



2023 COLORADO LEAGUE FALL SURVEY

SURVEY PURPOSE

By gathering a baseline set of facts and information, the League will be better positioned to advocate for charter schools and policy solutions that will directly benefit Colorado charter schools.

NOTES & METHODOLOGY

This survey is intended to be completed at the school level.

- We encourage CMO and network leaders to incentivize participation among their school leaders as this survey is important to understanding the overall charter school landscape and important issues and opportunities for Colorado charter schools.
- Across CMOs and charter networks, answers to these questions will frequently vary at the school level due to different authorizers, enrollment levels, demographics, and geographies. Thus, network staff should not attempt to complete the survey.

SURVEY QUESTIONS

I. SCHOOL INFO

1. **What is your name?**
 - Free Response
2. **What is your title?**
 - Free Response
3. **What is your email?**
 - Free Response
4. **What is the name of your charter school?**
 - Free Response
5. **What is the current grade configuration for your school?** [For example, K-8, 6-12, etc.]
 - Free Response
6. **In what year is your charter school next up for renewal with your authorizer?**
 - 2022
 - 2023
 - 2024
 - 2025

- 2026
 - 2027 or after
- 7. What is your primary school model?
 - Dropdown Menu
- 8. Is your school part of a charter school network or CMO?
 - Yes
 - No [\[Skip to Q11\]](#)
- 9. If so, what is the name of your charter school network or CMO?
 - Free Response
- 10. Does your network/CMO leader identify as a person of color?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
- 11. Does your school leader identify as a person of color?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
- 12. What is your current FTE teacher headcount for your school?
 - Free Response
- 13. What percentage of your teachers are licensed?
 - Free Response
- 14. What are the biggest challenges and opportunities for your school over the next three years?
 - Free Response
- 15. What are the biggest opportunities and challenges for the Colorado charter sector over the next three years?
 - Free Response

II. ENROLLMENT LANDSCAPE

- 16. What is/was the target enrollment for your charter school for 2023-24?
 - Free Response
- 17. What is your anticipated target enrollment in 3 years (Fall 2026)?
 - Whole Number
- 18. Is your charter school still in the process of expanding and/or adding new grade levels?
 - Yes
 - No
- 19. Is your charter school currently fully enrolled for 2023-24?
 - Yes
 - No [\[Skip to Next Section: Facilities Landscape\]](#)
- 20. If yes, does your charter school (or charter network) have plans to expand and/or replicate?
 - Yes

- ☐ No
- ☐ N/A

21. Does your charter school currently have a waiting list with unique student names?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No [\[Skip to Next Section: Facilities Landscape\]](#)

22. If yes, how many students are on your waiting list?

- ☐ Whole Number

23. If your school is overenrolled (oversubscribed), do you use a first-come, first-served system or a lottery system?

- ☐ First-come, first-served
- ☐ Standard lottery
- ☐ Weighted lottery (for underserved student groups)
- ☐ Unified enrollment system
- ☐ N/A
- ☐ Other (please explain)

24. What are your biggest challenges to charter school replication and expansion? [\[Multiple Select\]](#)

- ☐ Declining Community Enrollment
- ☐ Declining School Enrollment/Demand
- ☐ Changing Parent Preferences
- ☐ State/Local Political Obstacles
- ☐ Authorizer Relationships
- ☐ Academic Performance
- ☐ Staffing and Talent Issues
- ☐ Facilities Constraints & Affordability
- ☐ Local Competition from Quality Options
- ☐ Other [Please Describe]

III. FACILITIES LANDSCAPE

25. Does the school facility have a full preparatory food kitchen that meets the requirements to prepare hot meals under the federally subsidized meal program?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

26. Which specific facilities issues did the school encounter? [\[Multiple Select\]](#)

- ☐ Delayed opening (or start) date
- ☐ Financing and/or affordability issues
- ☐ Issues with new construction and/or development
- ☐ Acquisition issues and/or lack of existing suitable facilities in the area
- ☐ Permitting and zoning,
- ☐ Insurance issues
- ☐ Unknown

- Other (please specify)

27. Does the school's current facility have adequate space for its projected enrollment three years from now?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

28. Who owns the school's facility?

- The school (either independently or through a building corporation)
- A CMO (or a entity associated with a management organization)
- A local school district
- A government entity other than a traditional school district
- A private landlord

29. Over the past five years, has the school purchased a new school facility and/or land?

- Yes
- No

30. Over the past five years, has the school facility undergone any major capital projects that cost \$100,000 or more?

- Yes
- No [\[Skip to Q32\]](#)

31. What was the total cost of these capital projects?

- Dollar Amount

32. Does the school have private bond or loan expenditures for the facility and/or the land associated with the facility?

- Yes
- No [\[Skip to Q36\]](#)

33. What will be the total annual principal and interest payment for the private bond or loan for the current school year?

