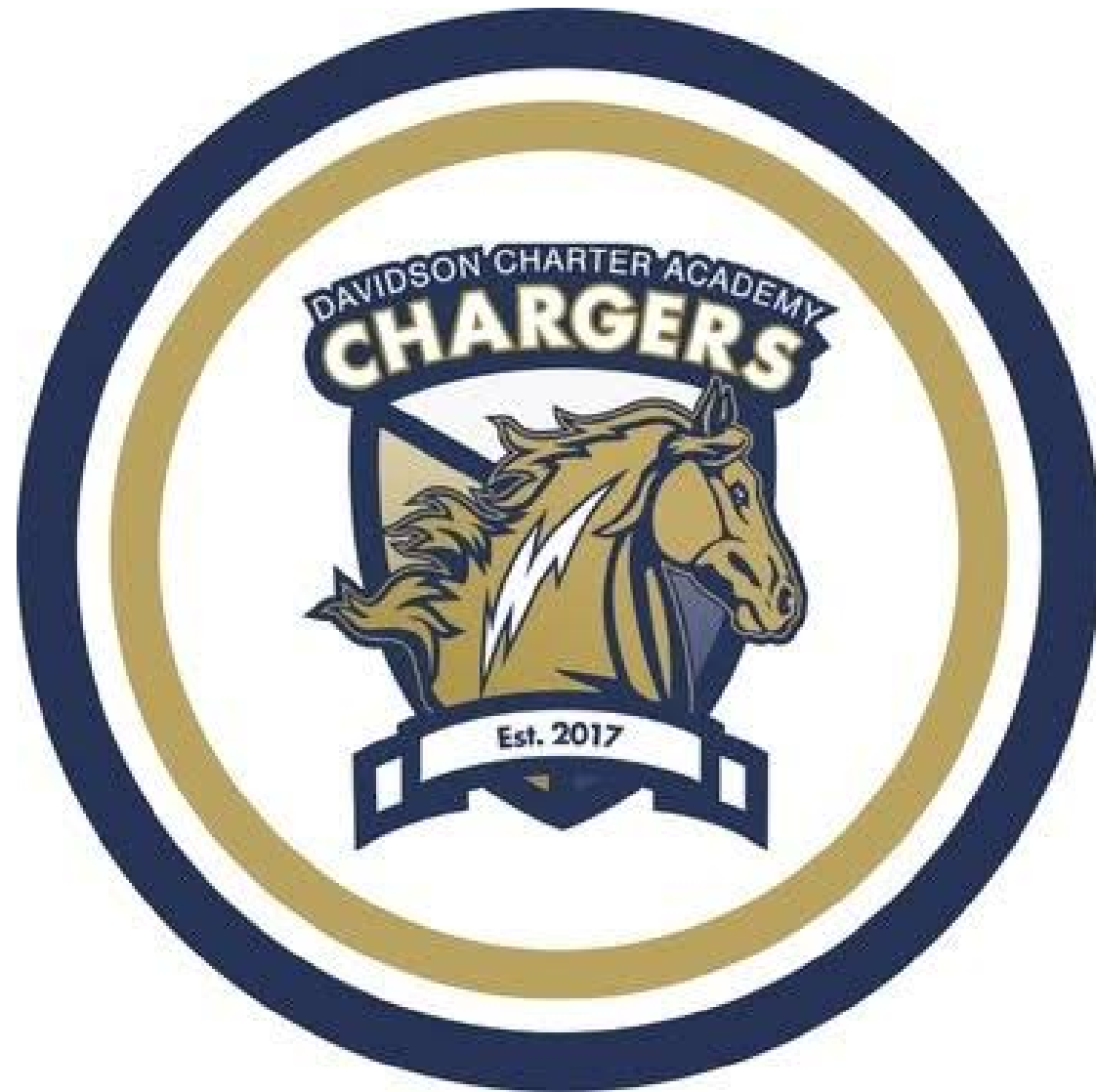
