

TO: Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

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

DATE: September 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Charter Amendment Application Approval

Background

During the 112th legislative session, the Tennessee General Assembly passed an amendment to T.C.A. § 49-13-110(d) which requires the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission to assume responsibility for the charter school amendment appeal process and timeline. This responsibility previously resided with the State Board of Education.

In July 2021, the Commission passed an emergency rule governing the charter agreement amendment process and timeline, and the rule requires Commission approval of the application that all operators and authorizers use when evaluating amendment requests.

The Tennessee Department of Education developed the application beginning in 2019 based on feedback from stakeholders, and the State Board of Education approved the application. Over the summer of 2021, the department made minor updates to the application and asked for stakeholder feedback on those updates.

In order to remain compliant with Commission rule 1185-01-01-.04, the Commission staff is presenting the application for Commission approval. Additionally, future changes to the application by the department will require Commission approval.