- Dollar Amount

34. What is the interest rate on the non-taxpayer bond or loan?

- Interest Rate

35. What was the length in years of the non-taxpayer bond or loan at origination?

- Whole Number

36. Does the school currently occupy a facility at no cost or for a nominal cost like \$1 per year?

- Yes
- No

37. Does the school currently pay rent for its facility and/or land associated with its facility? [Note: This includes schools that pay rent for the use of a government facility].

- Yes
- No [\[Skip to Q39\]](#)

38. How much rent will the school pay for its facility and/or land associated with its facility for the current school year?

- Dollar Amount
- 39. Has your geographic school district had a successful bond campaign in the past five years?**
 - Yes
 - No [\[Skip to Next Section: Authorizer Practices\]](#)
- 40. Has your school received proceeds from a successful school district bond campaign in the past five years?**
 - Yes
 - No
- 41. What is the total dollar amount that your school received from this bond campaign?**
 - Dollar Amount

IV. AUTHORIZER PRACTICES

- 42. Who is your current authorizer?**
 - Free Response
- 43. Please rate the overall quality of your current relationship with your authorizer?**
 - Poor
 - Neutral
 - Good
 - Excellent
 - Other, please explain
- 44. Do you feel like your authorizer treats you as an equal member of your geographic school district?**
 - Rarely
 - Sometimes
 - Often
 - Always
 - N/A
- 45. Do you feel like your authorizer provides you with sufficient autonomy to execute on your charter contract?**
 - Rarely
 - Sometimes
 - Often
 - Always
 - N/A
- 46. Please provide any additional context or explanation around your authorizer relationship?**
 - Free Response
- 47. How much does your authorizer charge for central administrative overhead?** State Statute:
“The chartering school district may choose to retain the actual amount of the charter school's per pupil share of the central administrative overhead costs for services actually provided to the charter school, up to five percent.” [CRS 22-30.5-112](#)

- Percentage

48. What services does your authorizer make available to you as part of this central administrative overhead?

- Free Response

49. Is there a negotiated fee structure for special education services?

- Yes
- No

50. Does the school purchase any optional services from the authorizer and for what fee?

- Yes

No **[Skip to Next Section: State Task Forces]**

51. Are there additional services from your authorizer that you feel like you have to participate in and what are their associated fees?

- Free Response

V. STATE TASK FORCES

Accountability: Passed during the 2023 legislative session, [H.B. 23-1241](#) creates a representative task force of 26-members that studies academic opportunities, inequities, promising practices in schools, and improvements to the accountability and accreditation system.

Discipline: The School Discipline Task Force was created as part of the 2023 legislative session ([S.B.23-029](#)) to study and make recommendations regarding school discipline policies and practices, State and Local discipline reporting requirements, and local engagement.

Finance: [Senate Bill 23-287](#) creates a Public School Finance Task Force for the purpose of examining and making recommendations concerning making the school finance formula simpler, less regressive, and more adequate, understandable, transparent, equitable and student-center.

Transportation: [SB23-094](#) creates a School Transportation Modernization Task Force to study the issues facing school transportation systems and use the study's findings to develop and recommend policies, laws, and rules to improve public school transportation across the state in order to better meet student needs and alleviate burdens on school districts.

52. Accountability: As we represent you and the charter sector as part of this task force, is there anything you would like the League to know about how state accountability and assessment systems impact your school?

- Free Response

53. Discipline: As we represent you and the charter sector as part of this task force, is there anything you would like the League to know about how school discipline issues or policies impact your school?

- Free Response

54. Finance: As we represent you and the charter sector as part of this task force, is there anything you would like the League to know about how the current school finance system impacts your school?

- Free Response

55. Does your school currently provide daily transportation to/from school?

- Yes, for any family that desires it
- Yes, but only on a limited basis
- No

56. How much does transportation availability impact the enrollment and attendance rates at your charter school?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Moderately
- Significantly
- Extremely

57. Do you have any suggestions for improving access to public school transportation for charter school students?

- Free Response

58. As the League looks ahead to the 2024 legislative session, what are the top one or two advocacy priorities for your school?

- Free Response

VI. YOUTH SPORTS

59. Do you currently offer sports programs for your students?

- Yes
- No **[End: Submit Survey]**

60. What are the current barriers to increasing sports participation and adding new sports programs?

- Free Response

61. Is your school interested in increasing participation in your current sports programs or adding new sports programs?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

62. Specifically, which sports programs would you be interested in adding or expanding?

- Free Response

63. Would a one-time infusion of money help you increase sports participation, or would you need ongoing support to increase participation?

- Yes, a one-time infusion would be sufficient
- No, we would need ongoing annual support
- Possibly, it depends on the amount of money or the specific program
- N/A

[END SURVEY]