Unification Advisory Committee:
March Quarterly Milestone Update

February 21, 2017
Guiding Principles

- **High Standards:** Every child in every neighborhood should have access to great public schools

- **Continued Progress:** We cannot be comfortable with the gains of the last 10 years; we must continually raise expectations, expand what is working, and cultivate new leaders and new ideas

- **Choice for Families:** Every family should have access to a diverse set of school options for their child through a clear and fair process

- **Ensuring Equity:** Differentiated resources and attention must go to ensuring that schools are succeeding for each individual student, based on his or her unique gifts, talents, and needs

- **Empowering Schools and their Communities:** Educators closest to students and families are empowered to make instructional decisions, and the community has a transparent understanding of their school options, the progress being made, and the way in which funds are being used
Our current process to achieve our milestones is going well, and we are on track to achieve almost all of our March milestones and have already made significant progress towards many of the June milestones.

We have updated our timeline for the Common Charter Contract to allow for increased engagement with School Leaders and Charter Boards.

Based on feedback from parents, families, school leaders, and other stakeholders, you will notice several changes that we are making in the unification process.

We have continued to engage with our Task Forces, school leaders, and the broader community on a regular basis in order to ensure that the policies and processes that we are bringing forward reflect their input.
Timeline for vision and long-term strategic plan

**November 2016 – January 2017**

**Student Input and Initial Planning**

- Student’s apply to Student Advisory Committee
- Gain initial input from board and additional stakeholders

**Feb. - May 2017**

**Student Vision & Community Input**

- Student task force works to answer key questions for a unified system of schools
- Community survey launched
- On-going work with the Board

**June - July 2017**

**OPSB and Community Leader Goal Setting**

- OPSB works with community leaders to create a long-term strategic plan based on student and community input

**August - September 2017**

**Final Long-Term Strategic Plan Presented**

- OPSB will present a final version of a strategic plan to community stakeholders
OPSB will launch a Community Visioning Survey in March

**Survey Goal:** As laid out in the plan, we are committed to engaging broadly in an inclusive process to create a vision for our system of schools

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**Satisfaction with Current System**

**Goal:** Understand the community’s level of satisfaction with the New Orleans public school system and how the system reflects (or does not) our guiding principles

- Identify satisfaction with key areas related to OPSB’s guiding principles, such as: access to great schools, choice for families, student support, and overall school performance
- Extent that OPSB has improved in the last 10 years
- Satisfaction with current schools, services received, and other areas

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**Priorities for the System**

**Goal:** Understand what the community believes should be the leading priorities for public education in New Orleans

- Rank priorities for public education in New Orleans in order of importance
- Rate potential challenges for student learning in New Orleans (for example, quality teachers, school safety) to identify areas where additional support may be needed

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**OPSB’s Role in Our System**

**Goal:** Understand how the community understands OPSB as an organization, and what that implies for our communication

- Identify what “Orleans Parish School Board” refers to (e.g., local Board of Education, district central office, entire public school system for New Orleans)
- Provide feedback on potential names for a unified, locally-run school system in New Orleans.
Over the course of the summer, we heard a wide variety of feedback from the community. Across all four community meetings, eight themes represented 80% of all comments. These themes include:

- Curriculum
- Accountability
- Teacher Training
- Discipline & Culture
- EnrollNOLA
- Legal: SPED & ELL
- Collaboration
- Funding

For other comments, they may be addressed through other community processes or within the scope of the unification plan.
OPSB is committed to ensuring that we are responding to the ideas and concerns that we have heard from the community throughout the unification process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Themes from the Community</th>
<th>OPSB’s Response</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accountability</td>
<td>On-going process to revise the School Performance Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>EnrollNOLA Transition Plan created in December 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPED and ELL</td>
<td>OPSB Team restructured to better meet student needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration</td>
<td>Continual work with RSD, school leaders, and other stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>On-going work to ensure financial viability for OPSB and the system</td>
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**Addressed in the Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum / Culture</th>
<th>Protect schools’ autonomy to allow educators to make decisions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Career Ed</td>
<td>On-going work with RSD to establish more robust CTE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Schools</td>
<td>Applications currently open to establish new schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>Launched pilot program to provide services in schools</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Not Addressed in the Plan**
Unification Update: Milestones
Agenda for today

