



# TENNESSEE

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

**SY24-25 SCHOOL  
YEAR PREVIEW**

**JULY 25, 2024**

# PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

- Opening in SY24-25:
  - KIPP Antioch Global Middle School
  - Rutherford Collegiate Prep
- Transitioning to Commission in SY24-25:
  - Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus
  - Rocketship Nashville Northeast Elementary
- Opening SY25-26:
  - American Classical Academy Jackson-Madison
  - Empower Memphis Career and College Prep
  - Invictus Nashville Charter School
  - KIPP Antioch Global Elementary School



# GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT: MSCS

School	Operator	Grades
Libertas School of Memphis	Libertas	K-6 (K-8)
Cornerstone Prep School	Capstone Education Group	K-2 (K-8)
Cornerstone Prep Denver Campus	Capstone Education Group	K-5
Cornerstone Prep Lester Campus	Capstone Education Group	K-5
Lester Prep	Capstone Education Group	6-8
Promise Academy Spring Hill	Promise Academy	K-5
Bluff City High School	Iota Community Schools	9-12
Empower Memphis Career and College Prep*	Empower Memphis Career and College Prep	K-8*

\* In pre-opening process - opening in a future school year.



# GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT: MNPS

School	Operator	Grades
KIPP Antioch College Prep Elementary	KIPP Nashville	K-4
KIPP Antioch College Prep Middle	KIPP Nashville	5-8
KIPP Antioch Global High School	KIPP Nashville	9-10 (9-12)
KIPP Antioch Global Middle School	KIPP Nashville	5-6 (5-8)
KIPP Antioch Global Elementary School*	KIPP Nashville	K-4
Nashville Collegiate Prep	ReThink Forward	K-8
Rocketship Dream Community Prep	Rocketship Public Schools	K-4
Rocketship Nashville Northeast Elementary	Rocketship Public Schools	K-5
Lead Neely's Bend	Lead Public Schools	5-8
Tennessee Nature Academy	Tennessee Nature Academy	5-7 (5-12)
Invictus Nashville*	Invictus Nashville	K-8*

\* In pre-opening process - opening in a future school year.



# GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT: OTHER

## Rutherford County Schools

School	Operator	Grades
Rutherford Collegiate Prep	ReThink Forward	K-6 (K-8)

## Jackson-Madison County Schools

School	Operator	Grades
American Classical Academy Jackson-Madison*	American Classical Academy	K-12*

\* In pre-opening process - opening in a future school year.



# CHARTER COMMISSION

The Charter Commission's portfolio of schools by geographic district:

County	Number of Schools
Davidson	11
Shelby	8
Rutherford	1
Madison	1
<b>Total Schools*</b>	<b>21</b>



\*four of these schools have been approved by the Commission but have not opened yet.

# PRE-OPENING REFRESH

- Commission staff has completed its annual updates of the pre-opening checklist.
- The checklist has been reorganized and now includes two sections:
  - Ready to Open criteria
  - Typical pre-opening checklist of compliance items
- Ready to Open criteria include items related to facilities, enrollment, staffing, and financing.
  - These are not new items but have been prioritized in the checklist.
  - Schools submit an updated startup plan from the charter application outlining timeline for Ready to Open criteria.



# PRE-OPENING REFRESH

- While drafting this new pre-opening checklist Commission staff:
  - Attended NACSA training sessions on their recently released Ready to Open criteria
  - Garnered Commissioner feedback
  - Met with operators who have recently gone through pre-opening to gather their input on proposed edits





# PRE-OPENING REFRESH

- Ready to Open Criteria Items for Discussion:
  - Facility Timeline
    - December 1: Identify a facility suitable for the school in alignment with the facility plan outlined in the application and necessary financing for the facility.
  - Enrollment Targets
    - March 15: received student applications from at least 50% of budgeted enrollment target
    - April 15: received applications from at least 75% of budgeted enrollment
    - May 15: completed enrollment for at least 75% of budgeted enrollment
    - June 15: fully enrolled



# RENEWAL UPDATE

- The following schools are undergoing the renewal process:
  - LEAD Neely's Bend
  - Libertas School of Memphis
  - Cornerstone Prep Denver
- Initial review of the application and capacity interview are complete.
- Review committee reports summarizing initial strengths and areas of concern will be sent ahead of the site visit and public hearing



# RENEWAL UPDATE

- A site visit report will be completed after the site visit in September.
- Both the review committee report and site visit report are exhibits to the Executive Director's recommendation.
- The Commission will also conduct public hearings in November.
- Commission decisions on these renewals will take place in January 2025.



# PROMISE ACADEMY SPRING HILL NOTICE OF CONCERN

- A notice of concern has been issued to Promise Academy Spring Hill citing financial reporting challenges and special education compliance issues.
- A notice of concern is a level 1 intervention and is triggered by performance deficiencies through routine monitoring and performance reviews.
- The letter was provided to the school's governing board detailing the areas of concern, and staff is meeting with the school in-person next week to review the expectations for SY24-25.





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