

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 11, 2023 4:25 pm  
Browser: Chrome 115.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 172.8.12.184  
Unique ID: 1130646349  
Location: 35.1499, -90.0558

<b>Name</b>	David Montague
<b>Email</b>	david@memphistr.org
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 828-0371
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	Teacher training partner
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County School is not in the best interest of the students or community of Binghampton because of the following: (a) the previous decade of student academic growth demonstrates an improvement over prior leadership that should be maintained; (b) strong community, student and teacher buy-in is impressive and indicative of a school that is meeting the needs of multiple stakeholders; and (c) recent literacy partnerships and improvements within the Capstone network offer optimism for continued and positive support of student's reading progress within Cornerstone Prep Lester.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 14, 2023 11:38 am  
Browser: Safari 16.5 / OS X  
IP Address: 98.54.149.54  
Unique ID: 1131322829  
Location: 35.1499, -90.0558

<b>Name</b>	Hanna Lee
<b>Email</b>	hanna.willroth@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(281) 381-3244
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County School is not in the best interest of the students or community of Binghampton because Cornerstone Prep has been a constant in a very transient community for the last 12 years. The staff has worked tirelessly to improve academic gains and gone above and beyond to create positive change in the community and support other organizations who are doing the same. I think at this point another big change in school management would be a detriment to all the students, families, and teachers. It takes time to create big and lasting change and Cornerstone has remained and should continue to remain committed to this mission.</p>

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 17, 2023 9:52 am  
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.6 / iOS  
IP Address: 174.230.138.94  
Unique ID: 1132574565  
Location: 35.1431, -90.0492

<b>Name</b>	Andy Sippel
<b>Email</b>	andysipp@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 219-3542
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I believe denial by Shelby County School is not in the best interest of the students or community of Binghamton because: This would deny these students the many benefits Cornerstone Prep and Lester offer their students under the Cornerstone Leadership, which is More Effective Learning Opportunities. For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. They have focused on helping students get up to reading level in the beginning of the education process</li><li>2. They are teaching the importance of Respect for one another and respect for anyone in authority and demonstrating Love and Cocern for all persons which results in a more hospitable and friendly classroom</li></ol> <p>These two steps and many other teaching considerations show the Leadership at Cornerstone School has designed the teaching process to address the needs of their students. Even though this requires extra time, effort and teachers, they are doing what must be done to help the students achieve the most learning</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. I believe this special effort reflects back into the community and is helping the Binghamton community become a better and safer place to live and raise a family.</li></ol>

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 24, 2023 9:21 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 68.77.193.110  
Unique ID: 1134942624  
Location: 35.1387, -90.0095

<b>Name</b>	Megan Salemi
<b>Email</b>	megansalemi@hotmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 218-5259
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>As a former MSCS Charter School principal, I know the power that school options provide parents and families. Parents deserve the right to have school options that address a variety of student needs. As a parent, I know that there is not a single perfect school and look for the schools that align with academic best practice, my family values for culture and respect, and engagement opportunities that match my family's engagement desires. Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus has strong alignment to academic best practices and offers families an option for their children that families are likely unable to find if Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus is not open.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 28, 2023 12:07 pm  
Browser: Chrome 115.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 96.4.182.186  
Unique ID: 1136151752  
Location: 35.1387, -90.0095

<b>Name</b>	Keosha Lipsey
<b>Email</b>	lipseykl@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 275-5535
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my wholehearted support for Cornerstone Prep-Lester in their pursuit of admission to Tennessee Charter Commission. Having partnered with the school for the three years, I have had the privilege of witnessing their remarkable growth, both academically and personally.

Cornerstone Prep-Lester is an exceptional school who consistently demonstrates a strong commitment to academic excellence. Their dedication to learning is evident in their impressive achievements. They possess a genuine curiosity that drives them to explore complex subjects and seek innovative solutions to challenges to help students perform. I have no doubt that the school will thrive in the Commission's rigorous academic environment.

Thank you for considering Cornerstone Prep-Lester. I have no doubt that school will provide an excellent platform for all students in Binghampton to continue their academic journey and personal growth.

Form Name:	New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS
Submission Time:	August 28, 2023 12:14 pm
Browser:	Chrome 115.0.0.0 / OS X
IP Address:	96.4.182.186
Unique ID:	1136154918
Location:	35.1387, -90.0095

<b>Name</b>	Sydrea Bryson
<b>Email</b>	sltorrance@yahoo.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 282-5187
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus

**Written Comment**

I am a proud community partner of Cornerstone Prep-Lester, a school managed by Capstone Education Group. I am writing to share my support for the charter petition.