1. Progress Update
2. Milestone Spotlight
3. Questions from the UAC
4. Public Comment
Five of six unification milestones have been met, the Common Charter Contract will be completed in April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Functional Area</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Complete</th>
<th>On Track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Portfolio</strong></td>
<td>Establish test monitoring guidance &amp; continued work on School Performance Framework</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Align authorization standards between OPSB and RSD systems</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Develop Common Charter Contract</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Facilities</strong></td>
<td>Determine OPSB oversight of facilities maintenance and repair standards; additional policies (lease, handbook, etc.)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Finance/ Operations</strong></td>
<td>Establish policy and process for management of differentiated funding</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ensure OPSB has access to student data for oversight</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Based on feedback from our schools, we have revised the timeline for engagement and input.

**Contract Revision and Feedback Process**

- **January 25th**: School Leaders and Counsel are provided with 1st draft
- **January 31st**: Additional Office Hours are held to discuss draft & provide feedback
- **Jan. 25th - Feb. 6th**: Redlining and feedback period
- **February 6th – 14th**: OPSB incorporates changes and addresses feedback
- **February 15th**: Additional feedback from School Leaders and Board Chairs
- **February 17th – March 8th**: Additional feedback from counsel and input on specific issues
- **March 20th**: Legal Office Hours: Review and discuss additional revisions
- **April 20th**: Common Charter Contract considered Board for approval

**Rationale for Timeline**

- Current process provides 12 weeks for engagement
- Due to considerable feedback received from school leaders and school counsel, OPSB has decided to bring the Common Charter Contract before the Board on its April 20th, 2017 Board Meeting
- This will allow schools additional time to review the contract, meet with their boards, and provide additional input to OPSB
We have already engaged in significant work to achieve our June Milestones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Milestone Deliverables</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio</td>
<td>Determine modifications for alternative schools</td>
<td>• Draft of updated School Performance Framework</td>
<td>• In process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charter operator enrollment cap policy</td>
<td>• Updated OPSB Policy; has already been moved forward</td>
<td>• Draft done, to be approved in the Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citywide Services and Enrollment</td>
<td>Transition plan for the Youth Opportunity Center</td>
<td>• Process document for transition plan</td>
<td>• In process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Determine OPSB’s role in supporting schools in their service of students with special needs</td>
<td>• School Performance Framework • OPSB policy</td>
<td>• In process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>Maintenance and repair standards; accountability processes for OPSB-owned facilities</td>
<td>• Facilities lease; OPSB policy; handbook has already been developed</td>
<td>• Draft of repair standards has been approved by Facilities Task Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Modify and improve OPSB facilities lease</td>
<td>• Facilities lease</td>
<td>• Draft lease is in process and will be vetted by the Facilities Task Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEA</td>
<td>Provide information to current OPSB schools about chargebacks and services</td>
<td>• Communication document to schools clarifying chargebacks to schools for LEA-related services</td>
<td>• Preliminary chargebacks presented; to be finalized in Spring 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Work on June milestones is underway and substantial progress has been made

Portfolio Milestone
- The Operator Enrollment Cap policy has been developed collaboratively by the OPSB and school leaders, and came before the Board for first reading in February
- This policy gives the Superintendent the opportunity to set enrollment caps on school operators

Facilities Milestones
- OPSB and RSD have worked with the Facilities Task Force to develop a facilities handbook addressing maintenance and repair standards and new facilities lease agreement
- This draft of the handbook reflects the input of schools from across the city and is aimed at ensuring safe and clean learning environment for educators and students

LEA Responsibilities
- Work is underway to provide detailed information about LEA-related chargebacks and services now that schools have decided on their LEA status for the 2017-18 school year
- Schools have been presented with preliminary estimates in order to allow them to make informed decisions
Based on stakeholder feedback, we have adjusted the timing of some June milestones.

**Authorization, Enrollment, and Capacity Alignment**

- In December, OPSB in conjunction with the RSD established a plan to transition EnrollNOLA to OPSB by July 2018. Given this timeline, OPSB will ensure that the necessary enrollment polices are in place by December 2017 in order to put relevant items in place for the enrollment process for the 2018-2019 school year.

**Facilities Policies**

- In order to allow for the significant work of Facilities Master Planning that will occur during the Summer of 2017, OPSB will present a policy relating to the sale and use of vacant OPSB properties as a September 2017 Milestone.

