

# Ohio Association of Charter School Authorizers

## 2013 Legislative Priorities

The Ohio Association of Charter School Authorizers (OACSA) respectfully offers to the 130<sup>th</sup> General Assembly the following policy recommendations:

- Students of Ohio's independent public community schools are the only children in Ohio who are excluded from extracurricular activities: Home schooled students as well as those attending private, STEM, district and public community schools sponsored by districts all have a right to participate in extracurricular activities. **Each Ohio child should have equal right to this growth opportunity that is so important to students and their families.**
- **Ohio should follow the national best practice of allowing charter schools five years to reach their full potential.**
- **Sponsors should be reviewed based upon compliance and performance, including ratings (not rankings), taking into account the appropriate frequency of different components of the review (e.g., compliance, quality and student performance).**
- **Ohio should provide standards for opening new charters in buildings where a school closed to ensure changes in administration, faculty, and mission to guarantee that the school is truly a new endeavor that can succeed where the old school failed.**
- **The Ohio Department of Education Office of School Sponsorship should sponsor charter schools whose previous sponsors have lost their right to sponsor due to sanctions on a transitional basis for one year, after which the school must find a new sponsor.**
- **Charter school treasurers who are culpable in a school becoming unauditible should be held accountable for failure to maintain basic financial documents, but sponsors should be held accountable for treasurer failures only if they fail to intervene and work with schools to restore auditability.**