



Louisiana Association  
of Public Charter Schools

## **New Orleans Charter School Board Governance Spring 2023 Advocacy Updates**

In order to make informed, strategic short- and long-term decisions for the sustainability of a charter school, board members must stay informed and up to date on all of the latest policies, laws, and changing landscapes that could impact their charter school communities.

For New Orleans, specifically, there are *a lot* of updates and changing dynamics at the district, city, state, and national levels that will have an impact on all charter schools across the system.

- **Important District Updates**
  - **New Superintendent!**
    - New relationships to build with Dr. Williams *and* New OPSB Members
    - New ideas as to the role & purpose of district & charter schools
  - **New Policies!**
    - Optimization!
      - Declining student enrollment
      - Facilities prioritization
    - CSAF!
      - Post-Covid charter renewal considerations
    - 5-Year Portfolio Planning
      - Defining, balancing, and prioritizing school quality, quantity, choice, & variety in a shifting Nola landscape
    - Portrait of Graduate
      - Creating a common set of standards expected for all Nola graduates that will eventually be incorporated at each K-12 grade level (similar to BESE/LDOE curriculum standards)
    - Common Calendar
      - New effort to set a more formal common calendar policy for all schools to adhere to by 24-25 school year
- **Important City Updates**
  - **City Impacts on School System**
    - Housing Costs, Declining Population, ½ Capacity NOPD, Understaffed City Services, Weather Infrastructure, Insurance, etc.

- Impacts on staff recruitment & retention, student health services, economic opportunities for parents, violence, etc.
  - **City ARPA Programs**
    - Federal Am. Rescue Plan Monies: Children's Hospital's ThriveKids expansion, workforce development expansion, Medicaid partnerships
- **Important State Updates**
  - **Legislative Session!**
    - SB 25 by Sen. Bouie (direct attack on charter autonomy and the Nola system of charter schools)
    - Continued reading and financial literacy mandates, classroom-culture war debates, education savings accounts, teacher pay raises
  - **2024 Elections**
    - Governor, BESE(!), Legislators
- **Important National Updates**
  - **Religious Charter Schools!?!**
  - **Education Savings Accounts!?!**