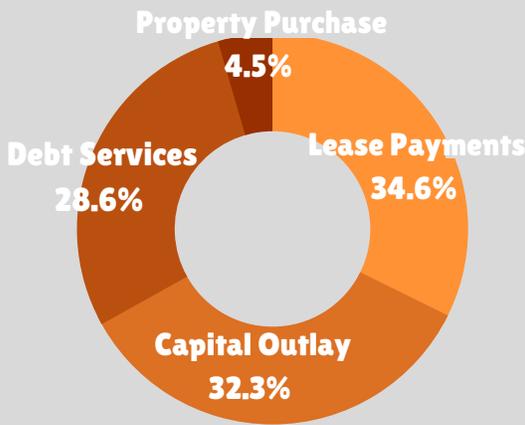


CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES PROGRAM

Working to close the public charter school facilities funding gap so schools can focus more resources on students and less on facilities.

SINCE ITS LAUNCH,

\$11,775,000
AWARDED TO
85 **SCHOOLS AFFECTING**
31,500+ **STUDENTS**



IVY ACADEMY, INC CAMPUS EXPANSION

IVY Academy, Inc. in Chattanooga used the funding in the building of its Environmental Institute. The Institute will offer scholars the opportunity to earn certifications that will allow them to enter the workforce immediately after graduation.

\$3,590,000
IN IMPROVEMENTS
TO EXISTING FACILITIES



Including new windows, flooring, lighting, wall repair, plumbing upgrades and classroom expansions

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PROPERTIES PURCHASED

- Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence
- KIPP Nashville
- Memphis Business Academy Elementary
- Power Center Academy High
- Power Center Academy Hickory Hill Elementary
- Freedom Prep Millbranch

\$4,150,000
LEASE PAYMENTS
FOR **32**
SCHOOLS



7 
 Security Upgrades

18 
 New HVAC Units

 **8**
 New Roofs

 **3**
 New Parking Lots

CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES PROGRAM

WHY?

In 2017, the Tennessee General Assembly recognized the significant facilities funding gap that exists for public charter schools. In order to combat this, they established the Tennessee Department of Education's Charter School Facilities Program, which was designed to provide capital funds for charter schools.

Thanks to the appropriations of the General Assembly, this program has been equipped with resources for the past two years to ensure that more dollars are kept in the classroom. We hope the administration and General Assembly will continue to devote resources to this important program.

WHAT NOW?

Though the General Assembly has equipped this program with resources that have greatly helped public charter schools over the past two years, the current funds only scratch the surface in meeting needs of charter schools. Many of these facilities issues are *needs*, not *wants*. TCSC conducted a Capital Needs Survey to get a grasp of the continued facilities needs of charter schools in Tennessee. Here are just a few of the results:

61% of schools surveyed do not have adequate space for full enrollment

Public Charter Schools reported

\$35 MILLION
in urgent capital needs project costs over the next year
and

\$75 MILLION
in anticipated project costs over the next five years.

22% of schools surveyed do not have adequate space for their current enrollment

The average public charter school spends more than

\$485,000
on facilities costs. That's an average of

13.5% of their operating budgets.

WHO?

Eighty-five schools statewide have received funding through two rounds of distribution.

4

Chattanooga

1

Knoxville

57

Memphis

23

Nashville

HOW?

Grant recipients are selected by the Tennessee Department of Education through an application process related to specific facility needs. Each year, the TDOE sets out the criteria that schools must meet in order to qualify for the award, identifies eligible applications, distributes awards, collects documentation and maintains information regarding specific usage of funds.

THE TAKEAWAY?

While the nearly \$12 million awarded over the past two years has made a major impact on recipient schools and their students, it has only fulfilled 16% of the needs reported.