



## 2008 National Charter Schools Conference June 22 - 25, 2008 New Orleans, Louisiana

The following is a list of strands and their sub-categories for the 2008 Conference. **Please be sure to choose the MOST appropriate strand and sub-category for your proposal.** Failure to do so may affect your proposal's review.

### **Strand 1: Charter School Design, Instruction, and Leadership**

- School Design: How schools can create, maintain, or shift a school's culture
- School Design: Choosing how to organize your school: High Schools, Middle Schools, Elementary Schools, K-12 schools
- Choosing and Implementing Different Curricular Frameworks and Models
- Instructional Strategies: Best Practices in Reading, Math, Science
- Technology as a learning, classroom management, and teaching tool
- Diversity: The recruitment and retention of people of color
- Identifying and developing emerging leaders and school leaders
- Training and developing excellent teachers
- Recruitment: winning the war for top talent
- Other (please specify)

### **Strand 2: Charter School Facilities, Funding, and Finance**

- Strategic Philanthropy: Ensuring Quality and Impact of Investments
- Accessing Capital: Strategies for Securing Financing and Navigating Lender Relationships
  
- Minority Access: Financing, Funding, and Support Networks
- Innovative Uses by Schools and States of Federal Charter Schools Grant Programs
- Obtaining equitable funding for school facilities: start-up and general operations
- Creative Uses of Federally Funding Facilities Programs
- Closing the Gap: Achieving Equitable Funding for Charter Schools
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

### **Strand 3: Performance, and Accountability**

- What Constitutes A Quality Charter School Academically And Operationally?
- Performance Measures For Charter Schools From The Principal, Board, CMO/EMO, And Authorizer Perspectives
- Options For Assessing Student Achievement Beyond State Assessments
- Charter authorizer performance, accountability and financing
- Evidence Of High Student Achievement In High Poverty Schools
- Readiness For College: How Do We Know Our Students Are On Track?
- Measuring Mission-Specific Outcomes With Non-Test Based Measures
- Academic Data And Information Management To Support Decision Making
- Balancing Local, State, And Federal Accountability Requirements
- Measuring Stakeholder Satisfaction And Engagement
- Other (Please Specify)

**Strand 4: Federal State, and Local Policy Environment**

- Charter-related priorities for passage and implementation of NCLB II
- State accountability initiatives under a less prescriptive NCLB II
- Creating district-like infrastructure in areas like special education, transportation and extra-curricular activities
- Innovative state policy solutions for accessing and financing charter school facilities
- Compatibility of highly qualified teacher requirements and traditional teacher licensure for innovative charter schools
- State policy initiatives to institutionalize charter autonomy – on governance, personnel, curriculum and assessment
- Other (please specify)

**Strand 5: State of the Movement**

- Growing the Movement: Sustainability and Scalability
- Quality Control Through Strong Authorizers
- Public Charter School Research: Stats Everyone Should Know
- Diversity in the Charter School Movement
- The Emerging Role of a Charter District

- Fertile Ground for Growth: Lifting Caps and Expanding Excellent Schools
- Moving Charter Schools from the Margin to Mainstream Discourse
- Other (Specify)

### **Strand 6: Advocacy and Messaging**

- National Media Strategies
- Advocacy vs. Politics – Where is the Line? When Should it be Crossed?
- Working with the Media: Tools You Can Use
- Marketing, PR & Messaging for Public Charter Schools
- How to Mobilize Parents, Students and Teachers as Advocates
- School and State Preparations for National Charter Schools Week (May 5 – 9)
- Building and Using a Grassroots Database
- Cultivating the Support of Minority Leaders
- Other (Specify)

### **Strand 7: Governance and Operations**

- Public Charter School Board: Governance Principles & Practices
- Public Charter School Board: Fiscal Oversight
- Labor Relations: Proactive Approaches to Unionization
- Building a Strong State Support Association
- Strategic Planning Concepts for Charter Schools
- Charter School Business Office: Sound Business Practices
- Other (please specify)