



Florida Department of Education



Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice

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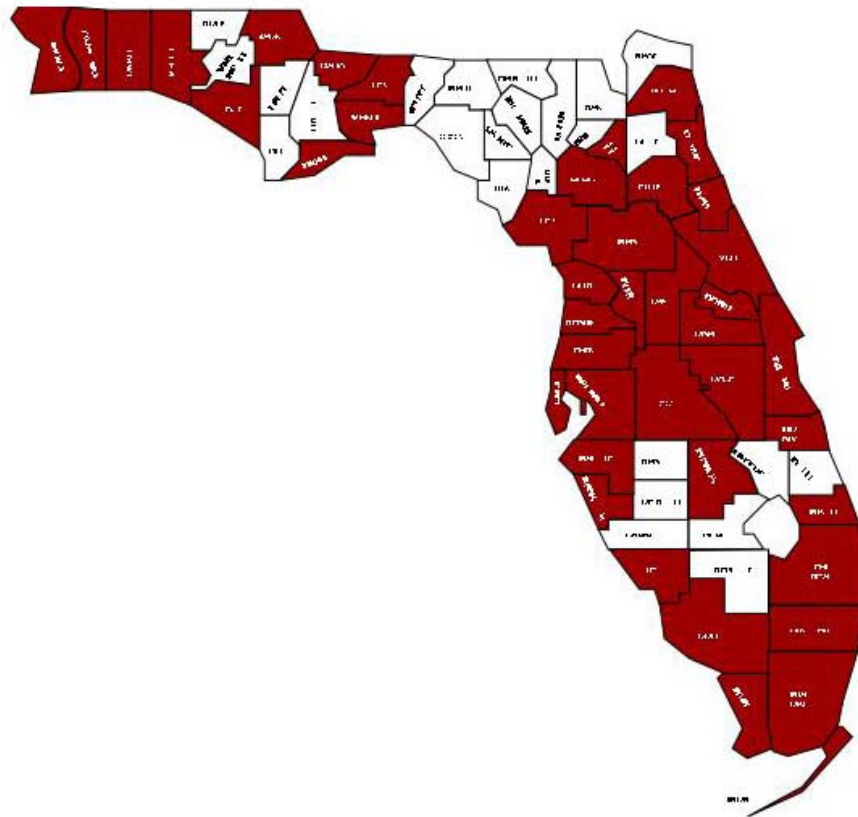
# **ENFORCING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS OF SCHOOL DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSORS**

**Presentation to the State Board of Education  
June 21, 2005**



- **Charter School Sponsor Duties**
- **Process for Charter Appeal Noncompliance**
- **Process for Alleged Noncompliance**
- **SBE Statutory Enforcement Authority**

## 42 School District Sponsors in 2004-2005





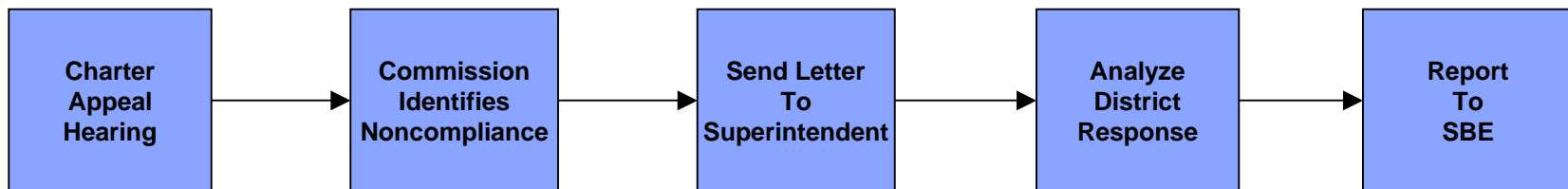
## Primary Sponsor Duties

### Section 1002.33(5) F.S.

- **Monitor and review progress towards goals**
- **Monitor revenues and expenditures**
- **Ensure innovation and consistency with state education goals**
- **Ensure participation in state accountability system**

