



NATIONAL  
CHARTER SCHOOL  
RESOURCE CENTER  
AT SAFAL PARTNERS

**Webinar:**  
**Exploring the Role of the SEA in Promoting Local District  
Charter Collaboration**



May 18, 2017

# About the National Charter School Resource Center

[www.charterschoolcenter.ed.gov](http://www.charterschoolcenter.ed.gov)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Charter School Resource Center. At the top left is the logo with the text 'NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL RESOURCE CENTER AT SAFAL PARTNERS'. To the right is a search bar and social media icons for YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook. Below this is a teal navigation bar with menu items: FOCUS AREAS, AUDIENCE, PUBLICATIONS, VIDEOS, FUNDING, EVENTS, and FAQs. On the right side of this bar are links for LOGIN, CMO, CSO, and SEA. Below the navigation bar is a search prompt: 'What would you like to know about Charter Schools?' followed by a dropdown menu labeled 'Select Your Topic' and a yellow 'BEGIN YOUR SEARCH' button. The main content area features a large image of diverse children with a semi-transparent overlay containing the text: 'Report: Charter School Discipline: Examples of Policies and School Climate Efforts from the Field'. Below this text is a button that says 'Click here to access this report' with a right-pointing arrow. At the bottom of the page are three circular icons in teal: a house with a question mark, a folder, and a briefcase. Each icon is followed by a heading and a short paragraph of text.

**What Are Charter Schools?**  
Charter schools are in 42 states, nearly 25 years old, and over 7% of k-12 students in the US are enrolled in one. Here is an explanation of this important trend

**State Resources for Charters**  
Need help finding information about charter schools in your state? Click above for a map that will guide you to resources and contact information for each state

**Most Popular Charter Resources**  
Click above for a list of our top resources. These resources include everything from reports on special education to documentaries on successful charters

- Funded through the **U.S. Department of Education**
- Makes accessible **high-quality resources to support the charter school sector**

# Presenters

## > Moderators

- > Alex Medler, Senior Director, Safal Partners

## > Presenters

- > Sarah Yatsko, Senior Research Analyst, CRPE
- > Jordan Posamentier, Deputy Director of Policy, CRPE



# Agenda (1)

- **Introduction and Logistics**
- Collaboration and the CSP
- A Review of Collaboration in the Field
- Discussion

# Webinar Logistics

- Use the chat feature for technical questions and assistance.
- Use the Q&A box to ask questions or provide input on the webinar content.
- Questions will be answered during Q&A following each presenter.
- The webinar recording will be available on the NCSRC website by January 24, 2017.
- We will ask you to fill out a survey after the webinar concludes.

# Agenda (2)

- ✓ Introduction and Logistics
- **Collaboration and the CSP**
- A Review of Collaboration in the Field
- Discussion

# CSP Big Picture

## ➤ SEC. 4301. 20 U.S.C. 7221

PURPOSE. It is the purpose of this part to—

- (1) improve the United States education system and education opportunities for all people in the United States by supporting innovation in public education in public school settings that prepare students to compete and contribute to the global economy and a stronger Nation...
  
- (4) evaluate the impact of charter schools on student achievement, families, and communities, and share best practices between charter schools and other public schools

# Explicit State Strategy

- Section 4303 (f)(1)(B)(iii) [State entity grant application]
  - (B) A description of the extent to which the State entity...
  - (iii) is working to develop or strengthen a cohesive strategy to encourage collaboration between charter schools and local educational agencies on the sharing of best practices.

# The CSP Can Support Work that Supports Collaboration

- “Charter-district collaboration” a “soft” aspect of the CSP (under NCLB or ESSA)
- Dissemination activities provide an opportunity to collaborate
- State work to support many aspects of the state’s charter sector can include support for collaboration
  - Overlapping agenda for the same type of work
  
- See our NCSRC Toolkit District-Charter Collaboration: A User’s Guide

# Implicit Support for Collaboration

## ➤ Implied Support

- Section 4303 (f)(1)(A)(ix) [state entity application]
- (A) A description of how the state entity will...
- (ix) share best and promising practices between charter schools and other public schools...

