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Key									
	Leadership & Innovation		New Applications		Monitoring, Oversight, & Accountability		Equity & Anti-Racism		Reflecting on Lessons Learned














TIME (Central)	SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION	FACILITATORS	CATEGORIES
<b>TUESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2020</b>				
12:00 PM	Welcome Remarks/ 8 Black Hands Live Podcast <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Deep in the heart of public school education wars rage on, and few warriors come to fight for the people. Yet, there is one small band of freedom fighters bring sanity to the village. Anyone who threatens the education of our 8 million black children is likely to catch these eight black hands.	Karega Rausch; Raymond Ankrum; Chris Stewart; Dr. Charles Cole, III; Sharif El-Mekki	
1:45 PM	Charter Policies and Messages in a Polarized Age <a href="#">Recording available to members</a> <a href="#">Slides</a>	The charter movement has grown with support from leaders with different perspectives and policy preferences. But that coalition has shown signs of fraying. The Center for American Progress wanted to understand how self-identified Democrats view charters, charter policy ideas they might support, and messages about charters they find convincing. We'll share our interpretations of what these could mean for authorizers and discuss ideas about policies and messages that have been effective in authorizers' communities.	Neil Campbell, Center for American Progress	
1:45 PM	Lessons from Restart as a Turnaround Strategy <a href="#">Recording available to members</a> <a href="#">Slides</a>	School restarts offer an opportunity to transform chronically low-performing schools and produce dramatic improvements while continuing to serve existing students and communities. Learn more about new national research on restart as an effective school improvement strategy and hear from authorizers and operators engaged in successful restart initiatives on the use of the strategy today.	Brenna Copeland, Michael & Susan Dell Foundation; Lyria Boast and Preston Faulk, Public Impact; Patrick McAlister, City of Indianapolis; Earl Martin Phalen, Phalen Leadership Academies	
1:45 PM	Meeting Schools Where They Are: Reflecting on Equity Initiatives at CSI <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	There is no magic formula to improve equity and access in charter schools. This session will provide an overview of the equity initiatives that the Colorado Charter Schools has implemented over the past 4 years and share reflections on promising practice and areas for improvement. Learn structures and strategies to begin your own equity initiatives that meet schools where they are, provide support, and build relationships.	Clare Vickland and Ryan Marks, Colorado Charter School Institute	
2:45 PM	What New Orleans Means for the Future of Charter Authorizing <a href="#">Recording available to members</a> <a href="#">Slides</a>	Fifteen years ago, Hurricane Katrina changed the landscape of New Orleans' education system. Join Tulane University Professor Douglas Harris for an honest, data-driven look based on findings from his new book, "Charter School City," at what happened in New Orleans post-Katrina and what it means for the charter school sector today. Harris will also share insights from recent research about how charters responded to COVID-19 and the implications this has on charter schools going forward.	Douglas Harris, Tulane University	
2:45 PM	Someone to Watch Over Me: Lessons Learned in High-Stakes Authorizer Evaluations <a href="#">Recording available to members</a> <a href="#">Slides</a>	Charter school accountability in some states has expanded in scope to hold authorizers accountable to standards of quality. This session explores the policy landscape and lessons-learned from high-stakes evaluations in Minnesota, Ohio, and elsewhere. Presenters from NACSA, SchoolWorks, and Minnesota authorizers provide a history of these evaluations, reflect on emerging trends, discuss the effects these evaluations have had on authorizing and charter ecosystems, and provide pointers to those authorizers who may have an evaluation upcoming.	Erin Anderson, Osprey Wilds; Wendy Swanson-Choi, Novation Education Opportunities; David Greenberg, NACSA; David Hartman, SchoolWorks	
2:45 PM	Do Host Districts Reap Fiscal Benefit When Charter Market Share Increases? <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	How do "independent" (i.e., non-district authorized) charter schools affect the finances of host districts? In this session, we will present the results of a first-of-its-kind analysis that attempts to answer this question comprehensively - that is, for every state with a substantial number of "independent" charters. Following the presentation, participants will have the opportunity to discuss the fiscal effects of "independent" charters in their district and/or community and the challenges this creates for policymakers seeking to design an equitable and efficient funding system.	David Griffith and Mark Weber, Thomas B. Fordham Institute	
<b>THURSDAY OCTOBER 15, 2020</b>				
12:00 PM	Coffee Chat with Jim Goenner and Sarah Tantillo <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Opening Remarks with Sarah Tantillo, Author of "HIT THE DRUM: An Insider's Account of How the Charter School Idea Became a National Movement".	Sarah Tantillo, Great Oaks Legacy Charter Schools; Jim Goenner, National Charter Schools Institute	
