



TENNESSEE

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

**LEA/SCHOOL
OPERATIONS UPDATE**

MARCH 23, 2023

DATA UPDATES

- Significant changes with Data Structure in preparation for TISA
 - We are improving systems and building capacity for:
 - Student Classifications - Identification, Coding, and Analysis
 - ADA/ADM - Monthly reporting deadlines and Internal Monitoring
 - Ensuring clean Data from Day 1 - Period 1 Counts:
 - Data Manual and TPCSC Business Rules
 - Dedicated State PD, Regional Meetings, and Trainings For School Staff
 - Resource Depository for reference throughout the year

***Details are still being finalized by TDOE*



TESTING AND ASSESSMENT UPDATES

- TCAP Grade 6-8 exams are now online only (w/ the exception of Alternative Assessments and Accommodations)
- The Commission has opted into the 2nd Grade Assessment
 - Used to help students acclimate to the exam before high stakes implications
 - 2nd grade exams will not generate TVAAS Scores in SY 22-23
 - 3rd grade exams **will** generate TVAAS Scores in SY 23-24



TESTING AND ASSESSMENT UPDATES

- 3rd Grade Remediation Requirements
 - Impacts 3rd grade students who do not score proficient on this year's ELA TCAP exam
 - Students can retake the ELA exam (online) between May 30th - June 13th
 - There are multiple paths to 4th grade promotion
 - Exceptions and Appeals
 - Summer School with 90% attendance and adequate growth
 - Free tutoring during 4th grade school year



INTERIM REVIEWS

- KIPP Antioch College Prep Elementary (KACPE) submitted an interim review report to the Commission on December 1, 2022.
- Commission staff completed an extended site visit on 2/7 and 2/8.
- KACPE is **ON TRACK** for renewal in 5 years.
 - Consistently met and exceeded standards for academic performance.
 - Will receive TVAAS score for the first time in SY23-24 due to scaling opening over time.
 - Consistently met organizational performance and financial standards.
 - Concerns with teacher licensure are outlined within the report.

KACPE INTERIM REVIEW

Interim Review	Severely Off Track	Off Track	On Track	Exceeding Target
Academics			X	
Cumulative progress toward academic goals			X	
Academic goals and projections for the next five years			X	
Chronic absenteeism			X	
Suspension Rate			X	

Interim Review	Severely Off Track	Off Track	On Track	Exceeding Target
Operations			X	
Personnel - teacher retention, teacher evaluation, and succession plans			X	
Governance - board adapted from startup to maintaining			X	
Facilities - any facilities changes			X	
Enrollment trends and projections				X
Organizational or structural changes			X	
Finance			X	
Financial Projections - next five years			X	
Financial Efficiency (ROI)			X	

RENEWAL UPDATES

- Two schools are up for renewal under the Commission within SY 23-24:
 - Lester Prep - transitioned to the Commission from the ASD in 2022
 - Promise Academy Spring Hill - will transition to the Commission from the ASD in SY 2023-24 (approved at the January meeting).
- Both schools have been provided cumulative performance reports in alignment with the renewal criteria for ASD transition schools that was approved during the January meeting.
 - Operators will discuss any off-track status designations in alignment with the criteria within their renewal application.

RENEWAL UPDATES

- Next steps:
 - Applicants will submit their renewal applications to the Commission and the TDOE by Monday, April 3rd.
 - Commission staff will work with an external consultant and run the review committee process throughout May and June.
 - Commission staff will visit the schools for renewal site visits in September.
 - A preliminary Executive Director's recommendation will be presented to the school prior to the public hearing in early October.
 - Commission staff will hold public hearings at the school site in October or November.
 - A final renewal decision will be made by the Commission at the January 2024 meeting.
 - By statute, a decision on renewal is required by February 1, 2024.

BLUFF CITY HIGH SCHOOL PLAN OF CORRECTION

- The next plan of correction meeting will take place during Bluff City's site visit in April. The following items will be observed and discussed:
 - Quality of instruction in alignment with the plan of correction priorities.
 - Analysis of internal benchmark assessment data and trends toward proficiency on TNReady and growth via TVAAS.
 - Chronic absenteeism and systems in place to reduce the rate.
 - Enrollment trends for the next school year and recruitment strategies.
 - Review of financial information and discussion surrounding default status.

PRE-OPENING UPDATES

All schools are submitting required items throughout the pre-opening process and participating in monthly meetings.

- ASD transition processes have begun for:
 - Promise Academy Spring Hill
 - LEAD Neely's Bend
- Tennessee Nature Academy
 - Commission staff toured the temporary facility, which is large and offers plenty of space, including outdoor hiking space.
 - TNA received the TN Charter Facilities Grant, and we are continuing to work closely with the operator to ensure a successful opening.
- KIPP Antioch High School
 - Commission staff provided an articulation agreement to KIPP Nashville for the Antioch and Southeast schools to ensure appropriate matriculation across all schools.
 - All items have been submitted and KIPP Antioch HS is on track for a successful pre-opening.

PRE-OPENING UPDATES

Nashville Collegiate Prep

- Long term facility construction contract is signed and they are moving forward with commitment from investors. They are confident on their timeline to open for the 2024-2025 school year.
- They have a lease signed and have begun renovations at their temporary facility space for the 2023-2024 school year to house their middle school.
- Their current facility will hold the original K-4 design and the temporary facility will hold grades 5 through 7.
- Projected student enrollment for SY 23-24 is 610 students in grades K-7.

PRE-OPENING UPDATES

Rutherford Collegiate Prep

- Everything is on track for the long-term facility to open for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Identified a temporary facility for the 2023-2024 school year to meet the recently approved amendment to the charter agreement.
- Have signed a lease, have a collaborative relationship with the owners of the temporary facility, and are currently working through the rezoning process with the county.
- We will share more updates regarding their progress with rezoning this spring.

SITE VISIT UPDATE

- Site visits are an opportunity for the authorizing and special population teams to visit each school for a day.
- These visits offer the opportunity to gather qualitative data as part of our oversight and monitoring.
- Each visit culminates in a comprehensive site visit report that is shared with the school and the School Performance and Accountability Committee.
- Commission staff have completed site visits for 7 out of 9 schools:
 - KIPP Antioch Elementary (extended interim visit)
 - KIPP Antioch Middle
 - Nashville Collegiate Prep
 - Rocketship Dream
 - Cornerstone Prep School
 - Cornerstone Prep Denver
 - Lester Prep
 - Libertas and Bluff City happening in April

SITE VISIT HIGHLIGHTS

- Strengths seen at Commission schools:
 - Students are engaged and meaningful learning is taking place in classrooms
 - All schools have positive behavior intervention systems in place to promote a positive school culture.
 - Data clearly drives instruction - all schools submitted robust internal assessment data that is used amongst staff and leadership at the school to drive academic instruction
 - For schools that are part of larger networks, there were strengths cited in terms of support received from the network, both academically and operationally.
 - All schools' special populations audits were completed on site and minimal feedback and corrections were given.

SITE VISIT HIGHLIGHTS

- Challenges cited at Commission schools:
 - Chronic absenteeism
 - Chronic absenteeism rates remain higher than pre-pandemic averages across schools
 - Staffing is a continuous challenge cited at schools, including:
 - Having to hire to fill mid-year departures
 - Lack of certified teachers in the pipeline
 - Leadership having to cover teacher absences to ensure continuous quality instruction for students
 - Ability to hire enough certified EL instructors to properly provide all intervention services to students.



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