



TO: Business Operations Committee, Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

FROM: Tess Stovall, Executive Director, Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

DATE: July 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Charter Commission Operational Updates

Staffing

- Since March 2025, we have the following staffing updates:
 - Director of School Programs and Supports – M. Stampley hired and started
 - Student Data Analyst – F. Fall hired and started
 - Manager of Strategic Initiatives – P. Lehman hired and started
 - Director of Finance and Operations – M. Harrell departed her role after 4.5 years, and L. Walker was promoted into this position.
 - Manager of Data and Operations – Hired and individual will start on 7/28.
- An updated Commission staff [org chart](#) is available on the website.
- The General Assembly also created four additional positions for FY26. The positions will support the growth in the school district portfolio while also supporting the increase in authorizing responsibilities.

Office Space

- The Department of General Services has allocated office space on the 8th Floor of the Davy Crockett Tower for the Charter Commission. No further space is available on the 8th floor or within the building.
- Commission staff met with General Services to discuss adding nine additional seating spots within the remainder of the Commission space. This will complete all available seating areas for the space.
- In the future, the Commission will need to establish a formal rotational system for seating if the headcount exceeds the seating available.

FY26 Federal Funds

- On July 1, 2025, the Department of Education notified districts that the U.S. Department of Education had placed a freeze on the following federal grants, pending administrative review: Title I, Part C; Title II, Part A; Title III, Part A; Title IV, Part A; and Title IV, Part B.
- The following federal grants were not impacted, but the Department of Education has only provided preliminary allocations to districts: Title I-A and IDEA.
- The following table is the Commission district's preliminary placeholder allocation for FY26 by grant amount:
 - Title I-A \$2,719,800



- Title II \$280,425
- Title III \$158,580
- Title IV \$181,066
- IDEA \$1,212,125

Procurement

- The Commission staff has the following FY26 procurement need for approval by the committee:
 - PowerSchool: The Commission uses PowerSchool as its student information system for the district and its schools. The Commission uses an existing Department of Education contract with PowerSchool and is subject to those terms. While we do not have firm cost estimates yet, we are requesting approval to continue to use PowerSchool with a maximum liability of up to \$65,000 for FY25.

2025 Meeting Dates

- We have the following 2025 meeting dates remaining:
 - Special-Called Meeting: August 27 (Virtual)
 - Appeals from Metro Nashville Public Schools
 - October 16-17 (Nashville)
 - New Start Appeals

2026 Meeting Dates

- Based on feedback from Commissioners, the following 2026 meeting dates are proposed for approval. These dates reflect ones where we have the most Commissioner availability, and we noted if Commissioners were unavailable for a date. They also reflect any statutory timelines that the Commission is held to.
 - Quarter 1: January 22 & January 23
 - Quarter 2: April 16 & April 17
 - Quarter 3: July 23 & July 24
 - Quarter 4: October 8 & October 9