

# DELAWARE ACADEMY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

## Charter School Renewal Report

This report summarizes the charter school’s performance to date as measured by the Performance Framework through 2012-2013. 2013-2014 data will be available prior to the charter school’s submission of a charter renewal application and Annual Report (both due September 30) and will inform the charter renewal process. Current law (14 Del. C. §514A(c)) requires that the renewal report be based, among other things, on the charter contract. However, the requirement that the Department of Education present a charter contract to an applicant upon approval of a charter school application was not in existence at the time this charter was approved. If the charter renewal application is approved, a charter contract will be presented to the applicant for the renewal period.

**Academic Performance Framework: (Exceeds Standard, Meets Standard, Does Not Meet Standard, or Falls Far Below Standard):**

2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
N/A	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard

Delaware Academy of Public Safety and Security (DAPSS) received an overall rating of “Does Not Meet Standard” in the 2012-2013 school year, with an underlying score of 53 points. In school 2011-2012, DAPSS received an overall rating of “Does Not Meet Standard” with a total of 62 points. The school is trending in a negative direction with regard to overall academic performance. With regard to student growth, the lowest-performing students in the school met their ELA and Math growth targets consistently in both 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 resulting in a “Meets Standard” rating for Measure 1b of the Academic Framework. DAPSS met AYP in 2012-2013.

While the lowest performing students have been meeting their growth targets in both Math and ELA, this number declined from 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 and *overall* student growth also declined in both Math and ELA from 2011-2012 to 2012-2013. Fewer students are on track to be proficient by 10<sup>th</sup> grade with a significant drop in student growth in Math from 60.2% to 45% between 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. Student proficiency is below the State average and the State’s Annual Measurable Objectives were not met. This trend has been consistent since 2011-2012 with a regression in the percentage of students proficient noted. Low Socioeconomic Status (SES) students, African-American students and White students are all performing below the State average in 2012-2013 in both Math and ELA, with significant regression in proficiency in both content areas noted between 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. White students have been performing below the State’s 20<sup>th</sup> percentile consistently since 2011-2012, which has resulted in a “Falls Far Below Standard” rating for both Math and ELA in 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. Finally, when compared to student performance in the district in which DAPSS is located (Christina School District), students at DAPSS are not performing as well as Christina School District’s students in Math and ELA.

**Financial Performance (Meets Standard, Does Not Meet Standard, or Falls Far Below Standard):**

2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
N/A	Falls Far Below Standard	Does Not Meet Standard

DAPSS received an overall rating of “Does Not Meet Standard” on the Financial Framework in the 2012-2013 school year, with a “Meets Standard” rating on one out of six measures. In the 2011-2012 schools year, DAPSS received an overall rating of “Falls Far Below Standard,” with a “Meets Standard” rating on 2 out of 6 measures. The school is trending in positive direction with regard to overall financial viability, but not across all measures.

Two indicators demonstrated improvement in financial viability. From 2011-2012 to 2012-2013, the current ratio rose from 0.83 (Falls Far Below Standard) to 0.93 (Meets Standard), indicating that while DAPSS did not have sufficient assets to cover current liabilities at the time of the audit for either year, it showed improvement from one year to the next. Enrollment variance rose from 59% (Falls Far Below Standard) in 2011-2012 to 80% (Does Not Meet Standard) in 2012-2013, indicating that while the school was at risk of not having the operating funds necessary to meet all expenses in both years, there was less risk the second year.

Three measures demonstrated regression in financial viability. From 2011-2012 to 2012-2013, the debt service coverage ratio fell from 4.43 (Meets Standard) to -1.39 (Does Not Meet Standard), suggesting that the school was no longer able to meet annual interest and principal payments on debts. Debt to asset ratio fell from 1.10 (Falls Far Below Standard) in 2011-2012 to 1.27 (Falls Far Below Standard) in 2012-2013, indicating that the school was at risk for owing more than it owns the first year, and at greater risk the second year. Unrestricted days cash fell from 43 (Does Not Meet Standard) in 2011-2012 to 39 (Does Not Meet Standard) in 2012-2013, indicating that the school may not have had enough cash on hand to cover more than a few weeks of expenses at the time of each audit.

**Organizational Performance (Meets Standard or Does Not Meet Standard):**

2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Not calculated this year	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard

DAPSS earned an overall rating of “Does Not Meet Standard” on the Organizational Framework Report for the 2011-2012 school year, based on two identified issues of non-compliance. With respect to governance requirements, DAPSS did not have its bylaws posted on its website. With respect to student attendance, DAPSS had a daily attendance rate of 92.3%, below the 95.0% threshold for a “Meets Standard” rating. All other areas were in compliance.

DAPSS earned an overall rating of “Does Not Meet Standard” on the Organizational Framework Report for the 2012-2013 school year, based on three identified issues of non-compliance. With respect to student attendance, DAPSS had a daily attendance rate of 91.8%, half a percentage point below the

prior year's rating and consistently below the 95.0% threshold for a "Meets Standard" rating. With respect to compliance with legal requirements for Students with Disabilities, DAPSS was cited in December 2012 as having multiple identified areas of non-compliance with special education regulations related to Individualized Education Plan (IEP) development, least restrictive environment, secondary transition, and IEP meeting participants. A follow-up review in December 2013 confirmed that all areas of noncompliance had been corrected by school staff. All other areas of the Organizational Framework were in compliance.

The Charter School Office has not yet concluded the process of gathering information about compliance for the 2013-14 school year. There may be additional compliance issues that have yet to be brought to the attention of the Charter School Office by other DOE workgroups.