- Facilities Master Planning will also impact the planning process for the Facilities Preservation Fund; in order to allow for ample time and input from relevant stakeholders, OPSB will make this a December 2017 Milestone.

- We recognize the need for ongoing engagement around how we authorize new schools and want to ensure that our approach is representative of the needs of our students; therefore, we want to engage further with the community on our approach.

- In December, OPSB in conjunction with the RSD established a plan to transition EnrollNOLA to OPSB by July 2018. Given this timeline, OPSB will ensure that the necessary enrollment polices are in place by December 2017 in order to put relevant items in place for the enrollment process for the 2018-2019 school year.
Milestone Spotlight: Policy
Written regulations that set up the basic structure and parameters for charter monitoring, evaluation, intervention, and renewal decisions; provides specific measures for most important evaluation components

**Anticipated Completion:**
Fall 2017

Evaluation rubric and informational tool on all financial, operational, and academic measures, requirements, and processes for holding schools accountable

**Anticipated Completion:**
September 2017

Legal document that formalizes OPSB’s agreement to authorize a charter school and allow it to operate for a set term of years, subject to terms of revocation

**Anticipated Completion:**
April 2017
The draft of the Common Charter Contract has been simplified for clarity and accessibility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Items Addressed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Establishment of School</td>
<td>Term Length, rules for the board, and facilities and maintenance standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Educational Program</td>
<td>Educational program of charter schools including: school performance, pupil</td>
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<td>progression plan, SPED, English Learners</td>
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<tr>
<td>III. Charter School Administration and Operation</td>
<td>Enrollment, Parent / Guardian communication, and operational services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. School Finance</td>
<td>School funding, OPSB withholding, charter financial obligations, tuition and</td>
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<td>fees and shared services</td>
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<tr>
<td>V. Transparency and Accountability</td>
<td>Oversight Authority, Student Data, Meetings and Reporting</td>
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<tr>
<td>VI. Personnel</td>
<td>Standards regarding personnel employed and contracted by Charter Schools in</td>
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<td>Orleans Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td>VII. Charter Renewal, Revocation/Suspension, and</td>
<td>Charter renewal, suspension, modification, and school closure for Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure</td>
<td>Schools in Orleans Parish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII. Insurance and Surety</td>
<td>Parameters surrounding various types of insurance that charter schools and</td>
</tr>
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<td>charter boards are responsible for maintaining</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Two policies that support the common charter contract are currently in first reading

**Policy HAA lays out the following guidelines for the Charter School Operating Agreement**

- The School Board will approve charter operating agreements for all charter schools under the board's jurisdiction.

- The Superintendent will present a common charter operating agreement to the School Board for approval prior to the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. In subsequent years, the school board may approve modifications to the common charter operating agreement upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

- President of the School Board will sign the contract once a charter school has been approved for an initial or renewal term.

**Policy HAC has been drafted and governs various parameters for schools both in and out of the LEA**

- Each charter school must execute an **LEA Agreement** with OPSB that defines the responsibilities of each party.

- Charter schools in OPSB’s LEA are responsible for the provision of all required services, except as provided for in this agreement.

- Each year, schools can request to be an independent LEA by the OPSB established deadline.

- The Superintendent will make a recommendation to the Board by March for consideration.

- School becomes its own LEA on July 1st of subsequent fiscal year if approved.
Operator Enrollment Cap Policy

- Current Status: First Reading (for inclusion in charter contract)

- Key Proposal Parameters:
  - Superintendent required to establish operator enrollment cap
  - Suspension of policy permitted under limited emergency circumstances, with School Board approval required for suspension beyond one academic year

- Rationale:
  - Protects choice for families while ensuring a diversity of school options for families
  - Regulatory/oversight component of managing overall system of schools
  - Cap can help avoid a “too big to fail” situation for large charter organizations
  - Operators seeking the privilege of serving more students than the proposed caps, should be subject to more scrutiny
Proposed Differentiated Funding Policy and Adjustments

- Current Status: Notice of Intent for First Reading, March 2017

- Key Recommended Proposal Provisions
  - Current (FY17) formula to remain in place for FY18 and FY19 (through June 30th, 2019)
  - Superintendent authority to revise in future years, with required engagement and notification to schools of intent by November, and final formula to be completed by Jan 31st