1:00 PM	Black Lives Do Matter: Tearing Down Structural Racism <a href="#">Recording available to members</a> <a href="#">Slides</a>	A perfect storm of the COVID-19 pandemic and the death of George Floyd has thrust the BLM movement to the forefront of our nation's consciousness. As authorizers and educators, awareness of deep-seated structural racism is a prerequisite if we want to enact meaningful educational change in the lives of the minority students we serve. Tough and even possibly uncomfortable conversations are needed to challenge the way we think and to facilitate the examination and evolution of our practices as authorizers. This presentation, in two parts, will bring together authorizers (part 1) and schools (part 2) to discuss how they are incorporating a lens of equity and social justice to advance their work across multiple domains.	Vickie Smith and David Frank, NYSED; Ellen Eagen, OnTech Charter School; Barbara Zelazny, Young Women's College Prep Charter School of Rochester; Arthur Samuels, MESA Charter School; Patee Cheung, MESA Charter School; Tolga Hayali, Science Academies of New York; George Leonard, Campa Charter School	
1:00 PM	Understanding a School's Fiscal Health - An Authorizer's Framework for Assessment of Fiscal Performance	This session aims to address how authorizers can assess fiscal viability through appropriate metrics of financial health. We will speak on the background and construction of our fiscal framework generally, then delve into some detail on the actual components. There will be time for frank discussion on both its uses and limitations.	Michael Wrobel and Corey Northrop, Central Michigan University	






	<a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>			
2:00 PM	Hindsight is 2020 <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	There is no more to charter school authorizing than holding a quality standard and ensuring schools are compliant, right? Think again. Learn from the combined 30 years of experience of District, State, and Independent authorizers, as they reflect on lessons learned and share what they wish they would have known from the start. They will respond to your questions from leading to listening, from school support to closure, from politics to taking care of yourself.	John Carwell, Delaware Department of Education; Joseph Escobedo, Albuquerque Public Schools; Mary Bradley and Naomi Rubin DeVeaux, NCSI	
2:00 PM	Finding Your Footing: Leading in an Uncertain & Unsteady World <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Feeling like you can't find your footing as a leader right now? You're not alone. Leading during "normal" circumstances can feel unsteady. Leading during times of challenge and change can feel downright precarious. Expand your knowledge base to strengthen your leadership and take away straightforward strategies to implement immediately to create clarity out of chaos.	Kasey Miller, NACSA	
3:00 PM	Community Connections and School Incubation <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	While there are educational practices that may transcend regional differences, BES firmly believes that excellent schools should be designed with and for the specific communities they serve. Our session will detail how three BES Fellow-founded public charter schools integrated community and authorizer input into their school designs and will share ideas for how authorizers could shift some of their efforts to better support community engagement in the design process.	Aasimah Navlakhi and Stephanie Patton, Building Excellent Schools (BES)	 
3:00 PM	Mindset, Process, and Organization: Authorizing for Turnaround <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Mindset, process, and organization matter in authorizing for turnaround. In this session, panelists and audience members will discuss lessons learned about mindsets and processes critical for turnaround authorizing, reflect broadly on the differences between authorizing for turnaround and the necessary foundations, and articulate organizational structures important for effectively authorizing for turnaround--and for equity.	Margo Roen, Education First Consulting; Bobby White, Fraser Community Schools, Rich Haglund, RH3 Consulting	  
4:15 PM	Did We Recreate the Same Oppressive System? <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Innovation, autonomy and accountability - those are (were) the main pillars of the charter schools movement. Twenty-plus years into the movement, when we look at where we are and what we've become, many would argue that charter schools have merely replicated the inequitable and stratified system we sought to disrupt. Given the moment we're in right now in the midst of a pandemic and a social justice uprising, leaders in the charter sector have said that the status quo has to change. How do we get back to our roots and be the disruptive force we were meant to be?	Sonia Park, Diverse Charter Schools Coalition; Lea Crusey, DCPCSB; Brandon Johnson, Social Justice Charter School, Dominique Lee, BRICK Education Network	 
4:15 PM	Charter School Leaders & Authorizing: Lessons from the Past 20 years to Build a Stronger Next 20 <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	It is a rare honor to have in one "room" four charter school leaders who have been at this for 20 years. Come hear insights and reflections from these four well-established Minnesota charter school leaders about their experiences with authorizing and chartering over the past 20 years, and their visions for the future of both charter schools and authorizing for the next 20 years.	Lisa Hendricks and Rosa Herrera, Partnership Academy; Becky Meyer, Academy for Sciences & Agriculture; Tony Simmons, High School for the Recording Arts; David Greenberg, NACSA	
<b>TUESDAY OCTOBER 22, 2020</b>				
