Facility Financing for Charter Schools:
Exploring Successful Investments and Opportunities for Innovation

September 30, 2013

Lyndon Baines Johnson Building
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20202

Objectives

- To bring credit enhancement grantees together with policymakers, colleagues, and other lending institutions to raise awareness of the opportunities for investment in the charter school sector
- To discuss accountability and characteristics of high-quality charter schools
- To explore future strategies and policy options that would improve facilities financing in the sector

Audience

The target audience includes credit enhancement grantees; colleagues from other lending institutions; representatives from research, advocacy, and policy organizations; and other policymakers from the Washington, D.C., area. We expect 50–75 participants in the audience.

Draft Agenda

7:45–8:00 a.m.  
Registration

8:00–8:15 a.m.  
Welcome and Introductions
- Kristin Lundholm, U.S. Department of Education
  - Brief overview of credit enhancement program
  - Brief overview of National Charter School Resource Center
  - Brief overview of facilities reports
  - Housekeeping notes

8:15–9:45 a.m.  
Growth and Replication of Quality Charter Schools
- Margaret Raymond, Center for Research on Educational Outcomes
9:45–11:00 a.m.  Charter School Accountability

- Nelson Smith, National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA)
- Whitney Spalding-Spencer, NACSA
- Harry Lee, New Jersey Department of Education

11:00–11:15 a.m.  Break

11:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  Charter Investment Options in the Bond Market

- Reena Bhatia, Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Charter School Bond Symposium

- Noah Wepman, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

12:00–1:00 p.m.  Networking Lunch: On Your Own

1:00–4:10 p.m.  Attracting and Leveraging Capital—Different Investment Strategies

- Start-Up Stage (Zero to Three Years), 1:00–2:00 p.m.
  *Moderator: Michelle Liberati, Charter Schools Development Corporation*
  - Mark Van Brunt, Raza Development Fund
  - Anne Stoehr, Walton Family Foundation
  - Josh Kern, TenSquare, LLC

- Established Stage (Three to Seven Years), 2:00–3:00 p.m.
  *Moderator: Jane Ellis, Self-Help*
  - Sara Vernon Sterman, The Reinvestment Fund
  - Susan Harper, Bank of America
  - Judith Kende, Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF)
  - Karl Jentoft, Ten Square, LLC

- Break, 3:00–3:10 p.m.

- Mature Stage (Seven Plus Years), 3:10–4:10 p.m.
  *Moderator: David Umansky, Civic Builders*
  - Becky Regan, Housing Partnership Network
  - Noah Wepman, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
  - Darrin Glymph, Orrick
4:10–5:15 p.m.  **Recommendations for State and Federal Policy Facilitators**

- Rebecca Sullivan, MassDevelopment
- Jane Ellis, Self-Help
- Benson Roberts, U.S. Department of Treasury

5:15–5:30 p.m.  **Wrap Up and Concluding Comments**

- U.S. Department of Education

We would like to thank the following credit enhancement grantees for serving as facilitators of the “Attracting and Leveraging Capital” portion of our day.

Joe Bruno (DC), Building Hope
Keith Timko (NJ), Build With Purpose
Joseph Palazzolo (NJ), Community Loan Fund of New Jersey
Tanya Vartivarian (IL), Illinois Facilities Fund
Cindy Stewart (CA), NCB Capital Impact
Faida Fuller (DC), Office of the State Superintendent of Education
Alexander Shawe (CA), KIPP Foundation