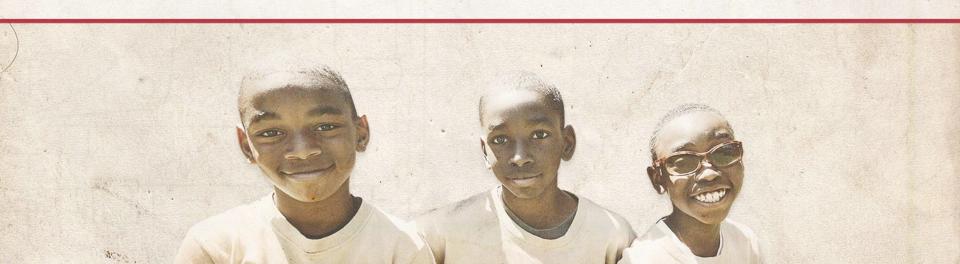




School Finance

Bruce Marchand, Ed.D Director of Charter School Growth and Development, TCSA





Presentation Topics

- How charter school funding is different than traditional ISDs;
- Funding sources in charter school systems;
- How attendance drives budget dollars;
- Determine why the TX school finance system has been challenged through litigation;
- Discuss what the future might hold for charter school funding with potential state changes and ESSA.
- New PSF Bond Guarantees through SB 1480
- HB 2610 (Minutes Bill) and the new "fix" for charter schools (HB 2442)
- Review current school finance situation after the 85th legislature
- What you should be doing now in terms of budget preparation for 2017-2018
- New Instructional Facilities Allotment (NIFA) funding





List the funding sources used in your system's budget.



- Which funding sources did you list?
 - -State Foundation School Program
 - Federal Entitlements
 - Grants
 - Private Foundations and Gifts



Funding Sources (All Schools)

Foundation School Program	Other State	Other Local	Federal
■Tier I	Instructional materials	•Taxes	-Child nutrition
•Tier 2	• Teacher	Investment income	•NCLB/IDEA
•Facilities	retirement	•Fees	•Other
• State aid for tax	•Other		
reduction		Bond proceeds	



Funding Sources (All Schools)

Foundate School Pro

Tier I

Tier 2

Facilities

State aid f reduction Not all funding sources are available to charter schools

nutrition

B/IDEA



- Funding is determined based on the types of student groups you serve and which programs they participate in at your campus. Charter schools tend to serve a disproportionately high number of:
 - Special Education
 - Bilingual



 Foundation School Program funding provides a base amount of funding for each student and an additional weight (percentage of the base amount) depending on the program(s) the student participates in.



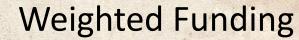
- Weights are added because, theoretically, some students are "more expensive" to educate due to the programs they participate in. Weighted programs include:
 - Special Education
 - Bilingual/ESL Program
 - Career and Technology
 - Gifted and Talented

CHARTERIS

- Special education students are funded based on their disability and instructional arrangement. Generally, the more restrictive the educational environment, the bigger the weight, with a continuum of weights as follows:
- Number Enrolled in Speech Therapy (Code 00)
- Number Enrolled in Mainstream (Code 40)
- Number Enrolled in Resource Room (Code 41 & 42)
- Number Enrolled in Self-Contained Mild/Mod/Sev (Code 43 & 44)
- Number Enrolled in Full-Time Early Childhood (Code 45)
- Number Enrolled in Homebound (Code 01)
- Number Enrolled in Hospital Class (Code 02)
- Number Enrolled in Off-Home Campus (Code 91-98)
- Number Enrolled in VAC (Code 08)
- Number Enrolled from State Schools (Code 30)
- Number Enrolled in Residential Care & Treatment (Code 81-89)



- Bilingual/ESL Students receive weighted funding as well. Schools must follow identification procedures as set forth for Language Proficiency Assessment Committees (LPACs)
- Career and Technology students receive funding based on the classes they take and if they are in a coherent sequence (two or more related courses) in a CTE program.
- Students are identified as a "1, 2 or 3" in regards to their CTE courses.
- A "1" weight is assigned for a single course.
- A"2" weight is assigned if a student is taking the 2nd course in a sequence.
- A "3" weight (most revenue) is assigned if a student is in the 3rd course in a sequence or beyond.