12:30 PM	Reaching the Margins: Educating Students with Disabilities During COVID - Discussion <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	This session will focus on how COVID challenged everything about how schools educate students with disabilities and how we can rise to the occasion. We will discuss the legal considerations for schools and authorizers, and how re-opening further complicates these issues. Participants will also have the opportunity to share and discuss challenges, best practices, and innovative approaches. This session is encouraged as a precursor to the similarly-titled workshop scheduled for October 27.	Paul O'Neill, National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools; Alex Medler, Colorado Association of Charter School Authorizers	 
12:30 PM	Embedding Equity and Racial Equity into Accountability Practices <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Learn how we worked with stakeholders to embed equity and racial equity into our performance framework and accountability practices to increase student success. Learn about our "why", our authorizing context, and what equity and racial equity looks like in our accountability practices. We will also share lessons learned, what we are still grappling with, and next steps for our office.	Allison Bagg, Benie Capitolin, Janice Pamphile, and Melissa Gordon, Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education	 
12:30 PM	Authorizing Amid Coronavirus: Four Strategies for Authorizers and School Leaders <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Last year, we analyzed authorizing practices for nontraditional school models (e.g. Montessori, dual-language immersion, competency-based education). Today, of course, nearly every school has adopted a model that could be considered "nontraditional." Based on our research and conversations with dozens of authorizers and school leaders, we have translated our research into four strategies for responding effectively to COVID-19: 1) build capacity, 2) communicate with stakeholders, 3) codify school models, and 4) quantify impact.	Juliet Squire and Rebecca Gifford Goldberg, Bellwether Education Partners	
12:30 PM	Leaders Capstone Part 1 <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Cohort 8 of the NACSA Leaders Program used their Capstone Projects to advance authorizing in their offices by learning from the field, innovating, and applying their leadership skills through action research. Come learn more about the NACSA Leaders Program and benefit from what Leaders have learned as you seek to advance quality authorizing in your context.	Dr. Kelli Peterson, Louisiana Dept. of Education; Danalyn Hypolite, NOLA Public Schools; Orlando Castellon, Central Michigan University; Delia Castillo, Los Angeles Dept. of Education	 
1:45 PM	Tiered Logic: Increasing Efficacy of Authorizer-School Interactions <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	The model of tiered supports can be applied to efficiently guide authorizer effort towards helping schools meet authorizer expectations. Applicable to a wide range of authorizer practices - including compliance monitoring, program support, and submissions - tiered supports can be layered to provide more directed support precisely how and where they are most effective. Generalized strategies will be shared in addition to results and lessons learned from a case study involving school enrollment data submissions.	Greg Nusz, Colorado Charter School Institute	
1:45 PM	Fiscal Oversight: COVID and Beyond: Is your fiscal oversight proactive enough? <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Fiscal insolvency is one of the most common reasons charters close, but does it have to be? With COVID, will we see more schools in financial trouble? How will an authorizer know when a school is headed for trouble? What role should an authorizer play? Dialogue with the presenters about these questions and discuss the importance of building a proactive fiscal oversight system that includes early identification and preparing the environment for the challenges ahead.	Mary Bradley, NCSI; Cindy Schumacher, CM Schumacher Consulting	
1:45 PM	Community-Responsive Authorizing <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	As each of us has grappled with our role as an authorizer during the pandemic, one outcome has been increased clarity and purpose in our work and in the expectations we set for our schools and our own staff. Learn about the Colorado Charter School Institute's community-responsive approach to authorizing: how our schools and our staff have responded to this framework, its challenges and successes, and what this may look like post-COVID.	Dr. Terry Croy Lewis and Janet Dinnen, Colorado Charter School Institute	
2:45 PM	Leaders Capstone Part 2 <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Cohort 8 of the NACSA Leaders Program used their Capstone Projects to advance authorizing in their offices by learning from the field, innovating, and applying their leadership skills through action research. Come learn more about the NACSA	Maria Montoya and Dr. Barry Hall, Grand Valley State University; Johanna Medina, Arizona State Board for	 

		Leaders Program and benefit from what Leaders have learned as you seek to advance quality authorizing in your context.	Charter Schools; Emily Paul, South Carolina Public Charter School District	
2:45 PM	Internal DEI Conversations as a First Step to More Equitable Authorizing <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Participants will learn about how the School District of Philadelphia's Charter Schools Office (CSO) has approached its DEI initiative. A first step in this work involved all staff acknowledging the need for discomfort and reflection about themselves as individuals, the CSO's organizational culture, and their office's position within oppressive structures in education. Facilitators will share insights and lessons learned from the implementation of this work internally as well as implications for external authorizing practices.	Stephanie Waller, Essence Caleb, and Seun Oke, School District of Philadelphia Charter Schools Office	