- Rationale:
  - Computation to remain unchanged through June 30, 2019 in order to:
    ▶ Focus administration, staff, and school leader time and efforts on critical unification efforts that must be addressed in the next two years
    ▶ Collect reliable multi-year data on the use of the current computation’s allocations to inform potential future changes
    ▶ Provide budget stability for planning purposes as schools are transitioning back to OPSB and some Type 1s and 3s are becoming their own LEAs
Milestone Spotlight: School Performance Framework
The Authorization and Accountability Task Force has engaged in a robust review of the current School Performance Framework (SPF) and has offered input to OPSB.

By September 2017, OPSB will present a new school performance framework, which reflects the discussion and debate of stakeholders along with state-mandated ESSA obligations. In the interim, OPSB will present a draft modified School Performance Framework to the community with incorporated OPSB policies by March 2017 for reaction.

Primary Charge for Task Force:

“By September 2017, OPSB will present a new school performance framework, which reflects the discussion and debate of stakeholders along with state-mandated ESSA obligations. In the interim, OPSB will present a draft modified School Performance Framework to the community with incorporated OPSB policies by March 2017 for reaction.”

Implications for the Task Force:

**OPSB will revise**
- Standards and Process for Charter School Evaluation
- OPSB Policies: Section H
  - Evaluation, Renewal, Closure, Revocation, Monitoring, and Intervention
To meet the March UAC Milestone, the Authorization and Accountability Task Force has engaged in a process to update the Financial and Organizational Standards for schools and identify a path forward to help ensure sound test monitoring practices are in place.
We have a set of objectives driving the development of a new school performance framework

- **Clearly articulate a set of rigorous, fair, and transparent standards** OPSB has for charter schools in areas of academic, financial, and organizational performance that are aligned to excellence and equity.

- **Enable OPSB to accurately and efficiently monitor school performance and compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations**, react to schools if they fall below standards through appropriate discipline, and make data-driven and transparent charter extension and renewal determinations.

- **Incentivize and reward continued progress** towards high standards among students, schools, and CMOs.

- **Provide school and CMO leaders with accurate, timely, comprehensive, and accessible information on their performance, and the implications thereof**; and

- **Provide families with accurate, timely, and comprehensive and accessible information on school performance to help aid in school choice decisions.**
The Task Force has helped OPSB make significant progress towards its Unification Milestones.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Health Measures</th>
<th>Organizational Effectiveness Measures</th>
<th>School Quality Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Is the school/network financially sound and fiscally responsible?</td>
<td>• Is the school governed and managed in a responsible way?</td>
<td>• Work to be accomplished in the next cycle, and relies on ESSA proposal by the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Will be formally evaluated on an annual basis and monitored throughout the year</td>
<td>• Will be formally evaluated on an annual basis and monitored throughout the year</td>
<td>• Emerging ideas focus on:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current Draft Measures:</td>
<td>• Measures, by Sub-Category:</td>
<td>• Outcomes, not compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current Ratio</td>
<td>• School Governance</td>
<td>• Academic outcomes PLUS..</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cash on Hand</td>
<td>• Administrative Expectations</td>
<td>• Student Stability Rates</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Enrollment Variance</td>
<td>• Family Communications</td>
<td>• Other measures that may help assess student experience, such as student surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Debt to Asset Ratio</td>
<td>• Student Enrollment and Privacy Practices</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Default</td>
<td>• Special Populations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>• Data Integrity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Unqualified Audit</td>
<td>• Facility Maintenance and Safety</td>
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Additional progress has been made towards building a unified expectations on test monitoring

Current Proposal:

- *Make amendments to current OPSB Policy HA*, which require that all charter schools under OPSB’s jurisdiction to provide for one day of test monitoring at each charter school by an external third party monitor annually, regardless of renewal status.

- *Develop OPSB’s Superintendent’s “administrative procedures” on Test Administration by July 1, 2017*. Such procedures would be informed by extensive conversations with stakeholders during the spring of 2017 and may include items such as:
  - Requirements for sharing findings from external test monitor with OPSB
  - Requirements for contracts with external vendors to coordinate with OPSB to determine day school is monitored, without school knowledge
  - Timelines and expectations for submission on testing schedules by grade, subject and number of students
  - Aligned testing windows for specific computer-based tests*
  - Handling of testing materials*

*Procedural requirements in theses areas in particular have been identified by school leaders as potentially problematic and/or burdensome*
While we have made great strides thus far, the work ahead is significant.

