

Evaluation of Scaling the New Orleans Charter Restart Model:

Student Impact

Cornerstone Prep - Lester Campus Cohort 2, Tennessee

Explore the findings and see what we discovered.

Enrollment & Demographic Profile

Cornerstone Prep-Lester Campus had a high and stable percentage of Black students over the course of the study period. Percentages of Hispanic students, Special Education students, and English-language learners were also stable but lower than the percentage of enrolled Black students. The percentage of students eligible for free/reduced price lunch increased in the second year of operation but fell in the third year. Note that a change in 2015-16 to TDOE's process for identifying free/reduced price lunch-eligible students caused a decline in the number of free/reduced price lunch students statewide. Demographic data are provided for only those years during which Cornerstone Prep-Lester Campus was included in the CRM evaluation.



Demographic Data

2011-12 2012-13 2013-14 2014-15 2015-16



Enrollment Data

PMO Score

The Performance Management Organization (PMO) score is a composite index of implementation quality. The PMO is built around 14 functions that effective schools have mastered. In each of the 14 areas, school personnel responses and field researcher observations were rated and compiled. Final scores were calculated as follows:

Rubric Score	PMO Stage
0	Absent
100	Developing
200	Accomplished
300	Exemplary

School Proficiency Level

As an indicator of overall student achievement, we provide information regarding CRM students' performance on state standardized tests in reading and math. These data are publically available from the Tennessee Department of Education. For each year of school operation, we report the percentage of students attending Cornerstone Prep - Lester Campus achieving proficiency or above on Tennessee's state standardized tests in both reading and math.

Student Impact

PMO Score

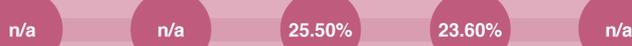
193

School Proficiency Level

Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5



Reading



Math

Implementation Summary



Cornerstone Lester has a unique origin story: founded as a private Christian school, Cornerstone converted to a public school in response to ASD's call for turnaround operators. Cornerstone opened as a fresh start but accelerated operators phase-in, maintaining an extremely close relationship between the CMO and founding principal in the school's first three years. Cornerstone faced numerous challenges in establishing culture, including allegations of racism for behavioral policies that garnered national attention in 2013. Despite Cornerstone Lester's struggles to establish a nurturing learning environment, Cornerstone received the charter for a second school, at the Denver campus, in 2015. While ASD approved this charter, NSNO declined to provide Cornerstone's second campus with additional i3 funds based on their concerns about performance at Lester.

School's Current Status

Cornerstone Lester continues to serve grades K through 5. Due to statewide problems with Tennessee's test vendor, no Tennessee schools administered state standardized tests in 2015-16, giving us limited information on Cornerstone's performance trajectory since the end of the study period.