- Gifted and Talented students receive additional funding if they are designated GT by the school identification committee using procedures set forth in the Texas State Plan for Gifted and Talented students (2009).
- Schools receive funding for each identified GT student up to 3% of their total enrollment. Schools can identify additional students beyond 3% of their enrollment, but they won't receive funding for the additional students.
- High school students, regardless of the program they are in, currently receive an additional \$275 per student under the high school allotment.



- Which student would receive the greatest amount of revenue based on the weighted student formula? Rank the students from the least amount of funding to the greatest.
- 1. A high school special education student in a self-contained class for reading.
- 2. A Hispanic elementary student
- 3. A high school student taking their first class in the CTE Marketing sequence.
- 4. A middle school student in an ESL program taking a CTE forensics class.
- 5. An elementary student in a mainstream special education setting.
- 6. An elementary student identified as eligible for ESL services but the parent denies the service.



- 1. A Hispanic elementary student
- 2. An elementary student identified as eligible for ESL services but the parent denies the service.
- 3. An elementary student in a mainstream special education setting.
- 4. A middle school student in an ESL program taking a CTE forensics class.
- 5. A high school student taking their first class in the CTE Marketing sequence.
- 6. A high school special education student in a self-contained class for reading.



Attendance Matters



- Charter school funding is calculated based on student attendance.
- Your funding will be reduced when students are absent.
- Schools typically take attendance at 10:00 am



Coding Matters

 The Public Education Information System (PEIMS) encompasses all data requested and received by TEA about public education, including student performance, personnel, financial, and organizational information.



Data Collected in PEIMS

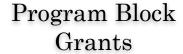
- Organizational
- Budget
- Actual financial
- Staff
- Student demographic

- Program participation
- Leaver
- Attendance
- Course completion
- Discipline



Foundation School Program





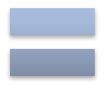
Other Allotments



Tier II

Level II Enrichment

Level III Enrichment



Foundation School Program



Tier I Calculation

Program Grants	Calculation				
1 Togram Grants	Calculation				
Regular Program	(Refined ADA - (SpEd FTEs-CTE FTEs)) * State Average Adjusted Allotment				
Special Education	Sum of (Enrollment*Attendance*Weight) * State Average Adjusted Allotment				
Mainstream Special Ed	Mainstream SpEd ADA * State Average Adjusted Allotment * 1.1				
Career & Technology	Sum of (Enrollment * Attendance * Weight) * State Average Adjusted Allotment * 1.35				
Gifted & Talented	GT Enrollment * State Average Adjusted Allotment * 0.12				
Compensatory Ed	Compensatory Ed Enrollment * State Average Adjusted Allotment * 0.2				
Pregnancy Related Services	PRS Enrollment * Attendance * 0.2936 * State Average Adjusted Allotment * 2.41				
Bilingual Education	BE Enrollment * Attendance * State Average Adjusted Allotment * 0.1				
Other Allotments	Calculation				
Transportation Allotment					

High School ADA * \$275

High School Allotment



Foundation School Program Charter School Tier II Calculation

- Level II Enrichment
 - \$74.28 * WADA * State Average District Tax Rate I *100 (\$61.85 in 2015)
- Level III Enrichment
 - + \$31.95 * WADA * State Average District Tax Rate II * 100

WADA Calculation=(Total Adjusted Tier I * Guaranteed Yield Adjustment)/State Average Basic Allotment)

Guaranteed Yield Adjustment=0.9733



Legislative Changes Foundation School Program

- Increased Basic Allotment
 - 2013-\$4,765
 - 2014-\$4,950
 - 2015-\$5,040
 - 2016-\$5,140
 - 2017-\$5,140
- Restored Regular Program Adjustment Factor
 - 2013-0.98
 - 2014-1.00
 - 2015-1.00
 - 2016—1.00
 - 2017-1.00

- Tier II Guaranteed Yield
 - 2014 -\$59.97(Level 1) and \$31.95 (Level 2)
 - 2015-\$61.86(Level 1) and \$31.95 (Level 2)
 - 2016-\$74.28 (Level 1) and \$31.95 (Level 2).
 - 2017-\$74.28 (Level 1) and \$31.95 (Level 2).
- Increased ASATR Reduction Factor
 - 2013- 0.9235
 - 2014- 0.9263
 - 2015- 0.9263



Entitlements

- Entitlements funded in 12 monthly payments from two sources:
- Available School Fund
 - Set aside from Permanent School Fund and 25% of fuel tax receipts to support public school system
 - 444.148 * previous year WADA
- Foundation School Program
 - State and federal funds
 - Remainder of entitlement



