

ANDREW J. BROWN 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

Andrew J. Brown 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 Andrew J. Brown Academy’s finances for 2010-11, the Mayor’s Office found that the school did achieve a balanced budget although the school had to rely on its beginning cash and investments to do so. Therefore, the school meets 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: Approaching Standard

Andrew J. Brown Academy did not meet 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	704	633	-10.0%

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 AJB was above the averages of both county and the state.

	AJB	MC	IN
2010-11 Attendance rate	96.01%	94.89%	95.92%

No targets have been established for student retention rates for Andrew J. Brown Academy.

Based on the 2010-11 performance, AJB is approaching the Mayor’s Office standard for this indicator because they were not fully enrolled but had an attendance rate above that of the county and state.

2.3. Is the school’s Board active and competent in its oversight?	
STANDARD	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.

2010-11 Performance: **Meets Standard**

The board of directors at Andrew J. Brown 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 relatively stable over time. The board added one additional member in the 2010-11 school year who brings legal expertise to the board.

The Mayor’s Office regularly attends 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.

2.4. Is there a high level of parent satisfaction with the school?	
STANDARD	More than 80% but less than 90% of parents surveyed indicate that they are satisfied overall with the school.
<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, 94% of AJB 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.

2.5. Is the school administration strong in its academic and organizational leadership?	
STANDARD	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 AJB is strong in its academic and business expertise. The principal, who has led the school throughout its duration, is an exemplary leader who directs a process of continuous improvement in the school. The principal continues to work closely with the Board and NHA to implement policies and programs and to ensure the effective and efficient day-to-day operations of the school. As evidenced in school leader reports at board meetings, Andrew J. Brown's leadership is actively engaged in a process of continuous improvement, commonly utilizing enrollment, testing, and discipline data to guide mid-course corrections. Therefore, in 2010-11, leadership at the school was well-organized, effective, and exceeded the Mayor's Office standard for this indicator.

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

Not applicable. Andrew J. Brown Academy did not have school-specific organizational and management performance goals that were evaluated in 2010-11.