

# CHRISTEL HOUSE ACADEMY

## 2010-2011 Performance Analysis

### *Core Question 2: Is the organization effective and well-run?*

2.1. Is the school in sound fiscal health?	
STANDARD	The school presents significant concerns in no more than <u>one</u> of the following areas: a) its state financial audits (e.g., presence of “significant findings”); b) its financial staffing and systems; c) its success in achieving a balanced budget over the past three years; d) the adequacy of its projections of revenues and expenses for the next three years; e) its fulfillment of financial reporting requirements under Sections 10 and 17 of the charter agreement. In addition, if the school presents significant concerns in one area, it has a credible plan for addressing the concern that has been approved by the Mayor’s Office.

#### 2010-11 Performance: Meets Standard

Christel House Academy has established adequate staffing and systems for managing the school’s finances, has fulfilled its financial reporting requirements, and regularly meets its reporting deadlines in a timely and accurate manner.

The Mayor’s Office contracts with an independent accounting firm to complete annual financial performance reviews of each school. Based on a review of CHA’s finances for 2010-11, the Mayor’s Office found that Christel House Academy successfully achieved a balanced budget although the school had to rely on beginning cash and investments. CHA ended the fiscal year with adequate cash and investments and therefore meets the Mayor’s Office standard for this indicator.

2.2. Are the school’s student enrollment, attendance, and retention rates strong?	
STANDARD	The school is consistently fully enrolled. Student attendance and retention rates are generally at or above the school’s agreed-upon target rates.

#### 2010-11 Performance: Meets Standard

Christel House Academy met its enrollment targets set for 2010-11. The following chart displays the school’s target enrollment compared with its official fall enrollment, as reported by the IDOE.

Year	Target Enrollment	Fall Enrollment	Percent Below
2010-11	510	524	N/A

*Source:* Official fall enrollment figures from the IDOE. Target enrollment is the maximum capacity from the school’s charter agreement with the Mayor’s Office, submitted by the school.

The 2010-11 attendance rate at CHA was above the averages of both the county and the state.

	CHA	MC	IN
<b>2010-11 Attendance rate</b>	96.00%	94.89%	95.92%

No targets have been established for student retention rates for Christel House Academy.

Based on the 2010-11 performance, CHA meets the Mayor’s Office standard for this indicator because they were fully enrolled and had an attendance rate higher than that of both the state and county.

<b>2.3. Is the school’s Board active and competent in its oversight?</b>	
<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>The Board’s membership collectively contributes a broad skill set and fair representation of the community; Board members are knowledgeable about the school; roles and responsibilities of the Board are clearly delineated; Board meetings reflect thoughtful discussion and progress in the consideration of issues; overall, the Board provides consistent and competent stewardship of the school.</b>

2010-11 Performance: **Exceeds Standard**

The board of directors at Christel House Academy is active, experienced, and provides competent oversight of the school. Additionally, the board is comprised of members with a diverse range of professional expertise and extensive knowledge about the school, its policies and its issues of concern. Membership of the board has remained stable over time. The Board has been actively involved in board-appropriate decisions such as the hiring and evaluation of the school’s principals.

The Mayor’s Office regularly attends CHA’s quarterly board meetings and examines minutes of meetings held by the board. At meetings, the board consistently makes quorum and actively engages in the oversight of many aspects of school operations, including academic achievement, curriculum, professional development, programming, and extra-curricular activities.

<b>2.4. Is there a high level of parent satisfaction with the school?</b>	
<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>More than 80% but less than 90% of parents surveyed indicate that they are satisfied overall with the school.</b>
<i>Exceeds Standard</i>	<i>At least 90% of parents surveyed indicate that they are satisfied overall with the school.</i>

2010-11 Performance: **Exceeds Standard**

In the spring of each year, researchers administer anonymous surveys to parents of students enrolled at Mayor-sponsored charter schools. In 2010-11, 95% of CHA parents reported overall

satisfaction with the school. According to the data, the school exceeds the Mayor’s Office standard for performance for this indicator for the 2010-11 academic year.

<b>2.5. Is the school administration strong in its academic and organizational leadership?</b>	
<b>STANDARD</b>	The school’s leadership a) has sufficient academic and/or business expertise; b) has been sufficiently stable over time; c) has clearly defined roles and responsibilities among leaders and between leaders and the Board; d) actively engages in a process of continuous improvement which has led to some mid-course corrections.
<i>Exceeds Standard</i>	<i>The leadership displays exceptional academic and business expertise. Leadership turnover has been manageable and appropriate. Roles and responsibilities among leaders and between leaders and the Board are clear. The leadership has established exemplary processes to engage in continuous improvement which have led to significant enhancements to the school over time.</i>

2010-11 Performance: **Exceeds Standard**

The administration at CHA is strong in its academic and business expertise. The administration includes a principal for K-8 and a principal for the grade 9 (growing up to grade 12). The current K-8 Principal was hired in 2006 and has helped maintain an environment of high standards and support for both staff and students. The Principal is an exemplary leader who continues to work closely with the Board to implement policies and programs and to ensure the effective and efficient day-to-day operations of the school. Both principals have prior public school leadership experience.

In 2010-11, leadership at the school was well-organized, effective, and exceeded the Mayor’s Office standard for this indicator.

<b>2.6. Is the school meeting its school-specific organizational and management performance goals?</b>	
<b>Meets standard</b>	School has clearly met its school-specific organizational goal.

**Not applicable.** Christel House Academy did not have school-specific organizational and management performance goals that were evaluated in 2010-11.