



**TENNESSEE**

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

**SY24-25 SCHOOL  
YEAR PREVIEW**

**OCTOBER 2, 2024**

# ENROLLMENT TRENDS

- Enrollment trends for new and expanding schools are closely monitored.
- School funding is updated for actual enrollment based on an October true-up. This is the same for all charter schools across the state.
- Due to the uncertainty surrounding enrollment, particularly for new and expanding schools, there will be a continued emphasis on contingency plans.



# ENROLLMENT FOR NEW AND EXPANDING SCHOOLS

School	Type	Grades	Projected Enrollment	*Actual Enrollment
KIPP Antioch Global Middle School	New Start	5-6	132	114
Rutherford Collegiate Prep	New Start	K-6	765	483
Nashville Collegiate Prep	Expanding	K-8	954	840
Cornerstone Prep School	Expanding	K-2	130	85
Libertas School of Memphis	Expanding	K-6	459	483
Tennessee Nature Academy	Expanding	5-7	202	196
KIPP Antioch Global High School	Expanding	9-10	250	261



\*Source: SIS as of September 24, 2024

# SPECIAL POPULATIONS

- The Commission team has proactively worked with schools throughout August and September to meet compliance requirements.
- Substantial improvements have already been noted, including progress towards compliance items.
- The addition of an Exceptional Education Coordinator and English Learner Program Coordinator has played a valuable and key role in these improvements.



# TEACHER LICENSURE

- Teacher licensure is checked monthly.
- Based on August 2024 data, seeing positive trends in teacher licensure compliance from previous years.
- Overall, seeing a smaller number of teachers teaching out of endorsement or still going through licensure process than in previous years.
- The Commission's monthly review process and quarterly updates to board chairs play a pivotal role in these improvements.
- The regular reviews have helped identify and address any licensure issues, ensuring that our teachers are properly qualified.



# AUTHORIZER EVALUATION

- The State Board of Education will conduct the required authorizer evaluation of the Commission this fall.
- Evaluations will be based upon authorizer documentation, interviews with school leaders, and interviews with authorizing staff.
- Overall ratings range from unsatisfactory to Exemplary, with the Commission being rated as Exemplary in the 2022 cycle.
- Earning an exemplary status in two consecutive cycles grants an authorizer exemption from future bi-annual cycle, requiring only self-assessment in the interim.
- A draft report with rating will be provided by January 2025 and approved by the State Board on February 21.



# AMENDMENTS

- The Commission received four letters of intent for amendments to charter agreements.
- Amendments applications were due October 1.
- Amendment applications and recommendations will be presented to Commissioners for consideration:
  - Either at a special called meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Or at the January 2025 Commission meeting
- Amendment petitions require discussion by SPA Committee before action is taken by the Commission as a whole.



# INTERVENTION UPDATES

- Promise Academy Spring Hill
  - Staff engaged in a productive meeting in July with operator, governing board members surrounding Notice of Concern
  - FY23 audit has been received and school is committed to submitting FY24 audit timely (due by 12/31)
  - Positive grant meetings have also taken place resulting in more accurate and timely reporting of financial information
  - Progress being made in area of special populations
- Bluff City High School
  - Continued probationary status and corrective action until TVAAS and letter grade are finalized this fall
  - Overall, staff is seeing some improvements based on early academic data





# RENEWAL UPDATE

- Agreements up for renewal:
  - LEAD Neely's Bend
  - Libertas School of Memphis
  - Cornerstone Prep Denver
- Process updates:
  - Site visits were conducted in September.
  - Public hearings will be held in November.
  - Commission decisions on these renewals will take place in January 2025.



# CONNECTING WITH GOVERNING BOARDS

- Commission staff and Commissioners have identified a new area of focus: regular connection with governing boards to foster open communication and collaboration.
- The Commission legal relationship is with the governing board of each school, and staff is seeking opportunities for expanded communication and feedback.
- Nationally, authorizers engage with governing boards on a more regular basis than the Commission has in the past.
- Going forward, Commission staff will meet with each governing board annually.





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