



TENNESSEE
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

**SY2023-24 SCHOOL
YEAR UPDATE**

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

AUTHORIZING



KEY AUTHORIZING ACTIVITIES

- During SY23-24, the authorizing team will begin conducting site visits during both the fall and spring
- An extended site visit will be held at KIPP Antioch College Prep Middle to accommodate the school's interim review
- Pre-opening activities will begin in November 2023
- Quarterly Stakeholder Meetings with each school's administrative staff will continue in SY23-24
- School accountability data is currently under embargo, but each school's performance on the School Performance Framework will be discussed at the January 2024 meeting with a full presentation on the Annual Report



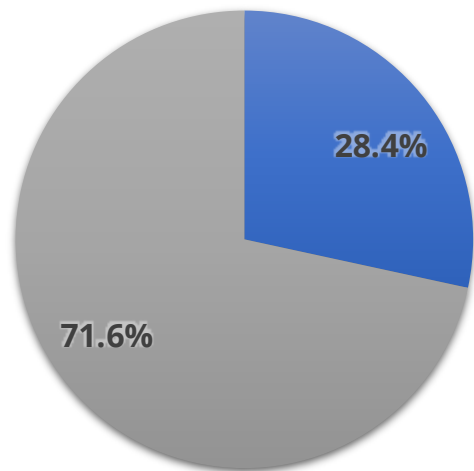
AMENDMENT PETITIONS

- In accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) § 49-13-110(d), the governing body of a charter school may petition its authorizer to amend its charter agreement
- The Commission received letters of intent from two (2) Commission authorized schools
- Amendment applications are due by October 1, 2023
- A special called meeting has been set for December 4, 2023 to handle any petitions received



3RD GRADE PROMOTION DATA

- Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-3115, 3rd-grade students shall not be promoted unless they demonstrate proficiency on ELA TCAP.



- Met or Exceeded
- Approaching or Below

The success rate of Commission 3rd grade students on 2023 ELA TCAP:

- 28.4% scored either Met or Exceeded
- 71.6% scored Approaching or Below

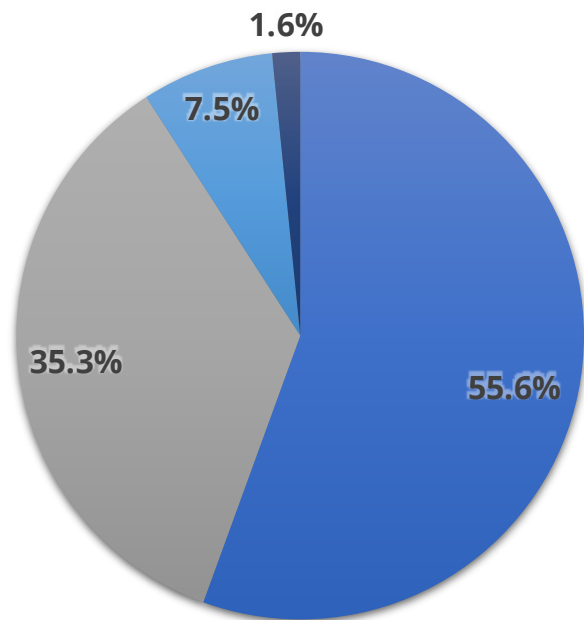


3RD GRADE PROMOTION DATA

- **Promoted:** Student is promoted to fourth grade without additional requirements for SY23-24.
- **Promoted with Continued Supports:** Student is promoted to 4th grade but will receive high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring for the entirety of the upcoming school year.
- **Retained:** Student will be retained and repeat the 3rd-grade
- **Not Enrolled:** Student is no longer enrolled at the district.



3RD GRADE PROMOTION SUMMARY



- Promoted
- Promoted with Continued Supports
- Retained
- Not Enrolled

Of students scoring either approaching or below on the 3rd grade ELA TCAP:

- 90.8% of students were promoted
- 7.5% of students were retained



SCHOOL PROGRAMS & SUPPORTS



RESULTS-BASED MONITORING

- The Department of Education identified the Commission for Level 3 Results-Based Monitoring (RBM) for FY24
- In prior years, the RBM process required the Commission to complete a self-assessment and respond to any findings
- Level 3 RBM is more intensive, requiring a more thorough review of prework and document submissions, a full day of in-person interviews of district staff, and two school site visits
- Lester Prep and KIPP Antioch Middle were selected for the site visits
- Nate Parker will serve as the primary point of contact for this FY24 LEA monitoring process and will provide updates throughout the year
- Identified week for monitoring is the week of February 12, 2024



SCHOOL SAFETY – LEA

- The Commission as a district performs several school safety functions including:
 - Creating/reviewing district and school level Emergency Operation Plans (EOPs)
 - Required submission of monthly monitoring of school drill logs, and
 - Supporting schools with accessing school safety resources and trainings
- The Commission staff reviews school safety compliance (e.g., plans, escape route maps) as part of pre-opening checklist
- This year, Commission staff are incorporating school safety checks as part of annual site visits



SCHOOL SAFETY – LEA

- Commission staff is reviewing 2023-24 school and district school security assessments to determine areas where the district can provide additional support to schools in prioritized school security standards, for example:
 - All schools met in having exterior doors closed and lock when staff member not present, and are "self-close", lock properly, and are compliant with codes
 - Regularly assess prioritized standards during school visits (both formal and informal visits)



SCHOOL SAFETY – FUNDING

- Schools are currently working on their Public School Security Grant applications. These are due Sept. 29, and the Commission will assess how the funds are being used by schools at that time
 - Charter schools apply for this grant directly via the TDOE
 - Funds must be tied to their School Security Assessment
- Numerous schools reached out to the Commission regarding challenges of securing an SRO through the Statewide School Resource Officer (SRO) Program Grant
 - Many charter schools have expressed interest in the grant
 - The restriction on securing an SRO through local law enforcement has impeded schools' ability to secure these funds



SCHOOL SAFETY – FUNDING

- During the August special session, the Tennessee General Assembly passed an appropriations bill making available an additional \$10 million for public schools, including charter schools, unable to secure an SRO
 - The department has not yet shared a timeline for when and how these funds will become available and which schools will be eligible to apply
 - The Commission will continue to track progress and support schools as next steps become available



TN PULSE

- The department rolled out TN Pulse on July 1, an online platform (replacing EasyIEP and Ellevation) that contains student records serving special populations – IEPs, ILPs, ILP-Ds, and 504 Plans
 - ILPs: Individualized Learning Plans for English Learners
 - ILP-Ds: Individualized Learning Plans for Students with Characteristics of Dyslexia
- The rollout has been challenging as districts and schools across the state have struggled to gain access to the platform, transfer student records into the new platform, and other technical issues
- Additionally, students who are transferring into a school (this includes all students from schools that transitioned from ASD to the Commission) lack the data needed to create an ILP



TN PULSE

- The department has delayed its first wave of IEP compliance monitoring by one month to provides districts more time to complete the records transfers
- The Commission continues to provide direct technical assistance and is seeking ways to add additional capacity to the team, including a short-term contracted role, solely to assist with the increased volume of technical support needed for TN Pulse





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