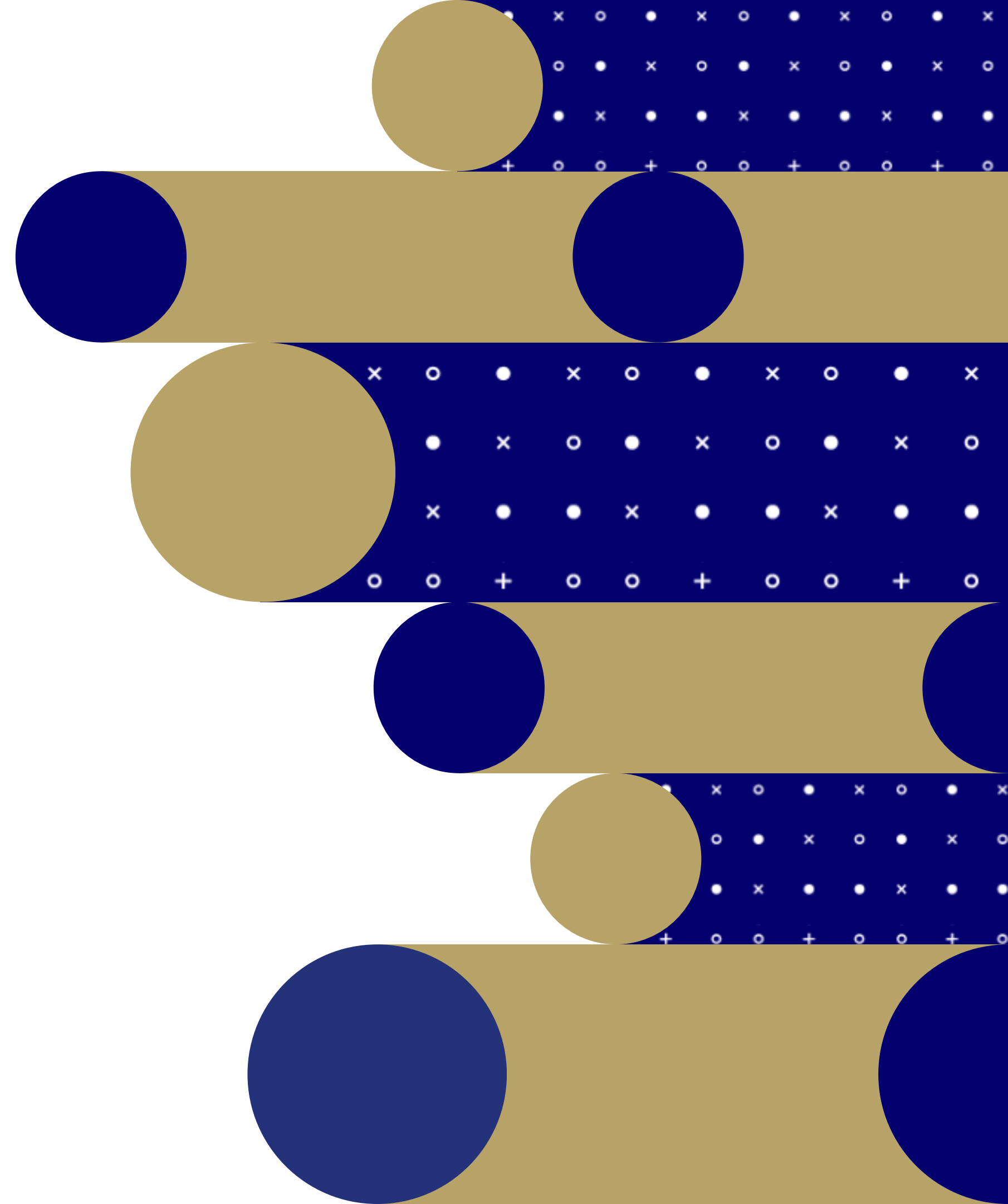