2:45 PM	Model Tools and Templates to Support District Authorizers <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	District level authorizers oversee just over half of charter schools in the United States. Unlike single purpose charter authorizing entities, districts' primary responsibilities address the effective operation of the schools they directly run. Charter school authorizing is an added responsibility. As an add-on responsibility, district authorizers have expressed strong support for state specific tools and templates that they can use as a foundation for their authorizing work. This workshop will review the tools under development in each state and how states and authorizers can work together to improve quality and the value of each state-specific tools. We will highlight a few of the tools, explain the shared process for producing and vetting the full suite, and review with participants how each tool functions.	Tom Hutton, CCAP; Alex Medler, CACSA; Melissa Brady and Dr. Valerie Hyer, Florida Association of Charter School Authorizers; Dr. Corey Loomis, Riverside County Office of Education; Tom McMillen, Jefferson County School District; David Patterson, California Charter Authorizing Professionals	
2:45 PM	Deep Dive into Indicators of School Distress: Perspectives from Authorizers <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	This workshop is an interactive, informative session on the indicators of distress observed in charter schools prior to failure, turnaround, or closure. Similar to "early warning systems" developed to identify struggling students, authorizers and researchers will share the results of identifying struggling schools. Participants will engage with the indicators observed by charter school authorizers from around the country through an interactive activity and walk away with strategies for pulling schools out of the death spiral.	Aimee Evan, Hannah Sullivan, and Laura Groth, National Charter School Resource Center; John Carwell, Delaware Department of Education; Jamie Garwood, Ball State University; Tess Stovall, Tennessee State Board of Education	
<b>THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2020</b>				
12:30 PM	Assorted Pecha Kuchas <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Pecha Kucha is a presentation format in which the presenter gets 20 slides and 20 seconds per slide (a total of 400 seconds) to tell their story. Come check out this diverse array of presentations and be inspired to do your own Pecha Kucha. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiny By Design: Thinking Small for Big Results (Kasey Miller)</li> <li>• How to Fold in the Cheese: Leveraging Mentors as a New Authorizer (Aaron Seligman)</li> <li>• Maslow Before Bloom: Support and Accountability in a Pandemic (Erin Anderson)</li> <li>• Where's the Logic? Logic Model Basics to Improve Project Planning and Define Success (Amanda DeVaul-Fetters)</li> <li>• Distance Learning: Engaging Students Through Adventure (Rod Haenke)</li> <li>• Oh, The Places NACSA's Been: Looking Back 20 Years, Looking Forward to the Next 20 (Elisa Westapher)</li> </ul>	Kasey Miller, NACSA; Aaron Seligman, University of Wisconsin; Erin Anderson, Osprey Wilds; Amanda DeVaul-Fetters, NACSA; Rod Haenke, Novation Education Opportunities; Elisa Westapher, NACSA	 
12:30 PM	Leaders Capstone Part 3 <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Cohort 8 of the NACSA Leaders Program used their Capstone Projects to advance authorizing in their offices by learning from the field, innovating, and applying their leadership skills through action research. Come learn more about the NACSA Leaders Program and benefit from what Leaders have learned as you seek to advance quality authorizing in your context.	Mackenzie Khan, Douglas County School District; Matt Rado, Cleveland Metropolitan School District; Matt Underwood, Atlanta Public Schools	 
12:30 PM	Native Voices on Charter Schools: Community Perspective on Supporting Native Students <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Join us to deepen your understanding of how we can better support charter school developers and tribes in designing, authorizing, and operating culturally responsive charter schools that address the unique needs and strengths of Indigenous communities. Gain key insights collected from experts in Native education and leaders of charter schools that serve Native students – with a focus on what authorizers need to know to better support the education of Native students.	Diana Cournoyer, National Indian Education Association (NIEA); Anpao Duta Flying Earth, NACA Inspired Schools Network; Walter Kahumoku III, University of Hawai'i West O'ahu; Carter Clawson, National Charter School Resource Center	
12:30 PM	A Pandemic Response: Revisiting School Specific Goals <a href="#">Slides</a>	Washington State School Specific Goals process enables schools to highlight the closing of achievement gaps for underserved students through their unique charter program. The process highlights school performance when other performance data may not be readily available. Schools' focus on areas of need identified by data, academic and organizational, and evaluates the performance of specific groups not typically addressed in other accountability measures. It also provides schools the opportunity to have an alternative accountability narrative.	Leslie Hayden, Washington State Charter School Commission	 
1:45 PM	Robust Monitoring and Oversight of Remote Instructional Programs in the Time of COVID 19 <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	NYSED created a Remote Monitoring and Oversight Plan for the Spring and Fall of 2020. This presentation will discuss: The challenges of maintaining priorities and strong authorizing in the context of the pandemic; Plan implementation; Schools response; and Lessons learned to inform the continuation of these remote monitoring and oversight practices into the fall and beyond. Participants will gain the knowledge of how to create a remote monitoring and oversight plan.	Barbara Moscinski, David Frank, and Laura Hill, NYSED	