### Essential Steps

- Finalize the draft financial and organizational measures, inclusive of targets and additional guidance.
- Develop the School Quality measures, given state adjustments in SPS.
- Develop process for calculating overall ratings within and across the three performance categories.
- Develop test monitoring administrative procedures, specific focus on computer-based tests.
- Revisit and make revisions to OPSB Policy HAB ad HC.

If you have additional questions, please reach out to Dina Hasiotis at Dina_Hasiotis@opsb.us.
Questions from the UAC
Opportunity for Public Comment
Closing

- We appreciate the continued work of the UAC in the effort to unify the public school system in New Orleans

- If you have additional comments, please reach out to unification@opsb.us

- The next Unification Advisory Committee Meeting will be on **May 24, 2017** at **5:00 PM** in the **OPSB Conference Room**
Update Accountability process & create streamlined Performance Framework

**Milestone Progress**

OPSB has created draft Financial and Operational Performance Frameworks and has established a test monitoring policy

- OPSB leadership, the RSD, and the Authorization, Accountability and Performance Task Force collaborated to develop a draft set of financial and organizational performance measures, targets, and rating scales
- OPSB has worked to research authorization standards throughout the country and has incorporated many of those into the draft standards
- The Task Force agreed that OPSB will require test monitoring at all schools every year, rather than just in schools’ renewal years

**Next Steps**

- OPSB will continue to develop the rest of the School Performance Framework over the coming months while considering the upcoming implementation of ESSA
- The School Performance Framework will be finalized by September 2017 for implementation in the 2018-19 school year
Align authorization standards between OPSB and RSD systems

Milestone Progress

OPSB and RSD have and will continue to work together closely on issues related to school authorization

- This document clarifies the role of the RSD and OPSB during the 2017-2018 school year and outlines how the organizations will collaborate to around authorization

- Additionally, the document lays out how RSD and OPSB have worked together in the past and how they plan to work together in the future on issues such as charter renewals, portfolio planning, facilities use, and the Common Charter contract

- See document for more details

Next Steps

- OPSB will continue to collaborate with the RSD in the 2017-2018 school year in order to ensure that authorization decisions are made in a way that best serves students and families
**Milestone Progress**

An updated draft of the Common Charter Contract has been drafted with review of the OPSB and RSD leadership, internal and external counsel, and school leaders and legal counsels

- OPSB has engaged in a thorough process to incorporate feedback on the draft Common Charter Contract from School Leaders and counsels

- The contract has been streamlined to prioritize OPSB guiding principles

- In addition to the Charter Operating Agreement, OPSB has developed a policy enabling the Superintendent to establish a Charter Operator Enrollment Cap and has collaborated with school leaders to determine a proposed implementation of that cap

**Next Steps**

- The Common Charter Operating Agreement will be presented to the OPSB Board for their approval at the April 2017 Board meeting

- The Charter Operator Enrollment Cap policy will also go before the Board in March for first reading
Determine OPSB oversight of facilities maintenance and repair standards; additional policies (lease, handbook, etc.)

**Milestone Progress**

OPSB has updated policies regarding facilities maintenance and repair standards (HD), a Facilities Master Plan (FE), the Facilities Preservation Fund (FJ), and developed a supporting facilities handbook

- OPSB and RSD leadership have engaged with the Facilities Task Force over the past several months to develop these facilities policies, handbook, and lease agreement
- First and second reading of OPSB Policies HD, FE, and FJ occurred at the January and February OPSB Board meetings
- See policies for more information

**Next Steps**

- OPSB will finalize the supporting lease agreement by the Spring of 2017
- The OPSB Board is expected to approve Policies HD, FE, and FJ in March
Establish policy and process for management of differentiated funding

**Milestone Progress**

OPSB has engaged with school leaders to determine that the current differentiated funding formula will remain in place for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years

- To ensure stability during Unification and collect several years of reliable data on the current formula’s allocations, OPSB and school leaders agreed to a 2-year freeze to the funding formula

