

Center for Charter School Excellence in Tennessee
Founding CEO Position Description

Position: Founding Chief Executive Officer
Location: Nashville, TN
Reports to: Board of Directors, Center for Charter School Excellence in Tennessee

The Center for Charter School Excellence in Tennessee (CCSETN) is a new entity designed to accelerate the closure of the achievement gap in the state. It will support new college-prep public charter schools and expand efforts to train and place effective teachers in all public schools. Within five years, CCSETN plans to help start or replace 10-15% of Nashville's public schools and create conditions for long-term reforms that benefit every child in Tennessee.

The Founding CEO will be responsible for:

1. refining and then implementing the strategic plan,
2. building a small, committed staff respected by school founders and operators,
3. securing funds (\$3-4M annually for the first three years) from local and national partners.

The Founding CEO will report to the Board of Directors and receive support for the first three months of her/his tenure from Matt Candler, a veteran school reformer responsible for the preliminary strategic direction of the organization. The board is looking for the following in candidates:

1. a balance of humility, understanding and discipline,
2. relentless commitment to putting the interests of kids in front of those of adults,
3. first-hand experience in public schools that effectively close the achievement gap for kids,
4. a high level of emotional intelligence that allows the candidate to make smart hires, develop individual team members, and negotiate complex issues with multiple constituencies,
5. an active network that includes leaders of highly-successful school reform efforts,
6. experience in fund development, and
7. comfort with the transitional role of CCSETN in closing the achievement gap in Tennessee.

The Founding CEO will be responsible for building a nimble and compact team. Roles that may be filled by full-time staff or experienced independent contractors include:

1. A Director of Facilities, Operations & Finance focused on securing resources for partner schools,
2. A Director of Board Governance focused on sound oversight practices in partner schools,
3. A Director of Human Capital & Recruiting who helps partner schools identify talent,
4. One or two Reformers in Residence who will launch expansion sites elsewhere in Tennessee.

The Center for Charter School Excellence in Tennessee will establish a facility that serves as a focal point for innovative public school reform. The facility will provide low-cost office and training space to public education reform partner organizations. The Founding CEO must provide support to these partner organizations while working to coordinate strategic objectives.

The Center for Charter School Excellence in Tennessee is an equal opportunity employer and a Tennessee Corporation with 501c3 tax exemption pending. *Interested candidates should express interest via email to mcandler@gmail.com.*