Capstone Education Group has successfully operated three schools in the Memphis area since 2010. The schools under the direction of CEG have achieved high levels of success, including the following achievements:

- Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus outperformed every other school in the ASD in 2018, earning the highest proficiency rates in both math and science, on the 2018 TN Ready assessment.
- Based on the 2021-2022 TN Ready, CPL achieved a record high score TVAAS 5 in ELA.
- CPL third graders moved from 7% mastery in ELA on TN Ready last year to 16% mastery in 2023 - an increase of 228%.
- Consistent growth exceeding one year of growth at every CEG school every year in math with Lester Prep students growing 1.5 to 1.8 years over a 4-year span and the entire network averaging 1.6 years of growth last year as measured by the NWEA MAP assessment.
- 96% of Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus parents surveyed gave the school an overall grade of A or B on the most recent survey.
- Outstanding science results across the network averaging 1.5 years' growth across the network for all 7 years as measured by the NWEA MAP assessment.

The growth that CPL has experienced over the last three years can be attributed to the leadership of the current leadership team, and their dedication to serving the students and families in Binghampton.

I strongly urge you to support the opening of our charter petition in the near future.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 28, 2023 2:52 pm  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 50.216.157.60  
Unique ID: 1136228133  
Location: 41.2627, -111.9837

<b>Name</b>	Karen Niceley
<b>Email</b>	karen@collagedance.org
<b>Phone</b>	(917) 841-2336
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	Lester Prep is an educational foundation of sincere, and truly compassionate educators focused on the safety and wellness of their student body. They aim to reach their students through consistent, one-to-one support to help students reach their highest potential and capabilities. Collage Dance is a proud partner and would love to continue supporting the growth and development of the students of Lester Prep Middle

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 29, 2023 10:38 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 76.138.50.92  
Unique ID: 1136514436  
Location: 35.1431, -90.0492

<b>Name</b>	Jordan Thomas
<b>Email</b>	jordan@gracechurchmemphis.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 896-9981
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>What is your resident district?</b>	MCS
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County School is NOT in the best interest of the students or community of Binghampton because Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus has proven itself to be a fantastic educational gift, led by a wonderful staff, and served by excellent teachers. The students and community of Binghampton would suffer a tremendous loss if Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus was forced out of the Binghampton community.</p>



Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 29, 2023 10:38 am  
Browser: Chrome 115.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 76.138.50.92  
Unique ID: 1136514499  
Location: 35.1431, -90.0492

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<b>Name</b>	Emily Bailey
<b>Email</b>	emily@gracechurchmemphis.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 574-7205
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County School is not in the best interest of the students or community of Binghampton because Cornerstone Prep's influence in the community reaches far beyond the doors of that school building. They are investing in the people of Memphis even by inviting our church to meet their on Sundays and join in their efforts to reach out to the community of Binghampton. Cornerstone Prep is serving the community daily by investing in children and their families.</p>

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 29, 2023 10:38 am  
Browser: Chrome 111.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 76.138.50.92  
Unique ID: 1136514669  
Location: 35.1431, -90.0492

<b>Name</b>	Nathan Sawyer
<b>Email</b>	nathansawyer8@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 497-0629
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>What is your resident district?</b>	MCS
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County School is NOT in the best interest of the students or community of Binghampton because Cornerstone Prep is an integral part of the development and growth of this community. Vital to community health is the education that Cornerstone cultivates and fosters. Removing Cornerstone Prep would be a mistake.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 29, 2023 10:50 am  
Browser: Safari 16.5.2 / OS X  
IP Address: 76.138.50.92  
Unique ID: 1136520730  
Location: 35.1431, -90.0492

<b>Name</b>	Bryan Smith
<b>Email</b>	bryan61700@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 288-4947
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County School is not in the best interest of the students or community of Binghampton because the Cornerstone Prep group has done a tremendous job at the Lester Prep Campus. As a community partner, I have found the administration and staff to be both helpful and committed to the education of its students. The students who attend will suffer if the denial is not rescinded. Please reconsider.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 29, 2023 10:52 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 98.54.249.147  
Unique ID: 1136521606  
Location: 35.1387, -90.0095

<b>Name</b>	Kathy Talley
<b>Email</b>	talleyrick@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 308-1503
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>What is your resident district?</b>	1
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	I am interested in the welfare of the children of this community.
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus

## Written Comment

Since this is election year, we are hearing so much about crime reduction and providing for better opportunities for our children and youth. What better way to help our inner-city kids than to provide a safe and loving community school for them to attend.

Many inner-city kids come from homes where the parents fail to take the time to help their children be better students. They don't help with homework. They don't run to the dollar store to purchase items needed for a school project. They don't take their kids to the public library on a regular basis. They don't help them study for upcoming tests. They don't sit down and read with their child.

Inner-city kids need a school like Cornerstone Prep where there are caring teachers who teach with love, kindness and patience. The teachers at Cornerstone Prep strive to help kids "not fall through the cracks" which happens in a lot of larger schools. They make sure that these kids are actually learning to read before passing them on to the next grade. The teachers at Cornerstone Prep are there because they have a passion for inner-city kids and they have the desire to provide a healthy and loving learning atmosphere for these kids.