State Funding Worksheets

tea.texas.gov/Finance and Grants/State Funding/Charter School Funding/Charter School State Funding Worksheets/ Popular Applications: AskTED ECOS For Educators EGRANTS TEA Secure Applications Information TEAL Login TEASE Login Search A-Z Index Sign Up for Updates Contact oOU Curriculum & Instructional **Finance & Grants** Student Testing & **Texas Educators Texas Schools** About TEA Reports & Data Materials Accountability

Home / Finance and Grants / State Funding / Charter School Funding

Charter School State Funding Worksheets

The Division of State Funding estimates state aid during the school year based on:

- · projected charter school and school district attendance,
- estimated school district maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rates, and
- estimated tax collections.

These estimates may be inaccurate if there is pertinent information unknown to the State Funding Division. Such information can have a significant impact on the Final Summary of Finances (SOF). It is strongly recommended that charter schools budget conservatively to accommodate any unexpected changes.

2015-2016 Template

2015–2016 Estimate of State Aid (Excel Version, 243 KB) (PDF Version, 189 KB)

2014-2015 Template

Charter School Funding Alternative Compensatory Education

Allotment Reporting Procedures

Charter School Annual Financial Report Data Template

Charter School State Funding Worksheets













Estimate Your Budget



Take the next few minutes to create a sample budget using the current budget template found at:

http://tea.texas.gov/Finance_and_Grants/State_ Funding/Charter_School_Funding/Charter_School_State_Funding_Worksheets/



What sources of funding are available to traditional independent school districts that are not available to charter schools?



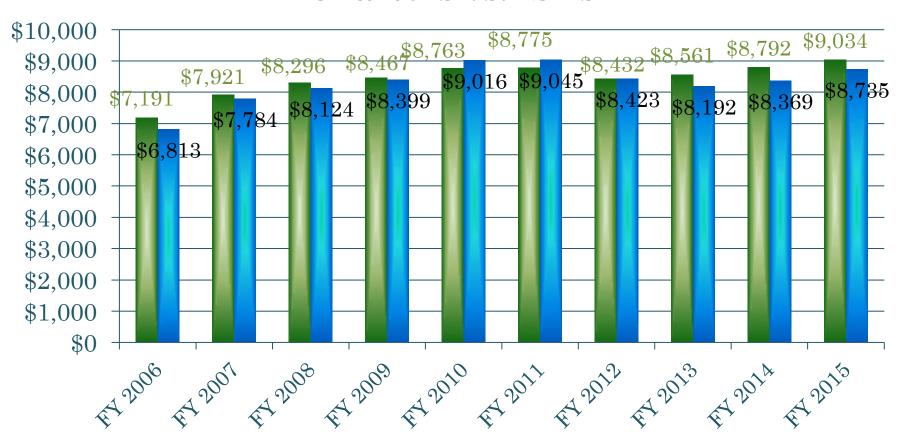
The Answer?

- Texas Charter Schools do not have access to:
 - Property Tax
 - Facilities Funding



