

Part I – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The Idaho Public Charter School Commission (IPCSC) is Idaho’s state-level charter school authorizing entity. The IPCSC is made up of 7 appointed commissioners who serve as the governing body and 5 employees who execute the day-to-day work. The IPCSC maintains a chair and vice chair as well as three standing committees: finance, new petitions, and renewals.

Because charter schools are not managed by a district office, the authorizer’s role is to ensure that the operations, financial health, and academic outcomes of a charter school justify the school’s use of public funds. At its core, the IPCSC is a risk-management team that serves a variety of stakeholders, including students, taxpayers, policy makers, school boards, and school administrators.

Mission: The IPCSC’s mission is to cultivate exemplary public charter schools.

Vision - The IPCSC envisions that living our mission will result in:

- Quality - Idaho families have exemplary charter school options.
- Autonomy - Charter schools design and implement unique educational programs.
- Accountability - Charter schools meet standards defined in the performance framework.
- Compliance - Charter schools operate in compliance with laws, rules, and regulations.
- Advocacy - The IPCSC advocates for student and public interests.

Values – The IPCSC values the following approach to executing our work:

- Professionalism – The IPCSC acts with respect and decorum.
- Efficiency – The IPCSC provides service with efficiency.
- Credibility – The IPCSC is a source of accurate information.
- Integrity – The IPCSC makes data-driven decisions that serve its mission and vision.
- Communication – the IPCSC communicates with and listens to stakeholders.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

The IPCSC is tasked with making approval and renewal decisions for the schools in its portfolio.

When a new charter school petition is determined likely to be successful and the IPCSC approves the school to operate, a performance certificate that outlines the terms and conditions under which the school is allowed to operate for the next five years is executed. At the end of the five (5) year term, the school applies for a renewal of that contract, and the IPCSC reviews the school’s performance outcomes to determine whether a next five (5) year term is warranted.

In between those decision points, the IPCSC staff engages in day-to-day oversight. This work includes compliance monitoring as well as evaluation of each school’s operational, financial, and academic outcomes. The IPCSC’s philosophy is to educate and inform a school before engaging in oversight and enforcement of consequences. This means that a significant amount of staff’s time is spent in communication and facilitation of resources with the goal of supporting charter school governing boards in making informed decisions. This also means that the IPCSC is obligated to investigate concerns and to inform entities responsible for administration of a law if there is reason to believe that a provision of law has been violated. The oversight work across each school’s operational term is reported in a performance report each year. These reports inform IPCSC renewal decisions.

Revenue and Expenditures:

Revenue	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
State Regulatory Fund	The Public Charter School Commission was part of the Office of the State Board of Education during this time and as such has no revenue history.			
Total				
Expenditure	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Personnel Costs	The Public Charter School Commission was part of the Office of the State Board of Education during this time and as such has no expenditure history.			
Operating Expenditures				
Capital Outlay				
Total				

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Number of schools for which the IPCSC provides academic, operational, and financial oversight, including site visits, performance reports, and ops support.	37	41	44	50
Number of legal compliance investigations that required more than 30 days to resolve.	3	1	1	2
Number of new petitions considered through a 12 week cycle.	5	8	5	5
Number of renewal petitions considered through a portfolio evaluation process.	12	13	0*	*0

*Renewals are considered on a five-year cycle. No schools came due in 2020 or 2021, this number will not be 0 in any future year.

Performance Highlights:

In the 2021 Legislative Session, S1115 was passed and signed into law, making IPCSC a standalone agency under the State Board of Education.

As a part of this process, the IPCSC identified the goals that have been set forth in the Strategic Plan and this report. Because the IPCSC has operated as a program that served as the sole provider of key services, data for these key services are included in this report. However, as the IPCSC adopted a strategic plan for the first time in June of 2021, data points for performance measures outlined below are not available.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure		FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Goal 1: The IPCSC will cultivate a portfolio of exemplary charter schools.						
G1 Objective 1: The IPCSC will make data-driven decisions.						
G1 O1 Measure 1: Standard of Quality						
All new charter school petitions approved without conditions will meet all of the established standards of quality.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
All approved amendment requests meet the applicable standards of quality	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark					
G1 O1 Measure 2: Annual School Performance Reports						
All schools whose renewal applications are approved without conditions meet all standards on the school's most recent annual performance report.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---

All schools whose renewal applications are approved with conditions include conditions specific to the unmet measures noted in the school's most recent annual performance report.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G1 O1 Measure 3: Meeting Minutes						
The IPCSC will engage in at least five (5) professional development mini-sessions to be conducted at regular commission meetings each year.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G1 Objective 2: Provide effective oversight.						
G1 O2 Measure 1: Performance framework.						
95% of IPCSC schools will meet or exceed standard on all operational measures each year.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
95% of IPCSC schools will meet or exceed standard on all financial measures each year.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
75% of IPCSC schools will meet or exceed standard on all academic measures by 6/30/2025.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G1 O2 Measure 2: Complaint and Concern Log						
IPCSC staff will log complaints and notify the school of complaints received within 48 hours of receipt (as per IPCSC policy).	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
IPCSC staff will work with the SDE to determine a process by which a member of the SDE can indicate performance concerns to the IPCSC before July 1 2021.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G1 O2 Measure 3: Courtesy Letters						
95% of the concerns that cannot be resolved within 30 days are engaged as a formal investigation and documented via courtesy letters.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G1 Objective 3: Assist schools in achieving success with performance outcomes.						
G1 O3 Measure 1: Annual performance Reports						
Provide outreach to every school that does not meet standard on one or more measure as reported on the school's annual performance report by February 15th each year.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G1 O3 Measure 2: School Survey Results						
95% of IPCSC schools will provide feedback via an annual feedback survey.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
Goal 2: The IPCSC will advocate for student, taxpayer, and charter sector interests.						

G2 Objective 1: Contribute to effective charter school law.						
G2 O1 Measure 1: Maintenance of Effort Records						
The IPCSC Director will dedicate at least 10% of his/her time to activities that directly contribute to continuous improvement of charter school law.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G2 Objective 2: Execute a communication plan that reaches stakeholders.						
G2 O2 Measure 1: Constant Contact Analytics						
The IPCSC will achieve a 75% open rate on quarterly newsletters sent to all IPCSC school administrators and board chairs by June 30, 2025.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G2 O2 Measure 2: Social media Outreach						
The IPCSC will increase the number of people regularly reached through social media to 200 by June 30, 2025.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G2 O2 Measure 3: School Survey Results						
The IPCSC will annually directly deliver this report to at least 50 key policy makers by June 30, 2025.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G2 Objective 3: Facilitate access to meaningful resources for charter schools						
G2 O3 Measure 1: Constant Contact Click Rate						
The IPCSC will achieve a 50% click rate with regard to resources provided in newsletters by June 30, 2025.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---
G2 O3 Measure 2: Network Event Attendance Rosters						
The IPCSC will engage at least 100 unique stakeholders each year through networking events by June 30, 2025.	achieved	---	---	---	---	<i>New measure</i>
	benchmark	---	---	---	---	---

Performance Measure Explanatory Note:

In the 2021 Legislative Session, S1115 was passed and signed into law, making IPCSC a standalone agency under the State Board of Education.

As a part of this process, IPCSC identified the goals that have been set forth in the Strategic Plan and this report. Since IPCSC has not had a full year to evaluate, this report does not provide data for the Measures identified above.

<p>For More Information Contact</p> <p>Director Jenn Thompson (208) 332-1594 Jenn.thompson@osbe.idaho.gov</p>