**Proposed partnership with
Tutelage School Solutions**



The benefits of a TSS partnership

- **Marketing and student enrollment support**

- DCA is currently operating at **65% of its full facility capacity**, and enrollment has declined over the past several years. As the school enters its 10th year of operation, the Board is concerned about this trend and its long-term implications. **Tutelage is well equipped to help create and execute ongoing strategic marketing campaigns, in order to address DCA's under-enrollment.**
- **Goal:** Increase enrollment from 612 students to 700 students by 2027, 775 students in 2028, and 850 students in 2029, and 900 students by 2030 (full capacity). **This will help stabilize our financial position.**



The benefits of a TSS partnership

- **Financial and budgetary support**

- Primarily due to under-enrollment, **DCA is not currently meeting certain financial covenants associated with its bond financing and is experiencing related cash-flow challenges.** These issues can be addressed through improved financial forecasting and budgeting strategies, stronger student retention, and ongoing targeted enrollment initiatives designed to attract new students and strengthen the school's overall financial position and long-term viability.
- **Goal:** Through our partnership with Tutelage and our new back-office partner, Prestige School Solutions, we will **increase student retention to 90%**, enhance financial forecasting and planning, and **strengthen overall staffing and operational effectiveness.**



The benefits of a TSS partnership

- Improving academic performance
 - DCA's academic performance has declined in recent years, with the school's performance grade **falling from a C in 2024 to a D in 2025**. Tutelage has a proven track record of driving academic improvement and will provide DCA with enhanced academic and leadership support led by its Director of Academics, Brad Teague. **Mr. Teague is former NC Middle School Principal of the Year (2012)** and most recently served as the School Director at Cherokee Charter Academy where he helped lead the school to historic levels of enrollment, cultural, and academic success.
 - **Goal:** Earn a “B” school performance grade for the first time in school history by the **2028-2029 school year**, establishing a strong foundation and clear path toward ultimately achieving the first “A” rating in school history.



Other benefits of a TSS partnership

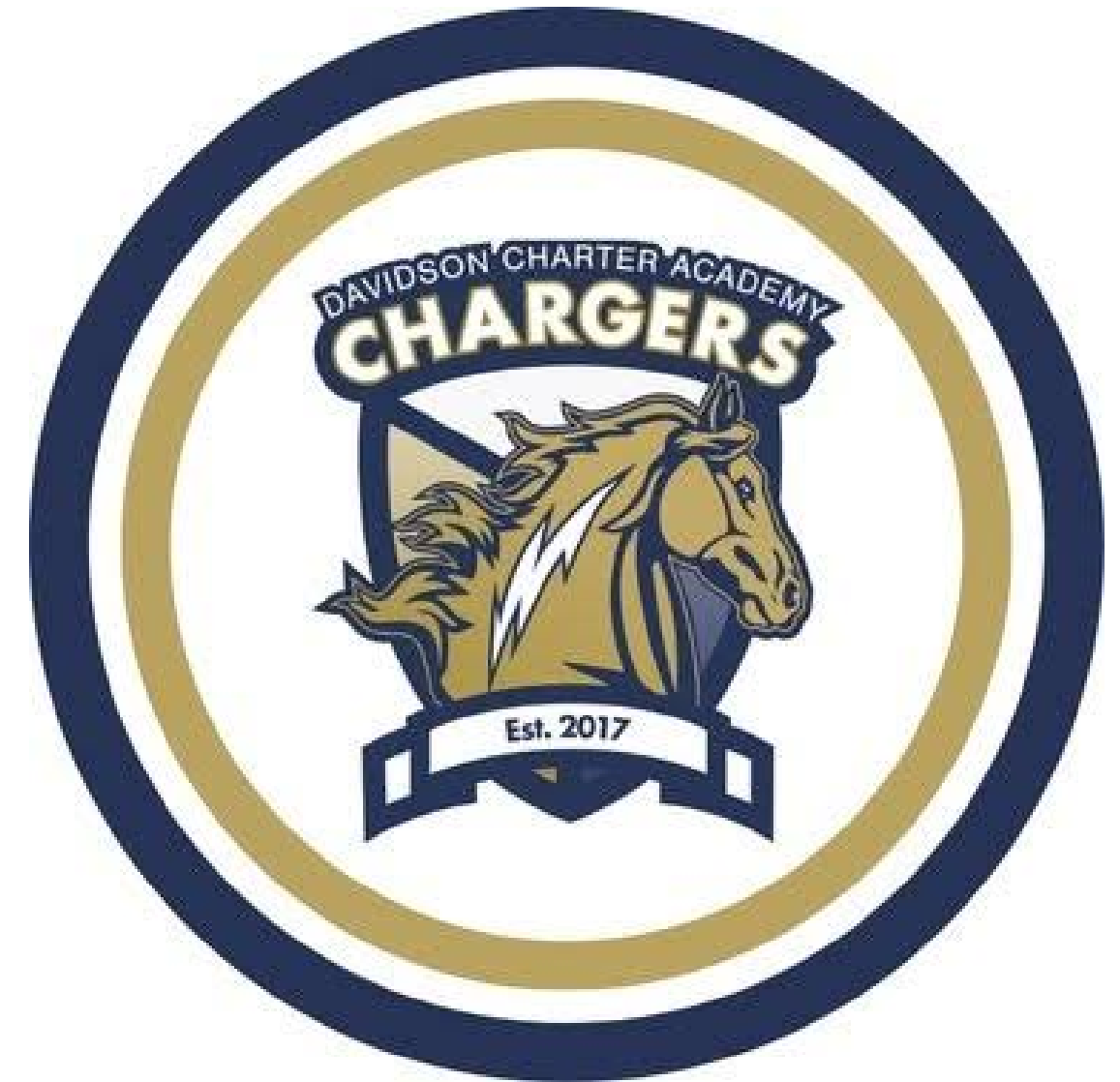
- **Leadership and Personnel Development and Support**
 - Through this partnership, DCA would also gain access to weekly leadership huddles, biannual leadership retreats, ongoing and meaningful professional development, and the consistent sharing of proven strategies and best practices across the Tutelage network.
- **Parent and Community Engagement**
 - Through effective marketing and branding efforts, we will work to improving the brand awareness and engagement of DCA in our surrounding community.
- **Governance and Compliance**
 - We will work to improve all areas of governance, in accordance with state and federal law.
- **Facilities and Safety Improvements**
 - Through Tutelage's Director of School Facilities, Jay Bishop, we will work to make on campus improvements that will ultimately benefit students and staff.