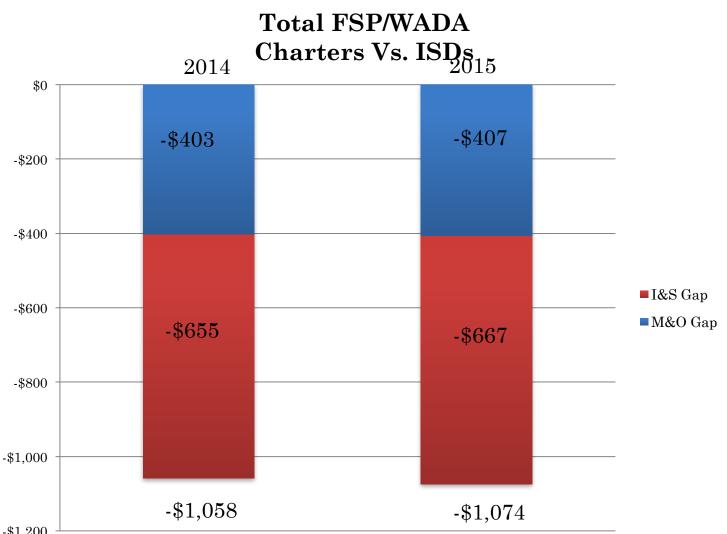
Result of the Formula

FSP Revenue/ADA Charters vs. ISDs





Instruction and Facilities are Inseparable





Distribution of WADA and FSP

FSP per WADA Number of Districts in Range									
Range	2012	2013	2014	2015	2012	2013	2014	2015	
4000-5000					2	8	5	4	
5000-6000	190	193	201	201	341	389	356	256	
6000-7000	6	1	1	1	445	429	475	545	
7000-8000					123	93	109	133	
8000-9000					55	39	28	32	
9000-10000					17	23	18	22	
10000-11000					17	4	6	3	
11000-12000					7	9	8	9	
12000-13000					4	10	6	6	
13000-14000					5	3	1	3	
14000-15000					2	3	4	3	
15000-16000					1	4	2		
16000-17000					3	1		2	
17000-18000					1	1			
18000-19000						2	1	1	
19000-20000							1	1	
20000+					1	3			



\$1000 gap





School Finance Lawsuit

"Charters are the same as school districts where it counts; as long as the Legislature determines to authorize charters, it has a duty to fund charters adequately, suitably and equitably."

Denise Pierce, TCSA September 1, 2016



Funding Gap Causes

 Charter school funding is not specifically adjusted for the individual characteristics of each charter school.

 Charter schools do not receive facilities funding.



Property Taxes

- Open enrollment charter schools can't levy an Interest and Sinking (I&S) tax rate.
- Open Enrollment Charter Schools aren't able to capture revenue from property taxes (like traditional ISDs do) because we serve students from a larger geographic boundary.
- For example, A+ Charter School resides in Dallas ISD, but serves students from students multiple school districts.



Historical Info

- In prior years, charter schools have not had access to the Permanent School Fund. Access to the PSF guarantees bond issues and allows borrowing at lower interest rates.
- For example, When Harmony Public Schools financed bank bonds to construct campuses, the added cost was between \$50 and \$60 million.

-Source, Texas Tribune



PSF Access Granted

- In 2011, Senate Bill 1 was enacted by the Legislature and authorized the use of the PSF to guarantee revenue bonds for charter schools.
- Capacity based upon Statewide Charter enrollment (Adjusted Annually)
 - Charter Capacity is currently \$858,000,0000
- Qualifications:
 - 3-Years of Operation
 - No "Strikes"
 - Investment Grade Rating (BBB- or higher)



PSF Bond Guarantee

- Bonds properly issued by a charter district
 participating in the PSF are <u>fully guaranteed</u> by the
 corpus of the PSF and currently carry a AAA rating.
- The implementation of the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program was deferred pending receipt of guidance from the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") which was received in September 2013.
- TEA and State Board of Education regulations became effective on March 3, 2014.



How has this helped?

- Interest Savings
 - Approximately 1.00% advantage in the market
 - Total Issuance -- \$858,000,000
 - 1.00% of \$858 million = 8.5 million per year for 25 years
 - Additional \$212 million for Texas charter operations
 - Structural Benefits
 - No Mortgage/Deed of Trust
 - No Reserve Fund
 - More permissive covenants & lower costs of issuance

TEXAS SB 1480 — Big PSF Victory for Charter Schools in the 85th CHARTER Legislative Session

 Permanent School Fund-SB 1480 by Senator Bryan Hughes and Representative Jim Murphy (author of the companion bill, HB 467) will help increase the number of students enrolled in Texas charter schools by providing additional capacity to the Permanent School Fund (PSF) to guarantee the financing of public charter schools. The capacity for the program will go from \$1 billion to an estimated \$4 billion beginning September 1, 2017, which means more classroom seats for Texas students and millions of dollars in savings for public charter schools.





- To qualify for PSF Bond Guarantee:
 - Develop your own credit rating:
 - More complex financing structures
 - Covenant compliance
 - Strong Fund Balances
 - Clean Audits





Tex. Educ. Code §25.081 now requires 75,600 minutes of instruction (including intermissions and recesses) instead of 180 days of instruction

Day of Instruction = 420 minutes

Originally, TEA said that charter schools were not subject to the requirement but that state funding will be reduced in proportion to the number of minutes which a charter school's calendar falls below 75,600 minutes. As a temporary fix, for the last two years TEA let charters submit an instructional time waiver.