## ➤ Section 4303 (f)(2)(D) [Priority]

- (D) the State entity is located in a State that uses best practices from charter schools to help improve struggling schools and local education agencies”

# Collaboration and CSP Activities: Examples

- CSP can support:
  - Strengthening authorizing
  - Access to facilities and funding
  - Enrollment and services for disadvantaged students
  - Expansion and replication, including ties to low-performing schools

# Agenda (3)

- ✓ Introduction and Logistics
- ✓ Collaboration and the CSP
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# Animosity Between Districts and Charters Has Been the Norm



# But That Is Changing... Collaboration Is Increasingly the New Normal

**District-Charter Collaboration**  
**Down Walls in DE**

**In Denver, Charters and District Team Up on Special Education**

**Proposed Schools seeks...**

**As I...**

**New Bedford district, charter schools try to...**

**...Calls for District-Charter Collaboration, Here Are 3 Examples**

# CRPE Has Been Tracking Collaboration Efforts Across the Nation

- 5 year partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to monitor and provide some technical assistance support for collaboration efforts in 25 "Compact" cities
- Produced reports, briefs, blogs, webinars, and a monthly newsletter documenting efforts in cities across the country to work across sector lines
- Observations of more than 50 portfolio cities where charters are active part of city-wide strategy

## What We Have Found

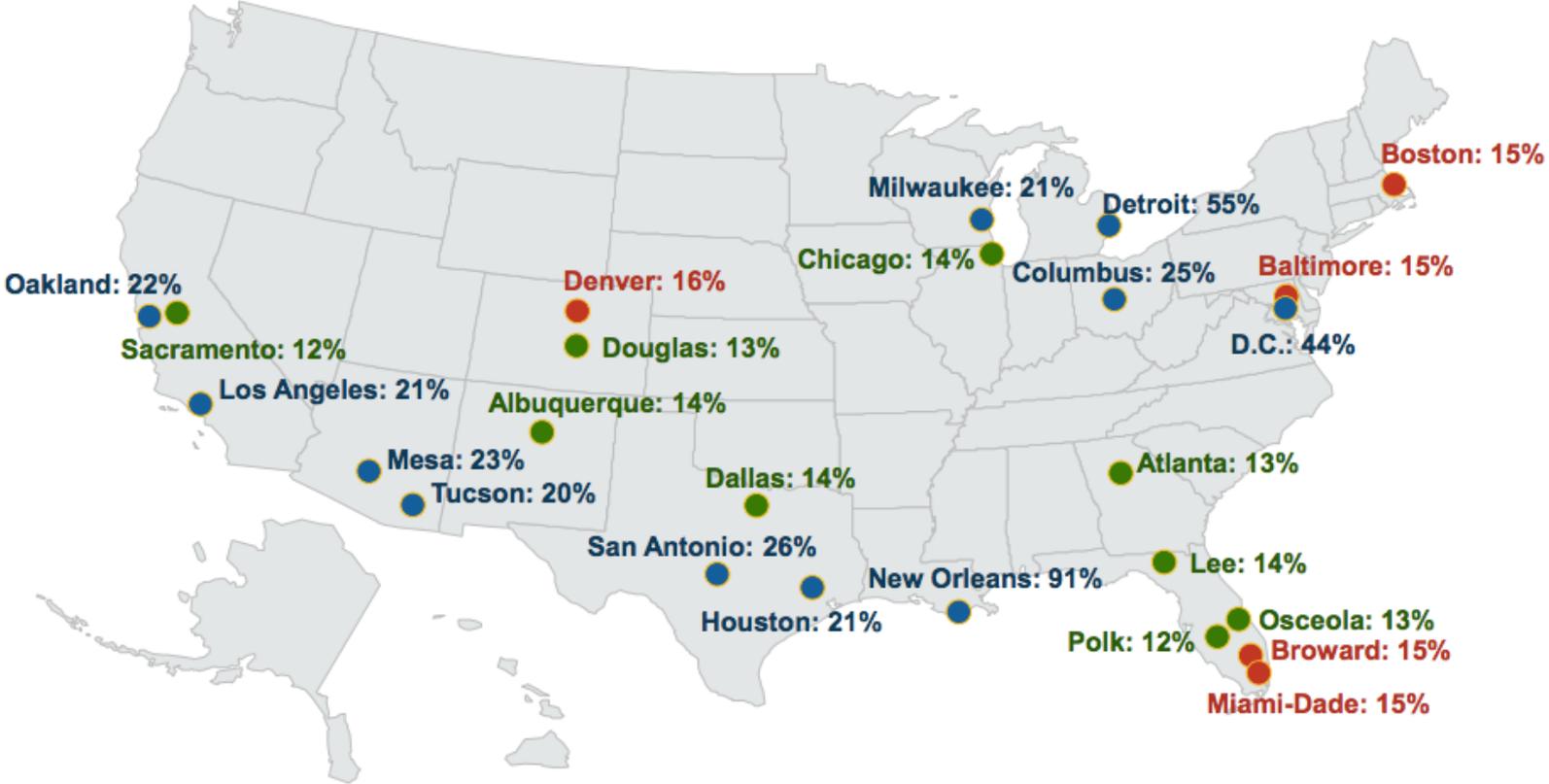
- Despite the urgent need, collaboration is too often treated as a side project or a forced marriage
- Local politics and context impacts incentives and likelihood of success
- Cities making and sustaining progress work within local constraints and make smart choices on what to collaborate around