Fee structure and return on investment

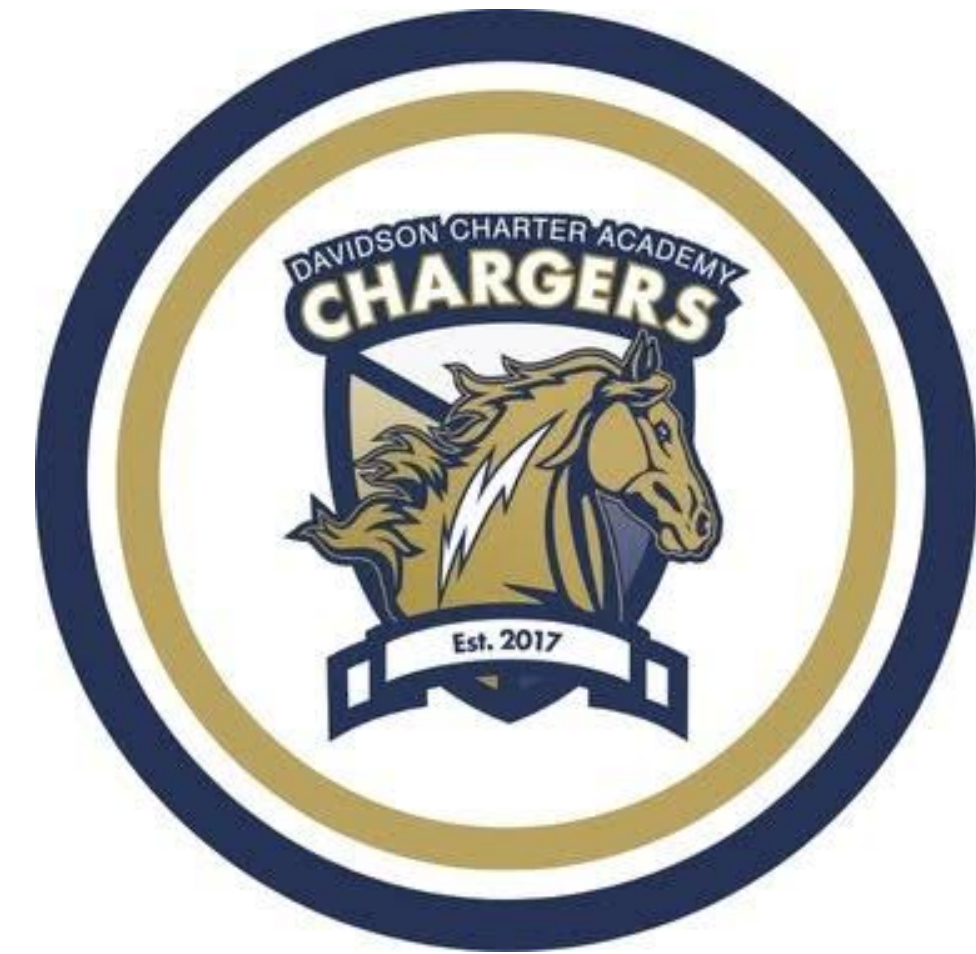
Typically in the market, providers charge on average 15-20% of all non-federal funds. **Tutelage's proposed fee of 10% is well below this typical range**, while never sacrificing quality nor results. The DCA Board believes the proposed partnership represents a strong financial value and long-term investment.