After 25 years of teaching, my volunteer experiences have been with inner-city kids. And, I know, first hand, the importance of making sure that kids can read and that they learn good behavior. This helps them to become productive adults who want to be good citizens rather than involved in crime. My personal feeling is that it would be a huge mistake to take away the opportunity for these kids to be educated in a safe and loving environment by making Cornerstone Prep move from this school location and out of the Binghampton neighborhood.

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 29, 2023 12:06 pm  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 98.54.249.147  
Unique ID: 1136571680  
Location: 35.1387, -90.0095

<b>Name</b>	Richard Talley
<b>Email</b>	talleyrick@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 489-4098
<b>Resident District Status</b>	Non-district Resident
<b>What is your resident district?</b>	1
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Other
<b>What is your relationship to the application?</b>	Concerned citizen
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus

**Written Comment**

I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County School is not in the best interest of the students or community of Binghampton because the ongoing conversation in the city considers our major problems as poverty, violence, declining neighborhoods, and inferior education. Obviously, Binghampton is a prime example of a source of all these problems.

Fatherless families, apathetic mothers, and undisciplined children are the core elements which lead to these problems.

We all are aware that, while some schools in the Shelby County system excel, most are below the desired academic levels. Truancy is an ongoing issue and many parents could care less. The Memphis and Shelby County School System has an ethical and moral responsibility to the children under their jurisdiction for the best education possible and the teaching of mature and acceptable decision-making. If these things were happening, poverty, violence, and declining neighborhoods would eventually fade away.

I personally know several officials and teachers of Cornerstone Prep. I know that they could be working in different venues for higher salaries. Why are they at Cornerstone? They are there because they love the children, feel for their plight in society, and want to improve not only the lives of their pupils, but the condition of the neighborhood in which they live.

They don't merely teach academics, but they teach and exemplify morality, maturity, and care for these children. Their students know how to demonstrate accountability in a manner not seen in many of the SCMS schools.

I believe that taking the Lester Campus away from Cornerstone would leave a huge void in the Binghampton community which could and would not be filled by any other entity. Please allow them to continue to operate on the property.

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: August 29, 2023 12:31 pm  
Browser: Firefox 117.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 73.177.103.59  
Unique ID: 1136583484  
Location: 35.1004, -90.028

<b>Name</b>	Ben Bailey
<b>Email</b>	benjaminjbailey@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 574-7205
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Community Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County School is not in the best interest of the students or community of Binghampton because of the impact the school and it's teachers has on the community. Some employees have been at the school for over a decade and have seen the kids they taught grow up in the community. This kind of sustained intentional care in a community is rare and shouldn't be done away with. The school's leaders have been gracious to allow our church to meet on the premises. They've been very easy to work with and very hospitable.</p>

Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: September 5, 2023 8:52 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / Windows  
IP Address: 208.65.46.69  
Unique ID: 1138626281  
Location: 35.164, -89.7826

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**Name** Scott Walker

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**Email** swwalker@firsthorizon.com

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**Phone** (901) 517-0320

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**Resident District Status** Non-district Resident

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**What is your resident district?** Germantown

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**Relationship to Application** Application Staff or Board Member

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**I wish to comment in support of** Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus

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**Written Comment**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on behalf of Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus. I serve on the board of Capstone Education Group which is the parent organization of Cornerstone Prep. I am blessed to see firsthand the incredible work the staff and volunteers accomplish in the lives of the students and families of Cornerstone Prep. While we always strive to do better, our results are exemplary among our peers. I firmly believe the students of Cornerstone Prep are best served by the existing school and staff. The families and the neighborhood are overwhelmingly supportive of Cornerstone Prep and desire their school to continue serving their students.

thanks,  
Scott Walker  
CEG Board Chair

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Form Name: New Start Public Hearing Form - Written - Cornerstone Lester Prep/MSCS  
Submission Time: September 5, 2023 9:51 am  
Browser: Chrome 116.0.0.0 / OS X  
IP Address: 66.192.230.98  
Unique ID: 1138652860  
Location: 35.0984, -89.9813

<b>Name</b>	Thomas Marino
<b>Email</b>	tmarino@poplarfdn.org
<b>Phone</b>	(901) 604-0122
<b>Resident District Status</b>	District Resident
<b>Relationship to Application</b>	Application Staff or Board Member
<b>I wish to comment in support of</b>	Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
<b>Written Comment</b>	<p>I believe the denial by Memphis Shelby County Schools is not in the best interest of the students or the community of Binghampton because the school has consistently shown up for the families and students over the last decade. I have seen first-hand the quality of leadership and teachers that give 100% and care deeply for each student. Academic success is the priority of each staff member of CPL, but they care about much more than academics. The community is better because of CPL.</p>

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