1:45 PM	Moving Beyond Oversight: The Next Generation of Authorizing <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Now more than ever, schools and students need support that extends beyond the typical oversight and their K-12 experience. This session will challenge participants to think differently about the role of the authorizer. Presenters will discuss ways to support schools, students, and your own organization. See what authorizing could look like in the future. It takes vision and a willingness to think different.	Dr. Dave Lewis, Saginaw Valley State University; Judeen Bartos, Oakland University; Chris Oshelski, Lake Superior State University	 
1:45 PM	Optimizing Epicenter to Support Your Team and Schools <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	More is being expected from authorizers, boards, and schools. More achievement, oversight, documentation, reporting, transparency, accountability...the list goes on. Come see how you can optimize the power of Epicenter to lighten the load. We'll show you how to streamline and automate the exchange of data documents and decision making within your portfolio and how to keep everyone focused on the things that truly matter.	Dave Machado and Shaunda Cooper, North Carolina Office of Charter Schools; Jim Goenner and Meghann Russel, National Charter Schools Institute	
1:45 PM	Social Justice with a Side of Charter Application <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Charter school authorization is a strategy to achieve social justice. The charter application is the applicant's introduction to the authorizer, and by including questions that require in-depth responses on ensuring equity, removing systemic barriers, and being culturally responsive, accountability and oversight in these areas are to be expected. Walkthrough the evaluation of questions and revision strategy to develop a charter application where the copy and paste function is no longer applicable.	Dr. Kelli Peterson, Louisiana Department of Education	 



2:45 PM	How will District Authorizers Leverage Authorizing Principles and Strategies to Improve Outcomes Systemwide? <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Many tools and resources exist for authorizers of all types to build their skills in the steps of quality authorizing. However, too few authorizers use authorizing as an explicit strategy for school improvement and portfolio management, which includes using authorizing principles and strategies to ensure every student has access to a great school, regardless of governance type.  Why aren't more districts using authorizing tools, principles, and strategies to improve access to great schools? The Texas Education Agency has developed a number of resources and incentives to support emerging district authorizers. During this presentation, we will walk through our System Support Theory of Action, which includes the following elements: High Quality Tools and Financial Resources; Individualized Advising for District Leaders; Professional Learning Opportunities and Networking for Authorizers.	Marian Schutte, Lindsay Denman, and Chris DeWitt, Texas Education Agency	
2:45 PM	Hard Decisions in Hard Times: High Stakes Accountability in the Era of COVID <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Closing a school during a health pandemic may seem like cruel and unusual punishment for a school—and the authorizer. But accountability doesn't just stop because of distance learning, and the outcomes schools were chartered to achieve don't disappear. Explore the lessons learned with two authorizers who went down this road in spring 2020 and consider what data you are gathering now to support high-stakes decision-making in the next year or more.	Erin Anderson, Osprey Wilds; Robbyn Wahby, Missouri Charter Public School Commission	
2:45 PM	Using Surveys to Engage in Community Based Authorizing <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	The New York State Education Department Charter School Office (NYSED CSO) has a commitment to strong community-based authorizing. To facilitate a diverse set of voices in the oversight process, the NYSED CSO has developed robust survey tools. This presentation will discuss the reasons why the NYSED CSO created parent and educator surveys, the surveys structure, how the surveys are administered, and how the NYSED CSO uses these surveys to drive school improvement and evaluation.	Janet Kline, David Frank, and Marissa Bieber, NYSED	
2:45 PM	Parents as Partners: The Authorizer's Role in Overseeing Family Engagement During COVID-19 <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	In the context of COVID-19, families play a critical role in student learning. At the DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB), we think that a school's plan for family engagement is more closely tied to student academic outcomes than ever before. In this session, you will hear from DC PCSB staff about oversight of family engagement in schools during COVID-19, including insights about school practices, realities of implementation, and recommendations for the future.	Nicole Newman and Katherine Dammann, DCPCSB	 
4:15 PM	20th Anniversary Celebration <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	NACSA 20th Anniversary Celebration!	Aquila Leon-Soon (emcee), ATS+Partners	
<b>FRIDAY OCTOBER 23, 2020</b>				
