

PADUA 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: Meets standard

For the 2012-13 school year, Padua Academy completed its organizational and governance obligations to the Mayor’s Office of Education Innovation. Ms. Cynthia Greer, who was the school leader at Padua Academy, submitted documentation in a timely manner and was responsive to documentation requests by the Mayor’s Office.

The Archdiocese of Indiana Board was the local governing board for Padua Academy as well as Andrew Academy. Ms. Connie Zittnan, Executive Director, worked with her staff to ensure all compliance documentation requested was submitted in a timely manner. Ms. Zittnan was responsible for ensuring that all organizational and governance obligations were met for both schools, but she worked more closely with Padua Academy in the areas of compliance. While this was helpful in ensuring governance obligations were met, there were times when there was confusion on the part of the school leader as to whether documentation had been sent via Ms. Zittnan or if items were past due. Clarity regarding the submission of documentation and roles and responsibilities would have benefitted all parties.

Both Ms. Zittnan and Ms. Greer ensured criminal background checks, board member resumes, and updates were sent upon changes. Board meetings were transparent with notices posted in advance of meetings in a location visible to the public. Board minutes were clear, concise and accurate. 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.

Documentation received from Ms. Zittnan and Ms. Greer met standard for this indicator, and further clarity around roles and responsibilities will strengthen the process.

3.2. Is the school's physical plant safe and conducive to learning?	
STANDARD	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, Padua Academy's 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. The Mayor's Office monitoring of Padua Academy's compliance with health and safety code requirements did not reveal any significant concerns related to these obligations. Accordingly, the school **met** the Mayor's Office standard for this indicator for 2012-13.

3.3. Has the school established and implemented a fair and appropriate pupil enrollment process?	
STANDARD	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

Padua Academy **met** standard for the 2012-13 school year. The school had an enrollment and a lottery process in place that complies with Indiana charter school law. It also provided detailed documentation regarding its outreach to prospective students and families. Based on these factors, the school met the Mayor's Office standard for 2012-13.

3.4. Do the school's special education files demonstrate that it is in legal compliance and is moving towards best practice?	
STANDARD	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; and e) specifically designed curriculum is outlined.

Not Evaluated. Padua Academy was not evaluated on this indicator for 2012-13.

3.5. Is the school fulfilling its legal obligations related to access and services to English as a Second Language (ESL) students?	
STANDARD	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.

Not Evaluated. Padua Academy was not evaluated on this indicator for 2012-13.