Launching High-Performing, College Preparatory Charter Schools in Tennessee

May 12, 2011
The Education Reform Environment in Tennessee Creates an Unprecedented Opportunity to Launch and Grow High Achieving Charter Schools in the State

- **Race to the Top**: $500M awarded to Tennessee ($14M allocated to charter growth)

- **Investing in Innovation (i3) grant**: $8.1M awarded to TN (in partnership with New Schools for New Orleans) to create 8 new charter schools

- **Strong talent pool** – TFA, TNTP, New Leaders, Building Excellent Schools, 4.0 Schools

- **National foundations investing in TN** (Gates Foundation, Walton Foundation)

- **Significant changes to the TN charter school law**
$30M Educational Platform Utilizing Public/Private Partnership Targeted to Students Most in Need

$30M Fund
- Race to the Top: $10M
- Walton Foundation: $6M
- TN Funders: $12M
- Other Local and National Funders: $2M

Charter School Growth Fund of TN
- $15 Million
- 4-6 New CMOs
- 20 campuses
- 10,000 students

Tennessee Charter School Incubator
- $15 Million
- 20 charters
- 10,000 students

40 High-Performing Charter Schools in Tennessee Serving 20,000 Students
Significant Funding Leverage

- Race to the Top: $10M
- Walton Foundation: $6M
- TN Funders: $12M
- Other Local and National Funders: $2M

$30M Charter Fund
Nashville Charter Growth

This Initiative and Funding will lead to Significant Market Penetration of High-Performing, College-Preparatory Charter Schools
Memphis Charter Growth

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About the Tennessee Charter School Incubator
Nashville Mayor launches “Charter Incubator” in December 2009 to create high-quality, college-preparatory charter schools in Tennessee

- 501 (c)(3) non-profit modeled from:
  - New York City Charter School Center
  - Newark Charter School Fund
  - New Schools for New Orleans

- Charter Incubator will focus on:
  - Selecting talented leaders and training them through a rigorous, year-long Fellowship program to open up a college-preparatory charter school
  - Providing support to existing high-performing charter schools to help them continue delivering outstanding student achievement results
A key part of the Incubator's work is the incubation of new, high-performing college-preparatory charter schools. We contract with two nationally-leading fellowship training programs (Building Excellent Schools and 4.0 Schools) to ensure our school leaders are prepared to create and operate some of the highest-achieving urban charter schools in the country.
School Support Services

To ensure our partner schools (fellowship-supported, and other new and existing high-quality charters) have the capacity to achieve exceptional academic results, we will provide support in areas that we think are critical for success:

- Strong governance structure (with high-capacity board members)
- Talented school leaders and teachers
- Performance-driven culture with a relentless focus on data
- Access to facilities that are economical and functional