2:30 PM	Community Conversation: Common Schooling: A Conversation on the Toughest Issues in Education <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	At a time of bitter national polarization, there's a crying need for intellectual leaders who can help us better understand one another and find places of common ground. In this session, Rick Hess and Pedro Noguera, who have disagreed a fair bit over the past couple decades, with Pedro generally on the Left and Rick mostly on the Right, draw from their upcoming book Common Schooling to candidly talk through their differences on some of the toughest issues in K-12 education today. In addition to digging deep into some of their sharp, honest debate and the surprising amount of principled common ground they found along the way, the two will also share some reflections on the process of cultivating fruitful relationships and dialogue across lines of difference.	Rick Hess, American Enterprise Institute; Pedro Noguera, University of Southern California; Dr. Karega Rausch, NACSA	
<b>TUESDAY OCTOBER 27, 2020</b>				
12:00 PM	Safety Center of America- Safety Plans in Schools <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Established in 2004, Safety Center of America has been working with health-care and education institutions by designing emergency plans and implementing preparedness solutions. In March, their focus shifted to supporting schools, businesses and health-care facilities on their reopening strategies, communication plans and training programs for safe operations during COVID19. During this webinar, they will share best practices regarding safety plan implementation and for policies for safe school operations. They will also present authorizers various strategies to determine the effectiveness of existing school safety plans and offer solutions to support quick and easy adoption.	Zachary Carson, Safety Center of America	
12:30 PM	Equity Rhymes with Opportunity <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Where there is challenge, there is opportunity. Significant opportunity lies in these central questions: <i>What if we make equity the key consideration for the important decisions the education world is facing? What if, instead of expecting overall student performance to increase, we expect and work towards a disproportionate rise in performance among the most disadvantaged?</i>  We can transform public education, disrupt inequitable and biased patterns, policies, and practices. Charter authorizers are critical in this process.	Veronica Brooks-Uy, NACSA, Lucy Castillo, Education Board Partners; Dr. Kelli Peterson, Louisiana Department of Education	 
12:30 PM	When School Doors Close: Charter responses & leader needs in the face of COVID-19 <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Targeting support in a moment of crisis is critical for student success, as well as for the success of charter school authorizers. March 2020 was an unprecedented time for families, educators, and authorizers across the country. Learn more about how district and charter school responded by reviewing national data from this spring and summer. Hear from charter school leaders on what additional supports they need from authorizers this school year to meet ongoing challenges.	Todd Ziebarth, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools; Bryan Hassel and Beth Clifford, Public Impact; Bree Dusseault and Alice Opalka, Center on Reinventing Public Education; Jen Davis Wickens, Impact Public Schools; Eve Colavito, DREAM Charter School; Jack Pannell, Five Smooth Stones Foundation	
12:30 PM	Launching an EL PLC as a School Support and Engagement Strategy <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	The School District of Philadelphia's Charter Schools Office (CSO) initiated a Professional Learning Community in response to feedback from charter educators regarding a need for collaboration. Participants will learn about the CSO's work to establish this PLC in partnership with teachers. As authorizers continue to negotiate the balance between school support and autonomy, facilitators will share reflections on the development and initial activities of the PLC and its connection to the CSO's sector engagement goals.	Stephanie Waller, School District of Philadelphia; Karen Sergovic, Esperanza Academy Charter School	
1:45 PM	Data Strategies for Distance Learning <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	How do you know if your distance learning plans are working for teachers and students? The data we track during normal times doesn't necessarily align with what we track during distance learning. Alexis Brown shares strategies Digital Pioneers Academy used to track data during distance learning, insights they gained and how they adjusted their model to achieve better outcomes. Charlie Coglianesse shares national trends in data strategies for distance learning from schools across the country.	Alexis Brown, Digital Pioneers Academy; Charlie Coglianesse, Schoolrunner	 

1:45 PM	On Demand Charter Board Member Training and Certification <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	MNcharterboard.com is a unique partnership between authorizers and the Minnesota Department of Education to address two key questions:  What do charter board members need to know, to be able to do the work of the board?  What would it take to provide an on-demand charter board member training and certification system to prepare board members to do that work?  The session answers these questions and provides access to many examples of courses developed including on online tour!	Wendy Swanson-Choi, Rod Haenke, Ron Berger, Ryan Ouradnik, Adam Myhand, and Tu Nguyen, Novation Education Opportunities	
1:45 PM	Building Systems for Effective High School Oversight <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	Helping authorizers create a framework that allows staff to effectively oversee high schools and their graduation requirements practices. Learn how to create policies that then guide comprehensive oversight of high schools. We will discuss how these steps can be altered to adapt to virtual learning.	Abby Getzel, DCPCSB	