- For any future changes, the Superintendent will begin engaging with school leaders by November and all changes to the formula will be finalized by January 31st prior to their implementation to ensure full alignment with all school leaders

**Next Steps**

- The differentiated funding policy will go before the OPSB Board for first reading on March 16, 2017
Ensure access to data for oversight of charter schools

**Milestone Progress**

The State approved a data-sharing agreement that provides OPSB access to data necessary to its role as the authorizer of returning charter schools

- This agreement ensures that all measures are taken to protect student data under FERPA and applicable Louisiana law
- The state will transfer any data necessary to ensure that programs and supports are in place for students throughout the transfer of governing authority for designated schools from RSD to OPSB
- No data shall be transferred that is not expressly for the reasons designated above and all parties shall retain an original copy and shall be subject to security audits

**Next Steps**

- OPSB will continue to work with the State to manage any logistics necessary for ensuring full access as schools return to the OPSB in the 2017-18 school year
- Ensure that data sharing agreement extends past July 2018
Our guiding principles laid out in the Unification Plan are evident in the Common Charter Contract

- High Standards
- Continued Progress
- Choice for Families
- Ensuring Equity
- Empowering Schools and Communities

Every child in every neighborhood should have access to great public schools

- By evaluating and visiting schools regularly, we ensure that all schools are held to high standards for serving their students

- One of the many ways that we evaluate schools is through testing; we need to make sure that this process is consistent across the city

- It is imperative to a system made up entirely of charter schools that all schools are held accountable to the same standards and policies
Our guiding principles laid out in the Unification Plan are evident in the Common Charter Contract

High Standards  | Continued Progress  | Choice for Families  | Ensuring Equity  | Empowering Schools and Communities

We cannot be comfortable with the gains of the last 10 years; we must continually raise expectations, expand what is working, and cultivate new leaders and new ideas.

- In order to ensure that we are continuing to raise the bar for our schools, we should maintain a standard for performance that incentives schools to improve and not maintain the status quo.

- Our schools should meet the standards set forth by the School Performance Framework and should regularly report their progress to OPSB and the LDE.
Our guiding principles laid out in the Unification Plan are evident in the Common Charter Contract.

High Standards | Continued Progress | Choice for Families | Ensuring Equity | Empowering Schools and Communities

Every family should have access to a diverse set of school options for their child through a clear and fair process.

- Our students and families should have the opportunity to apply to every great school in the city and all of our public schools should participate in the common enrollment system in order to provide this access to families regardless of where they live in the city.

- In order to ensure that our families have access to all schools throughout the city, it is imperative that schools provide transportation to students.

Enrollment & Admissions, including full participation in EnrollNOLA

Transportation Requirements for all schools, in accordance with OPSB Policy HA
Our guiding principles laid out in the Unification Plan are evident in the Common Charter Contract

High Standards  Continued Progress  Choice for Families  Ensuring Equity  Empowering Schools and Communities

Differentiated resources and attention must go to ensuring that schools are succeeding for each individual student, based on his or her unique gifts, talents, and needs

- Our schools should provide the appropriate services to SPED students in accordance with Federal, State, and Local laws and policies; these students deserve our attention and should never feel like they are not being served by our system of schools
- The changing demographics of our city necessitate the inclusion and service of all students, and a special focus should be placed on our English Learners
- Many of our families find it difficult to make ends meet much less pay fees to our public schools; for this reason it is necessary that we ensure that no student should be restricted from graduating or participating in core academic classes due to their families’ financial circumstances
Our guiding principles laid out in the Unification Plan are evident in the Common Charter Contract

- **High Standards**
- **Continued Progress**
- **Choice for Families**
- **Ensuring Equity**
- **Empowering Schools and Communities**

Educators closest to students and families are empowered to make instructional decisions, and the community has a transparent understanding of their school options, the progress being made, and the way in which funds are being used.

- Our schools should have the option to be their own LEA or be a part of OPSB’s LEA, in order to best determine the resources available to them and the level of support they desire in fulfilling these obligations.

- Given that our educators are best positioned to determine what is best for students, our schools should make decisions on curriculum and teaching.

- Our schools should consistently communicate with parents and there should be no retribution for anyone in the school community who seeks to address a concern.

- Charter Boards should be held to high standards and ensure that the voice of the community is heard by complying with Open Meeting Laws.