To further support this transition, **Tutelage has expressed its willingness to reduce its already highly competitive management fee by 90% for the 2026–2027 school year**. The fee would return to the standard 10% for the 2027–2028 school year, allowing time for enrollment and operations to be stabilized.



The Board views this as more than a traditional vendor relationship, since the need for professional support is timely and urgent.

With DCA operating at approximately 65% capacity, not meeting certain bond covenants, and experiencing declining academic performance, **the engagement of TSS is a proactive step to strengthen the school's enrollment, academics, finances, and operations** and will ultimately make the school more solvent and successful long-term.



Who is Tutelage School Solutions



Founded in 2019 with the sole focus of opening and supporting **high-performing** public charter schools in **high-need, underserved areas**.

Unlike most education management organizations, **Tutelage is locally owned and operated out of North Carolina.**

Tutelage's guiding principles are: **academic excellence, character development, and civic leadership.**



Tutelage's current network schools



Founded in 2020 as the first charter school in the history of Cherokee County



Founded in 2023 as the first charter school in the history of Boiling Springs



Founded in 2023 as the first charter school in the history of Greenwood County



Founded in 2025 as the first charter school in the history of Colleton County



Founded in 2025 as the second charter school in the history of Lancaster County



Founded in 2026 as the first charter school in the history of Woodruff

Tutelage's growing network

There are **eight additional pre-approved charter schools currently in the development pipeline**, with one additional application in the queue. All of these schools are on pace to open **by 2030, bringing the total number of Tutelage-supported schools to 15.**



Proven outcomes: Awards and Recognitions



May 2023 - Tutelage School Solutions was named the EMO of the Year by the Charter Institute at Erskine



School level success



January 2023

Named a **School of Distinction** by the Charter Institute at Erskine for **outperforming the local school district.**

December 2023

Named the 2023 recipient of the prestigious **Innovative Academic Excellence Award**, presented annually by the Public Charter School Alliance of SC to the **top charter school in the state.**

November 2023

Named a **School of Excellence** by the Charter Institute at Erskine for **performing in the top 25% of all South Carolina public schools.**

February 2025

Named **“The Best School in Cherokee County”** by the local news outlet, the Gaffney Ledger.

November 2023

Recognized for earning an **Excellence Middle School Report Card rating** (the highest rating possible).

March 2026

Received **its first national award** from the Educator Insider Magazine after being named as a **2026 Top Charter School.**

School level success



November 2024

Libertas Academy was awarded the **Culture of Excellence Award and Year One Trailblazer Award** by the Charter Institute at Erskine. The school also received a “Good” school report card rating, the second highest possible, after their first school year.

May 2025

Libertas Academy Boiling Springs’ own Noelle Gregoire was honored as **District PowerSchool Coordinator of the Year**.

February 2026

May 2025
Libertas Academy Boiling Springs’ own Mrs. Ashley Cooper was named **District Teacher of the Year**.

Named a **Gold School of Excellence**, placing the school among the top 25 percent of SC middle schools in English Language Arts. Both the elementary and middle schools also received Culture of Excellence Awards for earning excellent ratings on the School Climate Indicator.

School level success



January 2026

After only one school year in operation, Libertas Academy Colleton was named **The Best School in Colleton County** by the readers of the Press and Standard.

January 2026

For the second time in three years, the Charter Institute at Erskine's **Rookie of the Year Award** was awarded by a school leader within the Tutelage network. Destiny Grant, School Director at Libertas Academy Colleton, accepted the 2026 Rookie of the Year Award.

The main focus at Tutelage - academic achievement of all partnering schools.