1:45 PM	Active Ingredients <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	The Active Ingredients project is an opportunity for schools to demonstrate key student outcomes in addition to state test scores. Authorizers and school leaders collaborate to create an environment for responsible, replicable, and credible collection and reporting of additional measures of student and school success. With an overall objective of broadening exposure, implementation, and learning with this pilot, authorizers are invited to participate in a discussion and consider joining the project for the upcoming school year. This unique opportunity provides participant coaching while navigating activities and supporting 1-2 schools with project implementation. During the session, participating authorizers and coaches will review the project background, progress made, and lessons learned so far. They will guide attendees through foundational activities integral to implementing an Active Ingredients project with their schools, including: Preview the AI Workbook and project activities; Explore project materials and methods for initial school communications; Understand the role a Theory of Change or Logic model plays in identifying meaningful measures of student success; Understand conditions of success for authorizers; Learn how coaching plays a role in implementation of an Active Ingredients effort	Susie Miller Carello, Keegan Prue, Maureen Foley, and Mike Lesczinski, SUNY Charter Schools Institute; Josh Halsey, Washington State Charter School Commission; Leslie Talbot, Talbot Consulting	 
2:45 PM	Beyond Chartering Schools: Authorizing Pods, Hubs, and Microschools? <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	With schools shuttered, parents and their partners are creating new, small alternatives: "pandemic pods," "microschools," "community learning hubs" and more. Can these options work for all families, not just the affluent? Should they remain in the post-Covid public-education portfolio? And should authorizers be thinking beyond the lengthy cycle needed to create whole schools, and work on ensuring quality and equity as these new options blossom? Let's brainstorm with front-line leaders helping families right now.	Nelson Smith, A-GAME; Jamar McKneely, InspireNOLA; Don Soifer, Nevada Action for School Options	
2:45 PM	Reaching the Margins: Educating Students with Disabilities During COVID – Workshop <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	A continuation of the similarly-titled discussion on October 20th that will engage authorizers in examining and revising actual policies and plans as they relate to educating students with disabilities. Participants are encouraged to identify and bring relevant reopening plans, COVID protocols, special education policies, etc.. The session will utilize small groups to develop language and actions supporting authorizers in ensuring practices align with their critical role in oversight of schools grappling with these challenging issues.	Paul O'Neill, Wendy Tucker, and Lindsay Coker, National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools	 
2:45 PM	Can Authorizers Own Equity Work? <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Is there a way for authorizers to appropriately play a more active role in promoting social justice? Can authorizers "own" work on equity, and if so, how? What would it look like if more authorizers improved access, services, and outcomes for students with disabilities and English learners? Can authorizers support and encourage diverse-by-design charter schools? And how can authorizers improve their work to ensure their own systems and procedures do not systematically discourage charter schools in communities of color that are led by people of color, but proactively support the development of such schools? And in all this work, how could more authorizers get to a position where they truly "own" such work?	Alex Medler, CACSA; Melissa Brady, Florida Association of Charter School Authorizers; Sonia Park, Diverse Charter Schools Coalition; Lauren Morando-Rhim, National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools; Naomi Rubin DeVeaux, National Charter Schools Institute; Jenna Hodgens, Hillsborough County Public Schools; Dr. Nicki Brisson, Miami-Dade County Public Schools; Lauren Bryant, StartOps	
<b>THURSDAY OCTOBER 29, 2020</b>				
12:00 PM	Round Table: A "Round Table" Discussion on Early Stage Facility Financing <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Come join us for a round table discussion with Clint Biesinger and Monty Hardy from Round Table. Round Table Funding has changed the facility financing formula. Come Meet the founders, who have a rich history and strong connection to the charter space, and learn more about their unique approach to getting great schools great deals, and great permanent homes.	Clint Biesinger, Round Table	
12:30 PM	From NY to LA: New Goals for New Times <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	The best way to support student learning is when alternative education campuses and authorizers create measurable goals that are responsive to the school's population and mission. Through the A-GAME process, authorizers and schools are able to identify their school's program unique attributes and determine rigorous standards of achievement for all students, especially the most vulnerable. Join us in learning about how this work is in practice by hearing from authorizers about the process and experience.	Naomi Rubin Deveaux, NCSI; David Frank, NYSED; Delia Castillo, LACOE	