Minutes of Instruction

Attendance-taking procedures have not changed. 2-hour rule/4-hour rule remains for coding for half-day/full-day attendance (excludes intermissions and recess).

Schools must maintain local documentation, showing instructional days and start and end times beginning with 2015-2016 school year

ADA will continue to be calculated at six-week intervals/days taught.



 Minutes of Instructional Time-HB 2442 by Representative Ken King and Senator Larry Taylor (author of SB 1660) will protect the funding of about 110 public charter school campuses that enroll nearly 21,000 students. During the previous 84th Legislative Session, HB 2610 passed with the unintended consequence of reducing the funding for public charter schools with unique programs, often serving our most vulnerable student populations. With the passage of HB 2442, the funding of these schools is safeguarded



- Three automatic waivers are granted under HB 2442:
 - 1. Charter schools operating before January 1, 2015, will receive full funding if they report 180 days of attendance and comply with the four-hour instruction rule (240 minutes). The charter school must continue to meet the instructional requirements in its contract for charter.



2. A dropout recovery campus, a day treatment facility, a residential treatment facility, a psychiatric hospital, a school program offered at a correctional facility, an alternative education program (AEP), a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP), and a school operating under Texas Education Code (TEC), §29.259, will receive the allotted funding as long as they comply with the four-hour instruction rule (240 minutes).



3. Prekindergarten programs will receive the allotted funding as long as they comply with the two-hour instruction rule (120 minutes).

 Waivers are automatically granted for the three exceptions. School districts and charter schools do not need to apply for these automatic waivers



Other Waivers Available Through TEA

- Waiver applications available for the 2017–2018 school year include the following: early release (six days total), staff development (five days total), and the seven-hour school day as defined in TEC, §25.082(a). The 2017–2018 waiver application will open July 10, 2017.
- To apply for a waiver of TEC, §25.082(a), districts would select the "Other Waiver" type then complete and submit the application.
- Districts and charter schools must continue to follow the rules in the student attendance accounting handbook (SAAH)



School Funding – the 85th Legislative Session

 TCSA's top legislative priority, facilities funding (SB 457/HB 2337), was not achieved, but went further in the legislative process and had more support than in any prior session with SB 457 passing out of the Senate, not once but twice.



School Funding – the 85th Legislative Session

 SB 457, filed by Senator Donna Campbell (R-New Braunfels), and HB 2337 filed by Representatives Harold Dutton (D-Houston), Ron Simmons (R-Carrollton), Eddie Lucio, III (D-Brownsville), Jodie Laubenberg (R-Parker), and Dwayne Bohac (R-Houston), represented a bipartisan coalition from various geographic areas of Texas, a first in the history of the charter school movement in Texas. Separately, Representative Jason Villalba filed HB 1269, taking another approach to facilities funding.



School Funding – the 85th Legislative Session

 HB 21 by Representative Dan Huberty, the House's major school finance bill was amended to include charter school facilities funding towards the end of the legislative session. While the House and Senate considered HB 21 until the final hours of the session, ultimately, they were unable to come to consensus on this bill.



School Funding – the 85th Legislative Session

 So as things currently stand, there are no changes to the funding structures and per-pupil allocations from the 84th Legislative Session. Schools should plan to budget using the same per-pupil revenue amounts for 2017-2018 budgets that they used to build their 2016-2017 budgets.



Budgeting – What you should be doing now?

- FSP Estimate Report (Opens July 1 due August 1)
- District Approver must be familiar with Student Attendance Accounting
- It is recommended that District Approver complete the 2017-2018 Estimate of State Aid Worksheet prior to completing the FSP Estimate
- The *Estimate of State Aid Worksheet* includes a worksheet specifically designed for estimating State Compensatory Education (SCE) enrollment.



New Instructional Facility (NIFA) Allotment – Understanding the Basics

- NIFA is a reimbursement program for start-up costs, such as outfitting classrooms with furniture and equipment, for new campuses for isds and charter schools.
- The NIFA program provides up to \$1,000 per student in average daily attendance (ADA) in an eligible new campus in the first year of operation and up to \$1,000 per each additional ADA in the second year of operation to help with any start-up costs associated with opening a new campus.
- The program provides for a statewide total of \$23.75 million in the 2017-2018 school year, and the amount provided per student depends upon the total amount of requests made



Funding Amounts

- For an initial (first-year) or one-year application, a school district is entitled to an allotment of up to \$1,000 per ADA earned by students in attendance on an eligible new campus. For a follow-up (second-year) application, a school district is entitled to an allotment of up to \$1,000 for each additional ADA earned by students on the eligible campus.
- Special One Year Applications are available for facilities that were occupied for the first time in 2016-2017 but did not receive NIFA funds because of the district's failure to apply for funding before opening the campus. Any such eligible campus will receive funds for one year of operation only.



