



TO: Tennessee Public Charter School Commission

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

DATE: April 9, 2021

SUBJECT: Executive Director Updates and Planning for Remainder of 2021

Operational Updates

Staffing

- We have hired an individual, Kelly Kroneman, to serve as the Coordinator of Federal Programs and Special Populations. Kelly currently works with the State Board of Education, and we are excited that she can continue her work in this space with the Charter Commission.
- We are continuing the hiring process for the Coordinator of Data and Operations, and we hope to be able to hire an individual into that position soon.

Pre-Opening Process

- The Charter Commission staff continues its pre-opening process with Nashville Collegiate Prep which includes monthly meetings with representatives from the operator.
- The Charter Commission will commence the pre-opening process for schools opening in SY22-23 beginning in January 2022.

FY22 Budget

- At the July 2021 meeting, the Commission staff will present a revised FY22 budget to the Commission for approval that will include any changes from the budget approved by the General Assembly as well as updated projections of BEP revenue, federal funds revenue, and the authorizer fee.

LEA Set-Up

- The Charter Commission staff is hard at work ensuring the successful LEA set up and transfer of existing charter schools under the State Board of Education.
- The primary focus over the last three months has been to establish the transfer process of all systems that impact the school districts and schools, and to begin the budget work required for FY22.
- For more information about the LEA set-up process, please see the presentation and discussion at the April 8, 2021 School Performance and Accountability Committee meeting.

Commission Member Vacancy

- Chairman Griscom and I continue to be in regular contact with the Governor's office regarding the appointment of the 9th member. We have been told that the Governor has made his selection, and the appointment should be announced shortly. As requested, Chairman Griscom followed up with Chairman John Ragan at the end of March to update him on the status of the Commission vacancy.



- In preparation for this appointment, the staff has developed an onboarding plan to get the individual up to speed on the work of the Commission and to be prepared for their role.

Planning for Remainder of 2021

Mission/Vision

- In advance of the July meeting, I will send you some initial ideas for feedback on a Charter Commission mission and vision. The intention is to have some working drafts of the mission and vision at the July meeting for feedback and finalization.

Board Self-Evaluation

- At the July committee meeting, the Rules, Policy, and Governance Committee will discuss how it wants to approach the first board self-evaluation for the Commission with the goal of conducting this evaluation in the fall 2021.
- The purpose of the evaluation is to give feedback to the staff on areas that the Commission members would like to go deeper in or to spend more time on so that you can continue to develop in your role as Commissioners.

Strategic Planning

- Chairman Griscom and I would like to schedule a Commission retreat in late 2021 with a focus on developing a three-year strategic plan for the Commission.
- The goal is to gather stakeholder input, reflections from staff and Commissioners on first year of work (including charter schools appeals and authorization), and the board self-evaluation to drive the strategic planning conversation.
- Commissioner Sisnett will serve as the Commission-liaison to the staff for the strategic planning work.

Key Timeline through July 2021

- May 2021
 - Complete Consolidate Funding Application
 - Continue pre-opening process with Nashville Collegiate Prep
 - Begin work on Mission/Vision based on statutory charge and initial feedback from Commissioners at February 2020 organizing session.
 - Prepare FY22 Budget for July 2021 meeting based on conclusion of the General Assembly
- June 2021
 - Gather feedback on Mission/Vision language from Commissioners
 - Determine staffing plan for FY22 based on any legislative and budgetary changes
 - Ensure all systems are prepared for transfer of schools on July 1, 2021
 - Begin assembling external reviewers for charter school appeals
- July 2021
 - Finalize Mission/Vision at July 2021 Commission meeting
 - Begin working with schools to prepare for SY21-22 school year



- Prepare for receipt of charter school appeals
- Work with Human Resources and Finance and Administration on changes required in staffing based on FY22 approved budget