# Collaboration in Cities\* with Compacts Often Falls Well Short of Potential and Gains Can Be Lost



# Collaboration is a Necessity, Not A Nicety

Many of the nation's largest school districts have more than 10 percent of students in charter schools



Note: Percentages represent market share of local districts.  
Sources: NAPCS, School Year 2013-14; American School & University 2012-13.

● 20% and above ● 15-19% ● 10-14% 40

# Why Should States Foster Stronger Cross-Sector Collaboration?

- Kids lose opportunities due to the sector divide
- Sectors historically have resisted coming together on their own
- Collaboration offers a seedbed of potential turnaround and improvement strategies under ESSA

# How can States Help?

- State leaders can influence local tone by adopting mindsets conducive to collaboration
- State grants can strategically enhance cross-sector collaboration
- States can resolve tough local conflicts to make room for more productive district-charter relations

# State Mindset Matters

- State philosophies, legislative frameworks, and SEA structures can have a trickle down effect
- Sector neutrality, a “what works” focus, is conducive to collaboration

# Grants Can Create Positive Incentives and Capacity

- Prioritize start-up and (two way) dissemination grants for schools that commit to collaboration
- Create funding set-asides for cross-sector turnaround partnerships

# State Can Foster Local Collaboration by Resolving Some Tougher Local Conflicts

## ➤ Access Issues

- Enrollment
- Transportation
- Buildings
- Safety services

## ➤ Funding Issues

- Authorizer fees
- Direct charter funding from state versus through district

## States Should Consider the Following

- Own sector neutrality and a “focus on what works” mindset
- Prioritize bilateral learning and strong partnerships in grants and turnaround efforts
- Resolve intractable local battles at the state-level

## Bottom Line

- Sectors working together locally can help states accomplish big goals: school improvement and equity
- Local collaboration efforts have taken us only so far
- Effective state involvement in local collaboration requires intention, dedication, and political savvy

# Agenda (4)

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- **Discussion**

# Questions & Answers

➤ Please submit any questions in the Q&A box

# NCSRC Resources (1 of 3)

## Webinars

- [General Webinar: Exploring the Role of the SEA in Promoting Local District Charter Collaboration](#)
- [General Webinar: I Just Joined a Charter School Board...Now What?](#)
- [General Webinar: Rural Charter Schools – Building Bridges](#)
- [General Webinar: Using Data to Create Positive School Climates and Discipline Practices in Charter Schools](#)
- [General Webinar: Charter Schools and Food Services: Options, Planning, and Decision-Making](#)
- [General Webinar: Supporting Students with Disabilities](#)
- [General Webinar: Serving English Language Learners and Families](#)
- [SEA Webinar: The Role of States and Charter School Authorizers in Overseeing Student Discipline in Charter Schools](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Overview of CSP's Recently Released Dear Colleague Letter and of the NCSRC](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Use of Funds](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Annual Independent Audits](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Early Childhood Learning in Charter Schools](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Data Management Tools for Risk Based Monitoring](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Weighted Lotteries](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Charter School Closure](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Measuring Authorizer Quality](#)
- [SEA Webinar: Financial Management and Fiscal Controls](#)
- [Credit Enhancement Webinar: Evaluating Charter School Performance](#)
- [Credit Enhancement Webinar: Evaluating Charter School Performance During the Transition to Common Core](#)
- [Credit Enhancement Webinar: Recent Developments in CSP Guidance](#)
- [Credit Enhancement Webinar: Authorizer Collaboration](#)

