
Charter School Appeals Policy 2.500

The Background:

The Charter School Appeals Policy governs the charter school appeal process for the State Board of Education.

At the conclusion of the 2015 charter school appeals process, State Board of Education staff conducted feedback conversations with participants in the appeal process including sponsors, local boards of education, and charter school review committee members. Based on these feedback conversations, the following changes to Policy 2.500 are presented on first reading (Page numbers refer to the version with tracked changes):

- **Page 1:** These changes provide clarification about how sponsors submit amended applications and corrections to the application allowed under T.C.A. § 49-13-108(a)(4)(C) as a part of the notice of appeal. These changes are meant to minimize confusion about what is required as a part of the notice of appeal.
- **Page 3:** These changes modify some of the procedural aspects of the public hearings. Specifically, while the total time allocated to sponsors and local boards of education in the hearing remains the same (twenty-five minutes), the time for opening statements has been decreased to fifteen minutes and the time for closing statements has been increased to ten minutes. This change would allow participants additional time during closing statements to respond to any arguments raised in the opening statements. Additionally, there are changes to provide additional clarification around the public comment period during the hearing which is at the discretion of the Executive Director.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-212 requires that the preparation of a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

SBE staff recommends acceptance of this item on first reading.