Funding Amounts

- Last year, TEA had the same appropriated amount (\$23.75 million) but only \$18 million in allocations were distributed based on all approved applications at last year's rate of \$250 per ADA.
- This year, the appropriation is the same, but the payment has increased to up to \$1000 per ADA. In addition, the definition of a qualifying facility has broadened. So this likely means that schools won't receive the \$1000 per ADA but instead a reduced amount, all dependent on demand. If the amount per ADA is reduced, it will be done proportionally so that all approved facilities receive the same amount per ADA.



New Instructional Facility (NIFA) Allotment – Understanding the Basics

- There are three types of applications:
 - Initial (first-year) applications must be submitted during the summer before the expected opening of the new building.
 - Follow-up (second-year) applications must be submitted during the summer after the first year of occupation.
 - Special One-Year applications are available for facilities that were occupied for the first time in 2016-2017 but did not receive NIFA funds because of the district's failure to apply for funding before opening the campus. Any such eligible campus will receive funds for one year of operation only.



New Instructional Facility (NIFA) Allotment – Understanding the Basics

 In order to access funding under the NIFA program, your district or charter school must submit an online application. Applications must be entered, saved, and sent through the TEASE online system. Applications must be submitted electronically by July 17, 2017. Neither late applications nor paper applications will be accepted.



- The facility for which funds are requested must be used for teaching the curriculum required by the TEC, Chapter 28 and must be one of the following:
- <u>A newly constructed facility</u> This is a facility that was not occupied before the 2017-18 school year. To qualify for initial funding, the campus must be occupied for the first time during the 2017-18 school year.
- <u>A repurposed instructional facility</u> This would be a building that was not previously a school facility but has been modified for that purpose (such as retail space)
- <u>A leased facility</u> operating for the first time as an instructional facility with a minimum lease term of not less than 10 years



- Additional requirements for qualification:
 - 1. The new facility must have its own campus ID number as designated by the Texas Education Agency. The facility cannot be a new, repurposed, or leased facility that shares a campus number with another existing facility.



- Additional requirements for qualification:
 - 2. The new facility must have its own principal or be eligible to receive an accountability rating through standard analysis as described in the most current Accountability Manual. Here are several scenarios to consider:
 - XYZ Charter School builds a new PreK-2 building. Would it qualify for NIFA funds?
 - **YES** if the school has its own campus number and shares an accountability rating with a grade 3+ campus <u>or</u> stands alone but has its own principal.
 - Can the same principal be in charge of multiple buildings and a facility qualify?
 - **YES** as long as the new facility has its own campus number and receives an accountability rating.



- Additional requirements for qualification:
 - 3. The new facility must have its own assigned instructional staff and instructional program distinct from those for other facilities
 - 4. The new facility must have its own record of expenditures that is not a sub-set of another school budget and its own attendance data that can be reported for those students assigned to the campus



- Additional requirements for qualification:
 - 5. The new facility must be physically separate from other existing school structures. However, a covered walkway may connect the new facility to another building



What Facilities are Prohibited from Qualifying for Funding:

- A building that is used for a program for students enrolled in another public school such as summer school, evening school, or a disciplinary center (unless it has its own principal, campus ID, accountability, budget, and course of study)
- Expansion or renovation of existing facilities
- A temporary or portable building



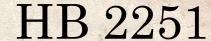
What Documents will I need to Upload into the TEASE NIFA Application?

- A picture of the newly built facility (not an artistic rendering)
- A site plan
- A floor plan
- A demolition plan (if applicable)
- A legal document that describes the nature and dates of construction. This could be a copy of a contract, certificate of project compliance, or a certificate of substantial completion.
 - Initial applications for facilities serving students for the first time in 2017-18 and one-year applications for facilities that opened for the first time in 2016-17 but didn't receive NIFA funds for the first year of operation must submit the required documents. Follow-up applications for year two do not have to attach the required documents.



