukta@safalpartners.com

Laura Kelly, Director of Quality
Texas Charter Schools Association
lkkelly@txcharterschools.org

info@safalpartners.com

Visit Us
charterschoolcenter.org

Follow Us
@safalpartners

Subscribe to the NCSRC Newsletter
tinyurl.com/nscrc-subscribe
Thank You!