



# TENNESSEE

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

**SY25-26 UPDATES**

**JANUARY 22, 2026**

# OVERSIGHT UPDATES



# SITE VISITS

- Commission Policy 3.300 - Oversight and Monitoring outlines that "the Commission shall conduct at least one annual site visit during each year of the charter term of each charter school in its portfolio."
- Site visits include classroom observations, stakeholder interviews, and a data review meeting with school leadership and/or network.
- Site visits are a half day unless:
  - The school is in its interim or renewal year.
  - The school serves a large number of grades or students.
  - The school is under intervention or warrants additional time as determined by Commission staff.



# SITE VISIT OVERVIEW

- Semester 1 site visit highlights:
  - Schools overall have strong school culture and good student engagement.
  - Schools are operating in alignment with their outlined mission and models.
- Semester 1 site visit continued challenges:
  - Staffing – many schools are operating with staffing vacancies which can often affect:
    - Leadership capacity, coaching, and professional development for teachers
    - Provision of services for SPED and EL students
    - EL staff to student ratios



# PERFORMANCE REVIEW LETTERS

- Executive Directors and Governing Board Chairs of schools receive two letters:
  - One in mid-November (July 1 through October 15)
  - One in mid-April (October 16 through March 15)
- Letters include progress toward indicators within the organizational section of School Performance Framework.
- Provides transparency for operators and the opportunity to fix any compliance items prior to evaluating them for the year on the School Performance Framework.



# PRL 1 OVERVIEW

- Areas of Focus:
  - 4(d): Credentialing
    - 11 of 24 schools were off track as of January 9 for meeting the teacher credentialing requirements.
    - If a school rectifies the credentialing issues by the next performance review letter (April), they may still meet standard on the framework for SY25-26.
  - 1(c): Enrollment variance
    - 8 of 24 were off track as of November 1 for enrollment variance.
    - This measures actual enrollment compared to the submitted projected enrollment in the school's June 1 budget.
    - 2 schools submitted updated budgets by the January 1 deadline. Schools may update their budgets again in March.



# ENROLLMENT FOR NEW SCHOOLS (SY25-26)

School	Type	Grades	Projected Enrollment	*Actual Enrollment
KIPP Antioch Global Elementary School	New Start	K-2	176	155
Encompass Community School	New Start	K-3	105	108
Invictus Nashville Charter School	New Start	K-2	123	91
LEAD Southeast Elementary	New Start	K-2	130	93
Empower Memphis Career and College Prep	New Start	K-2	100	31
Nurses Middle College Nashville	New Start	9	125	125
Wooddale Middle School	ASD Transition	5-8	547	441

\*Source: SIS as of January 8, 2026



# ENROLLMENT FOR EXPANDING SCHOOLS (SY25-26)

School	Type	Grades	Projected Enrollment	*Actual Enrollment
KIPP Antioch Global Middle School	Expanding	5-7	192	201
Rutherford Collegiate Prep	Expanding	K-7	570	422
Nashville Collegiate Prep	Expanding	K-9	1200	1065
Cornerstone Prep Knight Road Campus (Formerly Cornerstone Prep School)	Expanding	K-3	175	111
Libertas School of Memphis	Expanding	K-7	542	591
Tennessee Nature Academy	Expanding	5-8	285	278
KIPP Antioch Global High School	Expanding	9-11	364	377
Rocketship Dream Community Prep	Expanding	K-5	521	513



\*Source: SIS as of January 8, 2026

# GOVERNING BOARD ENGAGEMENT

- Staff prioritized attending year 1 schools' board meetings in the fall to address initial challenges.
- Board conversations focused on accountability systems and expectations for ongoing oversight.
- Boards expressed appreciation for transparency and the data insights that were provided.
- Upcoming visits with established governing boards will shift focus toward 2024-25 academic performance data and accountability reminders.



# **LEA MONITORING AND SUPPORT UPDATE**



# FEDERAL PROGRAMS

- Risk Assessment

- Risk Assessment (RA) was conducted in the spring.
- Results of the RA determine the level of support and monitoring for the school year.
- Data compared to SY24-25:
  - 89.5% of tier assignments were maintained or decreased, 10.5% of tiered assignments were increased

- Data Summary:

Category	Tier 1 %	Tier 2 %	Tier 3 %
HFM	94.12%	5.88%	0%
PFE	82.35%	17.65%	0%
EL	23.53%	41.18%	35.29%
SPED	17.65%	47.06%	35.29%



# ADDITIONAL SCHOOL SUPPORTS AND MONITORING

- Feedback was collected in the spring 2025 to determine needs and opportunities for development in fall 2025:
  - Twelve technical assistance trainings provided in Semester 1.
  - An area of significant interest was a desire for more training on safety and security.



# SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE

- Fall Safety Survey was administered in October 2025.
- Current portfolio data on security staff:
  - Full-time SRO: **3**
  - Part-time SRO: **1**
  - Armed Private Security: **14**
  - Unarmed Private Security: **6**
  - None: **4**



# SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE

- Barriers: Desire for more assigned SROs
- Current Needs: Training on managing a mental health crisis and crisis management
- Commission Actions:
  - Law Enforcement Relationships
  - TDOE trainings
    - Averting Targeted School Violence
  - District Level Safety Team will be established



# PRE-OPENING UPDATES



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- Pre-Opening
  - Commission staff have kicked off the pre-opening process as of November 2025.
  - Three schools are undergoing the pre-opening process this year:
    - Rocketship TN 4 (Rutherford) - Delayed until 2027
    - The Rock Academy (Nashville)
    - Jackson Museum School (Jackson)



# PRE-OPENING UPDATES

- Monthly operator meetings to discuss updates on the pre-opening process and schools' progress throughout the checklist and ready to open criteria.
- Monthly best practice presentations for all pre-opening participants regarding topics of interest for that month.
  - Governing board members are encouraged to attend specific presentations.
- Topics such as data, enrollment, special populations, accountability, and policy creation are covered.





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