

# DAMAR CHARTER ACADEMY

## 2012-2013 Performance Analysis

### *Core Question 3: Is the school meeting its operations and access obligations?*

3.1. Has the school satisfactorily completed all of its organizational and governance obligations?	
STANDARD	School has substantially completed all of its organizational and governance obligations as specified in the Compliance and Governance Handbook, including maintenance of adequate “compliance and governance binder” containing all required documents; completion of criminal background checks on all board members; transparency of meetings and decision-making in accordance with open meetings obligations; maintenance of adequate board minutes. Any concerns are minor and the school presents a credible plan to address them.

#### 2012-13 Performance: Exceeds Standard

For the 2012-13 school year, Damar Charter Academy completed all of its governance and organizational compliance obligations. Ms. Leta Echelbarger, School Leader, worked diligently with her staff to ensure compliance in all areas required by the Mayor’s Office of Education Innovation. In addition, Julie Gurulé, Admission/Guidance Counselor, often submitted required documentation in advance of compliance due dates, and the information submitted was clear and concise. Criminal background checks, board member resumes, and updates are sent immediately upon changes.

Board meetings were transparent with public notices always posted in advance of meetings and board minutes reflected thoughtful discussions that covered key areas. Board minutes were organized and presented in a manner that accurately reflected meetings. Board procedures and policies were followed in accordance with open meeting obligations, and the board was knowledgeable of all applicable laws including Indiana Open Door Law.

Damar Charter Academy established a solid team that worked well together to ensure compliance in all areas of governance. At the end of the school year, Ms. Lori Veshia, who was the Accountant for the school, and often assisted with the submission documentation, left for another job opportunity. Moving forward, the school must ensure that in her absence, documentation submission remains consistent and all governance obligations continue to be met. For the 2012-13 academic year, Damar Charter Academy met standard on this indicator as the school satisfactorily completed all of its organizational and governance obligations.

<b>3.2. Is the school's physical plant safe and conducive to learning?</b>	
<b>STANDARD</b>	Significant health and safety code requirements are being met AND the facility generally provides a safe environment that is conducive to learning, based on conditions such as: a design well-suited to meet the curricular and social needs of its students, faculty, and community members; a size appropriate for the enrollment and student-teacher ratios in each class; good maintenance and security; well-maintained equipment and furniture that match the educational needs of the students; and accessibility to all students.

2012-13 Performance: **Meets Standard**

In 2012-13, the Damar Charter Academy facility met all health and safety code requirements and provided a safe environment conducive to learning. The facility's design, size, maintenance, security, equipment and furniture were all adequate to meet the school's needs. The school was accessible to all including people with physical disabilities. Accordingly, the school **met** the Mayor's Office standard for this indicator for 2012-13.

<b>3.3. Has the school established and implemented a fair and appropriate pupil enrollment process?</b>	
<b>STANDARD</b>	The school's enrollment process complies with applicable law; there are minimal documented parent complaints suggesting that it is not being implemented fairly or appropriately; AND the school has engaged in outreach to students throughout the community.

2012-13 Performance: **Meets Standard**

Damar Charter Academy **met standard** because the school engaged in community outreach as a part of the recruitment process. The school did, however, have a lottery and enrollment process in place that complies with Indiana charter school law.

<b>3.4. Is the school properly maintaining special education files for its special needs students?</b>	
<b>STANDARD</b>	All of the following are evident in the school's special education files: (a) services outlined within Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) adequately match the exceptional needs of the student; (b) each need identified within the IEP has a corresponding goal and plan for assessment; (c) each goal is rigorous and is based on state and national learning standards; (d) explicit evidence exists to demonstrate that goals have evolved each year as the student develops; (e) specifically designed curriculum is outlined.

2012-13 Performance: **Meets Standard**

Damar Charter Academy **met standard** for this indicator based on the evaluation conducted by external consultants.

<b>3.5. Is the school fulfilling its legal obligations related to access and services to English as a Second</b>
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<b>Language (ESL) students?</b>	
<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>The school is fulfilling its legal obligations regarding ESL students, as indicated by conditions such as the following: appropriate staff have a clear understanding of current legislation, research and effective practices relating to the provision of ESL services; relationships with students, parents, and external providers that are well-managed and comply with law and regulation.</b>

**Not Evaluated:** Damar Charter Academy was not evaluated on this indicator for 2012-13.