

TCSC MEMBERSHIP: WHAT SCHOOL LEADERS SAY

TCSC is the champion for public charter schools across Tennessee, amplifying your voice to support schools and students. But don't just take our word for it—discover why school leaders statewide proudly stand with TCSC as members:



WHY OUR MEMBERS TRUST TCSC

"We are enthusiastic members because our children, who have been disenfranchised from educational opportunities in the past, need effective and unified advocacy to ensure equity. TCSC builds a bridge between our needs as school leaders and the strategies needed to push for change."

Bob Nardo, Executive Director at Libertas School (Memphis)



"I choose to be a TCSC member for several reasons: Advocacy, Connection, and Information. TCSC ensures that I have the support and resources I need, whether it's navigating policy changes or tackling school challenges."

Elaine Swafford, CEO at Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy and Montessori Elementary at Highland Park (Chattanooga):



"TCSC has been an invaluable support since the inception of STRIVE. The Center advocates on our behalf, allowing us to focus on what we love: educating children, while knowing there's a team working for our best interests."

Lakendra Butler, Founder and Executive Director STRIVE Collegiate Academy (Nashville):



"TCSC has been a trusted advocate since our opening in 2014. The team is knowledgeable, available, and offers strategic advice when needed most. Their support was pivotal in our school's recent 10-year renewal."

Tom Benton, Founder and School Director at Vision Prep (Memphis):



"As a charter leader, I rely on TCSC for expert guidance on policy and legislative matters. Being a member gives us access to the support we need to overcome barriers and ensure we can provide high-quality education."

Yetta Lewis, Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder at Gestalt Community Schools (Memphis):



WHAT OUR MEMBERS SAY TO POTENTIAL MEMBERS

"The financial investment of membership is nothing compared to the benefits. TCSC helps us navigate the best approaches needed to support charter schools effectively. Membership is only effective if school leaders stay engaged and work together with TCSC to mobilize for change."

Bob Nardo

"If you want strong representation as a public charter school, you need TCSC. Their state-level advocacy is second to none, and they are committed to helping you find the answers and support you need."

Elaine Swafford

"Membership offers valuable board training and connections with other school leaders. The Center's ability to connect us with other expert leaders helps overcome the isolation that can come with school leadership."

Lakendra Butler

"TCSC has provided us with crucial strategic support, especially during our recent renewal process. The outcome would have been different without their help. I highly recommend TCSC for its effective advocacy and support."

Tom Benton

"The challenges we face as charter schools can only be solved through collective effort. TCSC membership offers a network of colleagues and support to navigate local and state issues that impact our ability to deliver quality education."

Yetta Lewis

"TCSC is the voice that WILL advocate for you. As a TCSC member, I feel like I have someone to stand beside me, whether to help me solve a problem or engage to make sure I have the resources my school needs and deserves."

Elaine Swafford

LOOKING FORWARD THE FUTURE OF TCSC

"TCSC is at the forefront of education policy in Tennessee. With TCSC's strong board and experienced team members, we are well-positioned to leverage our influence and drive change for charter schools."

Bob Nardo

"I feel hopeful about TCSC's future because of the progress the team has made. Growing membership will help build on this work and strengthen the charter school sector in Tennessee."

Elaine Swafford

"Transition periods can be times of growth and re-energization. As it evolves, TCSC continues to provide effective advice and support, which makes me confident in the organization's future."

Tom Benton

"TCSC's history of success gives me hope. The organization has always been in the fight for charter schools, and I believe this new phase will make TCSC even more responsive to member needs and more effective in advocating for our schools."

Yetta Lewis

"Being a part of the Center means knowing there are people doing advocacy work on behalf of STRIVE, something I don't have the capacity as a single-site operator to do on my own."

Lakendra Butler



Ensure your voice is heard and stay ahead of the curve during Tennessee's Legislative session beginning January 2025. Join these leaders and others by becoming a member today!