# NCSRC Resources (2 of 3)

## White Papers and Reports

- [Authorizer Evaluation Summary: An Analysis of Evaluations of Authorizer Quality](#)
- [District-Charter Collaboration: A User's Guide](#)
- [Student Achievement in Charter Schools: What the Research Shows](#)
- [An Analysis of the Charter School Facility Landscape](#)
- [Finding Space: Charters in District Facilities](#)
- [Charter Schools and Military Communities: A Toolkit](#)
- [Legal Guidelines for Educating English Learners in Charter Schools](#)
- [Engaging English Learner Families in Charter Schools](#)

## Discipline

- [Student Discipline and School Climate in Charter Schools](#)
- [Charter School Discipline: Examples of Policies and School Climate Efforts from the Field](#)
- [Charter School Discipline Toolkit: A Toolkit for Charter School Leaders](#)
- [Discipline Resource page on NCSRC website:   
<https://www.charterschoolcenter.org/category/focus-areas/discipline>](#)

## Case Studies

- [AppleTree \(Early Learning\)](#)
- [DC Public Charter School Board \(Authorizer\)](#)
- [Camino Nuevo's Kayne Siart Campus](#)
- [Indianapolis Mayor's Office \(Authorizer\)](#)
- [Cornerstone Prep \(Turnaround\)](#)
- [Yes Prep/Houston \(District-Charter Collaboration\)](#)
- [Two Rivers Public Charter School \(SWD\)](#)
- [Folk Arts Cultural Treasures Charter School \(EL\)](#)
- [Alma del Mar \(EL\)](#)
- [El Sol \(EL\)](#)
- [Brooke Roslindale Charter \(SWD\)](#)

# NCSRC Resources (3 of 3)

## CSO Master Classes

- [Communications](#)
- [School Leadership Development](#)
- [New School Development](#)
- [Emerging Legal Issues](#)
- [Federal Funding Opportunities](#)
- [Legal Issues Impacting the Public Charter Sector Webinar: Student Discipline – Policy & Practices in Public Charter Schools](#)
- [Closing Low-Performing Public Charter Schools - State Level Strategies](#)
- [Parent & School Engagement for CSOs](#)
- [Board Development and Governance](#)

## Newsletters

- [Discipline Resources](#)
- [Rural Charter Schools Report](#)
- [Aldine ISD and YES Prep District-Charter Collaboration Case Study](#)
- [District-Charter Collaboration: A User's Guide](#)
- [Student Achievement in Charter Schools: What the Research Shows](#)
- [Serving English Language Learners and Families](#)
- [Charter Schools Serving Military Families](#)
- [English Learners in Charter Schools: Key Opportunities for Engagement and Integration](#)
- [Finding Space: Analyzing Charter School Facilities](#)

# Links to Additional Resources

- The National Charter School Research Center  
[www.charterschoolcenter.org](http://www.charterschoolcenter.org)
- Mountain Village Montessori Charter School  
<http://www.mvmcs.org/>
- Bend International School  
<http://bendinternationalschool.org/>
- Upper Carmen Public Charter School  
<http://www.uppercarmencharter.com/index.html>
- Idaho Charter School Network  
<http://idahocsn.org/>

# Contact

## Contact Us

[mukta@safalpartners.com](mailto:mukta@safalpartners.com)

[info@safalpartners.com](mailto:info@safalpartners.com)

[Alex.Medler@safalpartners.com](mailto:Alex.Medler@safalpartners.com)

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