



NATIONAL  
CHARTER SCHOOL  
RESOURCE CENTER

# Supporting Charter Schools in Serving SWDs

*A Webinar for Charter Support Organizations that are State  
Entity Grantees*

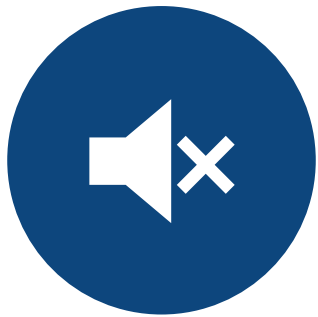
[charterschoolcenter.ed.gov](http://charterschoolcenter.ed.gov)



## Ice Breaker

*What inspired your organization to apply for a CSP State Entity Grant?*

# Norms for Discussion



Remember to mute yourself.



Actively participate in breakout rooms.



Utilize the chat for questions and comments.



Respond to the survey.



*This session is being recorded, so you and your peers may access it at a later date.*

## About the NCSRC

The National Charter School Resource Center (NCSRC) provides technical assistance to federal grantees and resources supporting charter sector stakeholders. NCSRC is funded by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and managed by Manhattan Strategy Group (MSG) in partnership with WestEd.



## On the Call Today...



**Robin Chait**  
National Charter  
School Resource  
Center



**Maura Mall**  
WestEd



**Jennifer Todd**  
U.S. Department  
of Education,  
Charter School  
Programs



**Megan Ohlssen**  
The Center for  
Learner Equity



**Gina Plate**  
California Charter  
Schools  
Association



**Sarah Okun**  
True Measure  
Collaborative

# Agenda



Learning Objectives



Introduction to CSP  
Grantee Responsibilities  
for Serving SWDs



Panel Discussion



Breakout Discussions and  
Action Planning

## Learning Objectives

### Understand

Understand the responsibilities of SEs for supporting charter schools in serving SWDs.

### Learn

Learn strategies for providing support and oversight to charter schools in serving SWDs.

### Plan

Identify strategies to implement and develop action plans for implementation.



# Introduction to CSP Grantee Responsibilities for SWDs



## Statutory Requirements—Purposes

### ESSA: Part C—Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools



*One stated purpose is to—*

Expand opportunities for SWD, EL, and other traditionally underserved students to attend charter schools and meet challenging State academic standards.

*ESSA §§ 4301 to 4311 (20 USC §§ 7221-7221j)*

## Statutory Requirements—Assurances

**ESSA: Part C—Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools**



*One application assurance requires that—*

SE grantees ensure authorizers adequately monitor each charter school on recruiting, enrolling, retaining, and meeting all students' needs, including SWD, and ELs.

*ESSA § 4303(f)(2)(C)*

## Statutory Requirements—Compliance with Other Laws

**ESSA: Part C—Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools**



*As a reminder—*

**Subgrantees must comply with IDEA, 504, and ADA!**

# SWD Responsibilities for SE Grant Subgrantees



Admissions



Recruitment, Enrollment, Retention



Meeting All Students' Needs

# Admissions

- Federal law permits the use of weighted lottery for educationally disadvantaged students if permitted by State law.
- Weighted lottery cannot be used to exclusively serve a subset of students.
  - *Caveat*: Schools can specialize in providing specific services for students, such as students who need specialized instruction in reading, spelling, or writing.

ESSA § 4303(c)(3)

## Recruitment/Enrollment/Retention

- SE grantees must work with charters on—
  - Inclusive recruitment and enrollment practices, including eliminating barriers to enrollment for educationally disadvantaged students; and
  - Supporting **all** enrolled students to promote retention, including by reducing the overuse of discipline practices that remove students from the classroom.

*ESSA § 4303(f)(1)(A)*

# Meeting All Student Needs

- SE grantees must—
  - Help charter schools meet the needs of all students, including SWDs and ELs; and
  - Ensure authorizers monitor charter schools.

*ESSA § 4303(f)(1)(A)(iii)(III)*

# Discussion with Panelists

Best practices for providing support and oversight to charter schools in serving SWDs



**Sarah Okun**

True Measure Collaborative



**Megan Ohlssen**

The Center for Learner  
Equity



**Gina Plate**

California Charter Schools  
Association





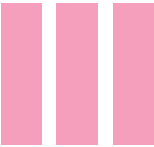
**TRUE MEASURE**  
**COLLABORATIVE**

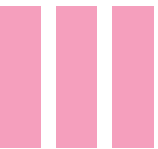


# TRUE MEASURE

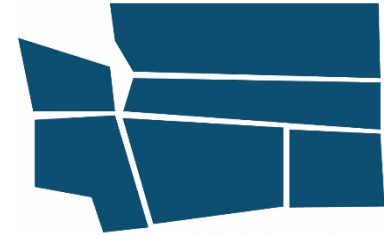
## COLLABORATIVE

TO FOSTER  
COLLABORATION  
AND BUILD  
CAPACITY IN  
SERVICE OF  
EQUITABLE  
EDUCATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR ALL STUDENTS





# TMC PARTNERS



WASHINGTON STATE  
CHARTER SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