12:30 PM	Innovating for Equity <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	Together with New Schools Venture Fund and The Broad Foundation, Education First is launching a Chief Innovation Officer Toolkit focused on the need to innovate for equity, and the core work, competencies, and mindsets to do so. Included within this Toolkit is an emphasis on Equity by Design. This workshop will share key insights from the research that informed the Toolkit, explore the need to innovate for equity, and include methods (and an opportunity to practice) equity-centered design practices.	Margo Roen, Education First Consulting	 
12:30 PM	ShotGun Marriages: Authorizers and Schools Thrown into Distance Learning <a href="#">Recording available to members Slides</a>	In this panel and discussion, participants will hear from experienced colleagues and experts about strategies to deepen the authorizers' understanding of distance learning programs and schools. Hear about hard lessons learned and new opportunities offered. Learn what people had used before COVID to hold schools accountable and how these tools can or should be applied during the crisis – and after.	Tom Hutton, California Charter Authorizing Professionals; Andy Franko, Falcon School District; Dr. Corey Loomis, Riverside County Office of Education; Dr. Valerie Hyer, Manatee County School District	

1:45 PM	Fully Present: Defining and Measuring Student Attendance During COVID-19 <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	In the context of COVID-19, an innovative approach to attendance collection was needed to understand how students would engage in distance learning. The DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) worked with city partners to develop an attendance collection and evaluation strategy for 2020-2021. In this session, representatives from DC PCSB will discuss how they balanced the need to maintain the integrity of attendance data against the realities of remote schooling.	Jessica Taguding & Katherine Dammann, DC Public Charter School Board	
1:45 PM	Becoming an Anti-Racist Authorizer <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	MACSA is currently engaging in anti-racist work. The initial phase of anti-racist development is recognizing pre-existing knowledge that there are concentrations of power within authorizing and laws. The second phase includes developing "anti-racist muscles" by reading literature and other materials intended to facilitate anti-racist development. The third is reviewing our pre-existing systemic knowledge using an anti-racist lens of analysis. And phase four—the final phase—is actively working to dismantle systems which reproduce inequality in our charter schools.	Alul Yesak, Minnesota Association of Charter School Authorizers; James Ewer, Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center	
1:45 PM	Redesigning Accountability: Supporting a Diverse Charter Sector <a href="#">Recording available to members</a> <a href="#">Slides</a>	Encouraging new and innovative charter school models requires authorizers to rethink traditional accountability structures. In a panel discussion facilitated by Ashley LiBetti of Bellwether Education Partners, several authorizers will share lessons learned as they expanded the definition of school quality and begin to imagine a new accountability ecosystem.	Ryan Marks, Colorado Charter School Institute; Erin Kupferberg, DC Public Charter School Board; Katie Manthey, Georgia State Charter School Commission; Susie Miller Carello, SUNY Charter Schools Institute	
2:45 PM	Reimagining the Federal Role in the CS Movement <a href="#">Recording available to members</a> <a href="#">Slides</a>	Is it time to revisit CSP priorities? Could more funding be redirected to help charter schools with current pandemic-related costs? Should the CSP consider things like: improving struggling schools, improving equity, supporting special education infrastructure; or fueling the development of schools to address more communities' needs? These discussions have been discouraged for a long time, but maybe this is the time to start them. This workshop will provide information on the CSP, state innovations, pending waiver strategies and options, and provoke discussion of whether change is needed or wise; and, if change is to come, what we should pursue. Participants will consider the pros and cons of change, brainstorm alternatives, and discuss possible strategic options in the current policy environment and in the future.	Alex Medler, CACSA; David Frank, NYSED; Adam Emerson, Florida Department of Education; Joanna Laghetto, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MA DESE); Bill Kottenstette, Colorado Department of Education; Sarah Hackett, Wisconsin Resource Center for Charter Schools	
2:45 PM	The A-GAME: Measuring Quality <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	With traditional assessments unavailable, authorizers and schools are looking for new ways to measure quality. Join a session to learn about the Advancing Great Authorizing and Modeling Excellence (AGAME) initiative on creating responsive goals based on student population. Focusing on alternative education campuses, 50 authorizers collaborated over the past year to develop a method for creating new measurements based not on averages but on population.	Naomi DeVeaux, National Charter Schools Institute	
4:00 PM	The Next 20 Years: What Does the Future of Charter Schooling Look Like? <a href="#">Recording available to members</a>	What do we want the next 20 years of charter schooling to achieve? NACSA's new president and CEO Karega Rausch will join his colleagues Kriste Dragon, Patrick Dobard, and Marisol Queveda Rerucha to explore some powerful ideas about what the future of authorizing can look like. Join this discussion and learn how we are innovating towards a new vision.	Karega Rausch, NACSA; Kriste Dragon, Pahara Institute; Patrick Dobard, New Schools for New Orleans; Beth Hawkins, The 74; Marisol Queveda Rerucha, National Parents Union	