## Process for Appeal Noncompliance

### Florida's Charter Application and Appeal Process Identifies Noncompliance

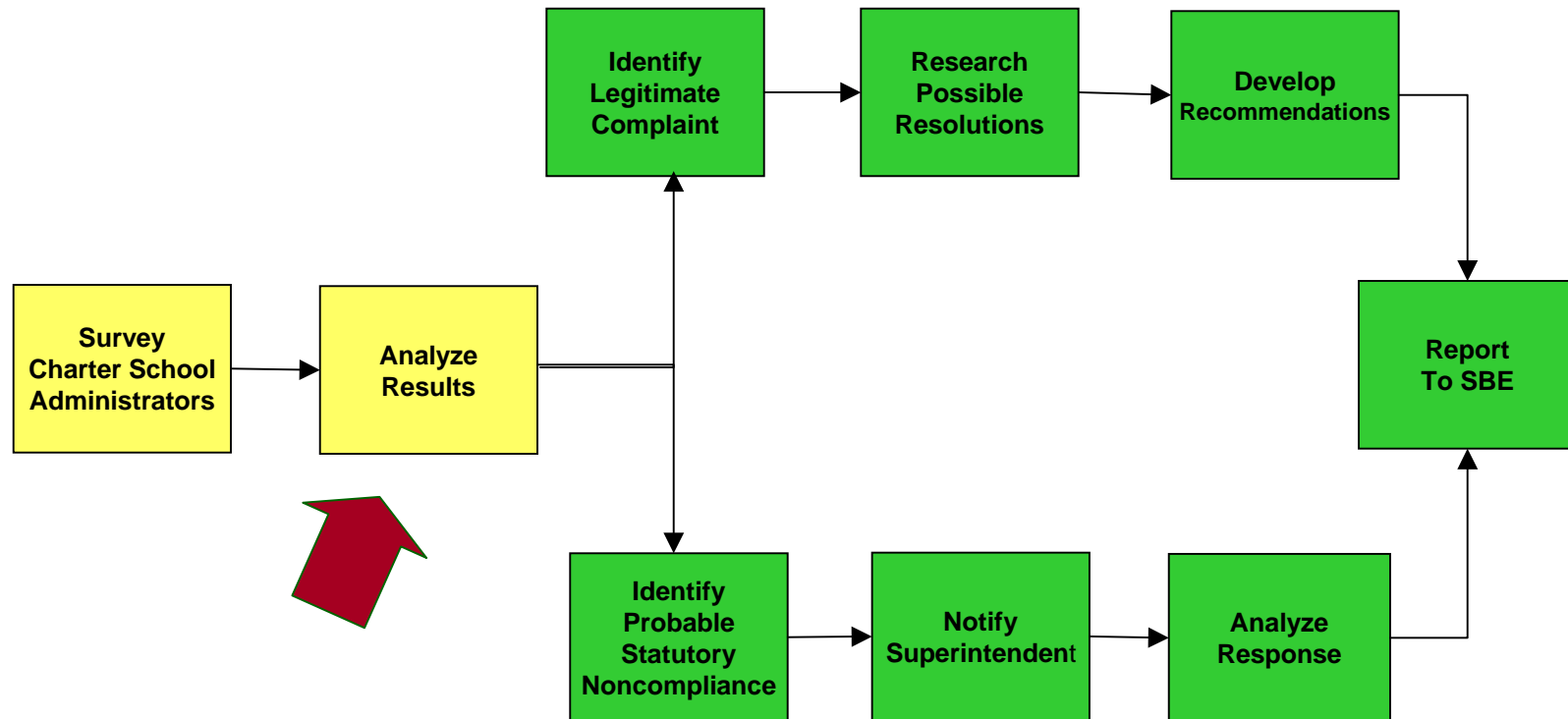




## Process for Appeal Noncompliance

DISTRICT	NONCOMPLIANCE	ACTIONS TO REMEDY
Duval	Did not provide 90-day notice of proposed charter non-renewal	Implemented procedures for issuing timely “notice of intent” of non-renewal; created master calendar with deadlines; will work closely with legal to ensure compliance with law.
Flagler	Did not provide written good cause reasons for denial in a timely manner	District staff and legal will craft a specific, detailed statement encompassing School Board findings, based on the record evidence, to be provided to applicant and DOE within a timely manner.
Lake	Did not provide written good cause reasons for denial in a timely manner	Ensure staff dealing with charter schools are aware of importance of confirming that all technical requirements are met.
Volusia	Did not provide specific reasons based upon good cause for denial Did not provide written good cause reasons for denial in a timely manner	Future notices of denial will include specific reasons based upon good cause to support denial.  Will send notice of denial without verbatim transcript of school board hearing, but will make transcript available for applicant’s review at a later date.

# Process for Alleged Noncompliance





## Charter Administrator Survey

- Identify problems with district sponsors that are significant violations of state or federal laws
- Survey administrators of 301 charter schools operating in 2004-05
- Follow-up emails and personal calls to administrators not responding by June 6 deadline
- 202 (67%) surveys returned
  - 161 (80%) of schools returning surveys reported no problems with district sponsors
  - 41 (20%) of schools returning surveys reported significant problems

### Areas of Concern

- Equitable funding, including IDEA, Reading, Title I, FEFP and Capital Outlay
- FCAT administration and accountability
- Timely receipt of federal grant funds
- Contract issues and renewal
- 5% Administrative fees
- Use of surplus property, transportation, food service

### **All Issues are Not Significant Violations of Law**

- Charter schools are not always acknowledged as public schools
- Ongoing struggle for services from sponsor, including information routinely provided to other public schools
- Relationship between management companies, sponsors, and schools

## **Section 1001.03(8), F.S. — Systemwide Enforcement**

The SBE shall enforce compliance with law and state board rule by all school districts and public postsecondary educational institutions, in accordance with the provisions of s. 1008.32, F.S.

## **Section 1008.32, F.S. — Oversight Enforcement Authority**

The SBE shall oversee the performance of school boards and public postsecondary educational institutions in enforcement of all laws and rules.

## **Section 1008.32, F.S.**

- The Commissioner of Education may investigate allegations of noncompliance with law or state board rule and shall report determinations of probable cause to SBE
- The SBE shall require the district school board to document compliance with law or rule
- If the district cannot document compliance, the SBE may order compliance within a specified timeframe



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