- IMA is now a *biennial allocation* and requires TEA to make the full amount available on September 1 of the first year of the biennium.
- The amount of the allotment for the biennium for each charter:
 http://tea.texas.gov/About TEA/News and Multimedia/Correspondence/
 TAA Letters/Instructional Materials Allotment for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017/
- TEA Guidance on High Enrollment Growth/IMA Adjustment
 (http://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/News and Multimedia/Correspondence
 /TAA Letters/Instructional Materials Allotment and the High Enrollme
 nt Growth Application/

(Deadline for IMA Adjustment is December 1st)

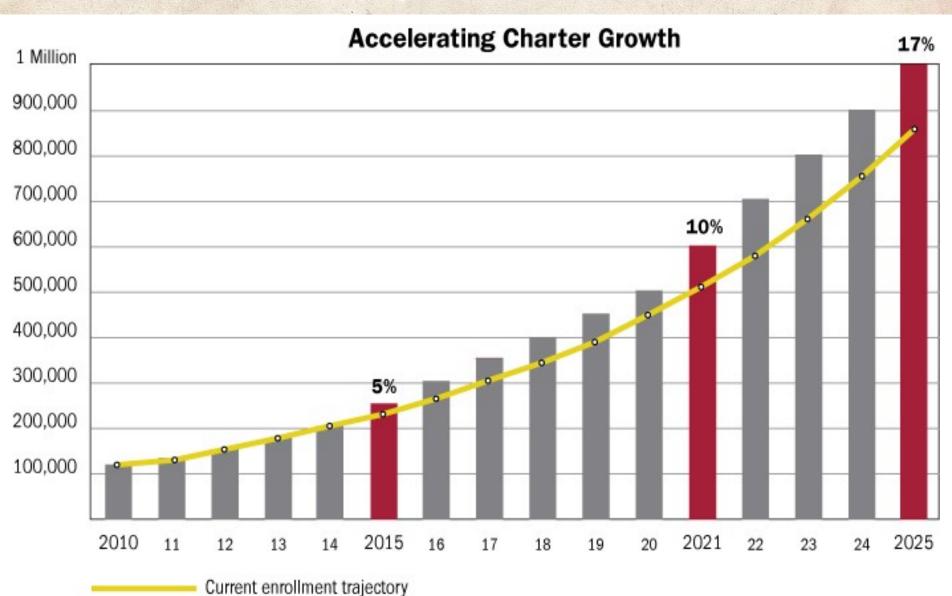




- A charter with 10% student enrollment growth from the previous year may request an alternative FSP payment schedule:
 - 22% on or before September 25th
 - 18% on or before October 25th
 - 9.5% on or before November 25th
 - 4% on or before December 25th
 - 4% on or before January 25th
 - 4% on or before February 25th
 - 4% on or before March 25th
 - 7.5% on our before April 25th
 - 5% on or before May 25th



Goal: 1 million students by 2025





Future Funding

- Every Student Succeeds Act
 - CSP program includes facilities finance provisions
- School Finance Lawsuit Results
 - We have a ruling, but we don't like it.
 - The legislature must determine which changes should be made to the school finance system.
 - We will be advocating for facilities funding again as one of our TCSA legislative priorities.



Priorities for the July 18, 2017 Special Legislative Session

- Retain quality teachers increase teacher pay by \$1000
- Increase school administrator flexibility
- Overhaul school finance system and Texas School Commission on Finance Reform
- School choice for special needs children
- Property tax reform
- Provide neither state nor local spending can exceed growth of population and inflation
- Reduce and restrict regulation by local governments trees on private land changing rules midway through projects speed up permitting process
- Reform of municipal annexation policies
- Prevent cities from passing regulations of texting and driving
- Privacy of women and children
- Prohibit using taxpayer dollars to collect union dues
- Prohibit taxpayer funding of abortion providers by local governments
- Legislation to crack down on mail ballot fraud and toughen penalties
- Extend Maternity Mortality Task Force



What does the Public See?

- Foundation School Program Report
 - Access current year FSP reports here: https://wfspcprdap1b16.tea.state.tx.us/Fsp/Reports/ReportSelection.aspx
- Texas Academic Performance Reporting Data
 - Revenue and Expenditure Data
 - Access your TAPR here:
 http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/tapr/2014/srch.h
 tml?srch=D
- Charter FIRST



Bruce Marchand, Ed.D.

Director of Charter School Growth and Development 512.584.8272 x 320

bmarchand@txcharterschools.org