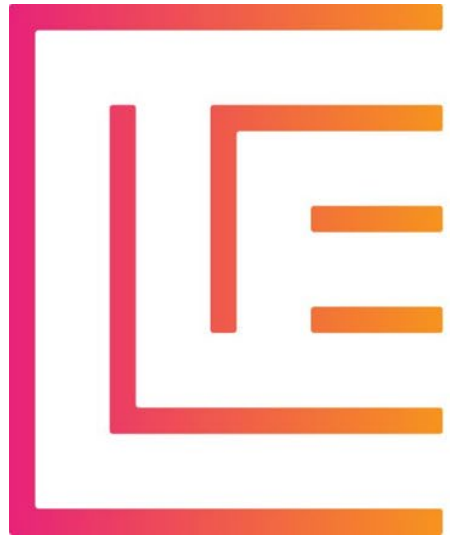


# TMC SERVICES



**TRUE MEASURE**  
COLLABORATIVE

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Technical Assistance</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Onsite, remote, and on-call support for compliant systems and practices</li><li>• 1:1 coaching for teachers</li><li>• Support with SpEd reporting and auditing</li><li>• Access to Cross-COST Team</li></ul> |
| <b>Resources</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• E-library of curated inclusion resources</li><li>• Monthly newsletter</li><li>• Nursing services</li></ul>                                                                                                   |
| <b>Professional Development</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Professional Learning Community</li><li>• Curated onsite trainings: MTSS   SpEd   PBIS   UDL   ELL   DEI</li><li>• Regional trainings</li></ul>                                                              |



The Center for  
**Learner Equity**



# The Center for Learner Equity

## Our Mission

We are committed to ensuring that students with disabilities, particularly those in under-resourced communities, have the quality educational opportunities and choices they need to thrive and learn. We accomplish this through research, advocacy, coalition formation, and capacity building with national, state, and local partners.



**Document and  
Communicate Facts**



**Inform Policy**



**Develop Coalitions**



**Build Capacity**

# Network of Infrastructure and Collaborative Entities Initiative (NICE Initiative)

*Strengthening and Elevating Impactful School Support Infrastructures*



# Supports/Services

Provide expert advice to grow capacity

Accelerate knowledge sharing across regions

Create and disseminate resources and tools

- Annual Symposium
- Resource curation, creation, dissemination
- Virtual convenings
- Professional learning community
- Virtual support hours
- Collective troubleshooting



# Let's discuss!

**Megan Ohlssen**

**Managing Director of Programs**

[mohlssen@centerforlearnerequity.org](mailto:mohlssen@centerforlearnerequity.org)





**California  
Charter Schools  
Association**





Charter schools in California are...

**public, free and open to all.**



**1,310**

California Charter  
Schools



**675,374**

California Charter  
Students in 2019-  
2020





# CCSA Supports California Charter Schools by...

## Strategic Plan Priorities for 2019-2020

### Strengthen Schools & Supporting Member Needs

- Connect members to funding, resources, and best practices
- Provide support regarding special education legal options
- Increase pipeline of new schools with both high capacity and high commitment to SWD
- Build schools' capacity to serve students with intensive needs
- Connect schools to practices most predictive of strong post-secondary SWD outcomes

### Building Supportive Policy Environment

- Advocate for charters in state and local special education policy discussions
- Fight for policies that give more resources to students with greater needs, promote inclusion and increased accountability for SWD, and preserve autonomy/flexibility
- Push for a charter's legal status to be addressed fairly in special education state accountability systems and new authorizer and renewal criteria

### Improving Public Opinion & Amplifying Our Voice

- Build relationships with potential coalition partners around needs of youth with disabilities, including disability organizations
- Ensure charter interests are heard at various SSPI and CDE working groups affecting special education issues that are heard in groups affecting charter school policy
- Share charter special education success stories across the state



# **Breakout Discussion and Action Planning**

# Grantee SWD Responsibilities for Sub-Grantees—Action Planning

## Reflection

- What is something you learned today that you would like to implement as you move forward in this work?

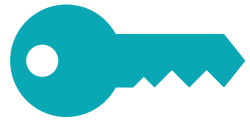
## Using the Action Planning Form

- Develop a goal for implementation.
- Describe your current reality.
- Describe any barriers to implementation.
- List actionable steps you can take to achieve your goal.

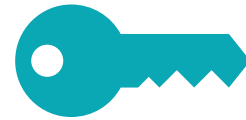


# Commitments and Ahas

## Key Takeaways



Clear understanding of CSP grantee responsibilities for serving SWDs.



Ideas for addressing challenges CSOs face in supporting charter schools in serving SWDs.



New strategies for providing support to charter schools in serving SWDs.



Action plans for next steps.





**What else do you need to  
effectively manage your grant as a  
CSO?**

# Response requested, please!

Please respond to the survey to let us know how we did on this event.



## Upcoming NCSRC Events and Resources

- Webinar: Common Monitoring Findings and How to Avoid Them on April 28 @ 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT



## How can you contact us?



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



[contact-us@charterschoolcenter.org](mailto:contact-us@charterschoolcenter.org)



THANK YOU!

