

State Charter Schools Foundation *of Georgia*

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Laura Bollman, Managing Director



Agenda for Lunch and Learn

- I. Overview of State Charter Schools Foundation
- II. School Leader Needs Assessment Results
- III. Gathering Feedback from YOU
- IV. What's Next?



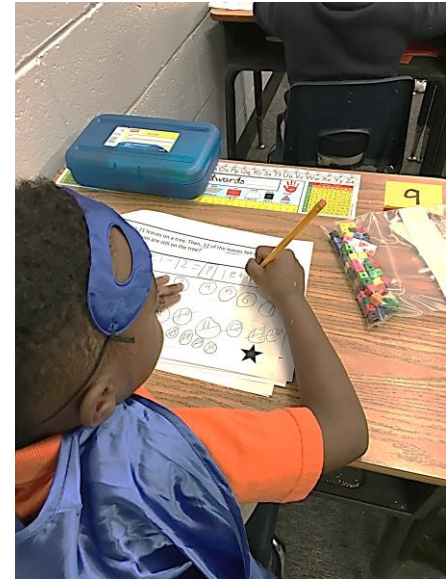
Charter School Landscape

- 1993 Georgia's first charter school law passed
- 1998 law expanded to allow local charters and state special charter schools
- 2008 law changed to add State Charter School Commission as authorizer
- 2011 Georgia Supreme Court ruled Commission law was unconstitutional
- 2012 constitutional amendment passed by voters to allow for the State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia



Georgia Charters by the Numbers

- In 2017-18 school year, there are 113 charter schools serving over 86,000 students K-12
 - 72 locally approved charter schools
 - 29 state charter schools
 - 22 college and career academies
 - 12 conversion charter schools
- There are 32,000 students K-12 enrolled in state charter schools, representing every county in Georgia.
- 20,000 attend virtual state charters and 12,000 attend brick and mortar state charters



State Charter Schools Commission

- In its 5th year of operation
- Recognized by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers for its commitment to holding state charter schools accountable through a comprehensive and transparent performance framework
- Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF)
 - ✓ Academics
 - ✓ Finances
 - ✓ Operations



Why State Charters are Important

State charter schools...

- ✓ Must provide better educational opportunities than traditional district schools
- ✓ Are diversifying education in Georgia with innovative school models
- ✓ Put students and families at the center of education by providing choices



What is a state charter school?

- A free, public school
- No academic admissions requirements
- Authorized by the State Charter Schools Commission
- Serves a specified enrollment zone
- **Does not receive any local tax dollars**
- Has a 501c3, a school governing board and autonomy over curriculum, finances and operations
- Operates as a Local Educational Agency (LEA)



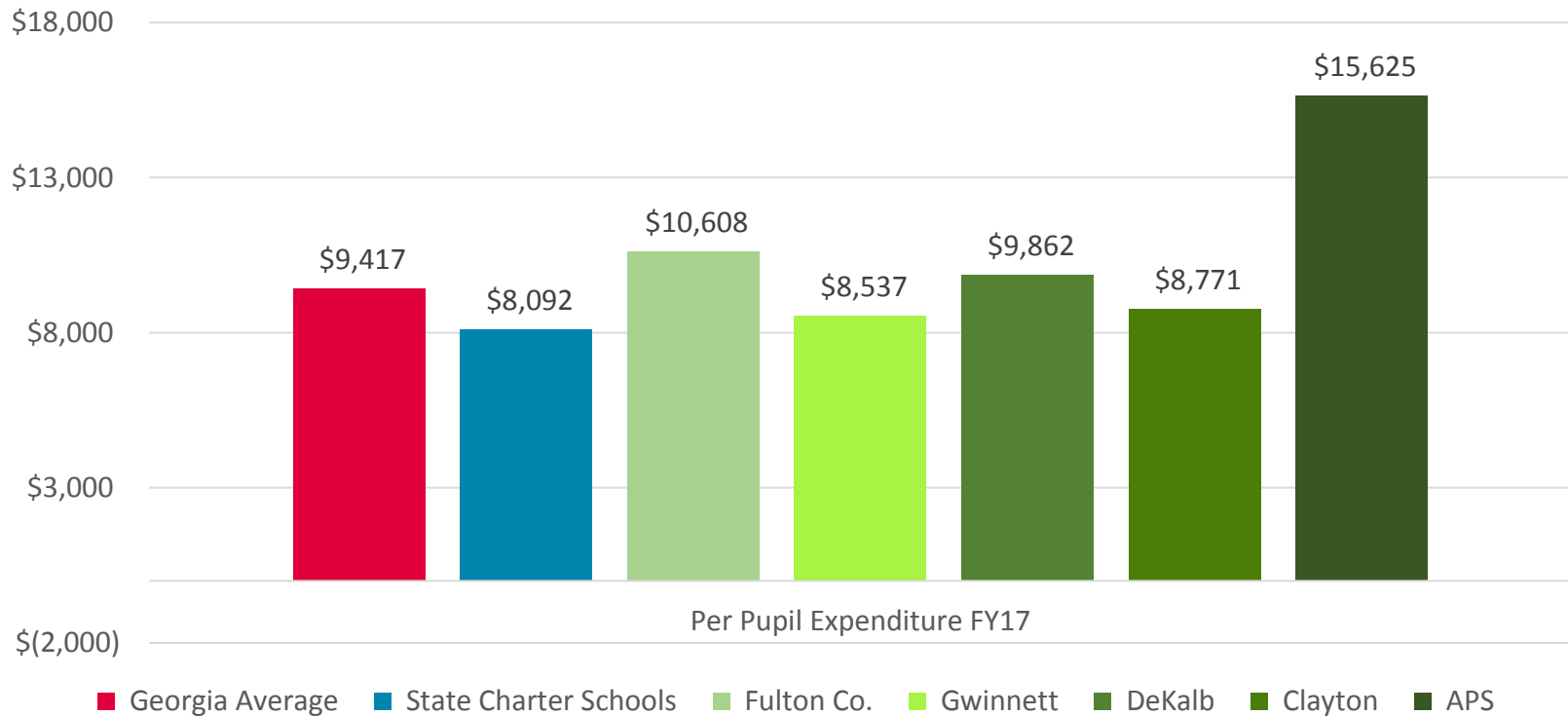
Wait, what? No local dollars?

- No local tax dollars.
- State Charter Schools receive funding from:
 - ✓ State QBE formula
 - ✓ State capital/facilities average
 - ✓ State Categorical Grants – transportation and nutrition
 - ✓ State Supplement – based on the lowest five local district averages
 - ✓ Federal dollars (~10% of GA public school funding)



State Charter School Funding

School System Expenditure Per Pupil FY17

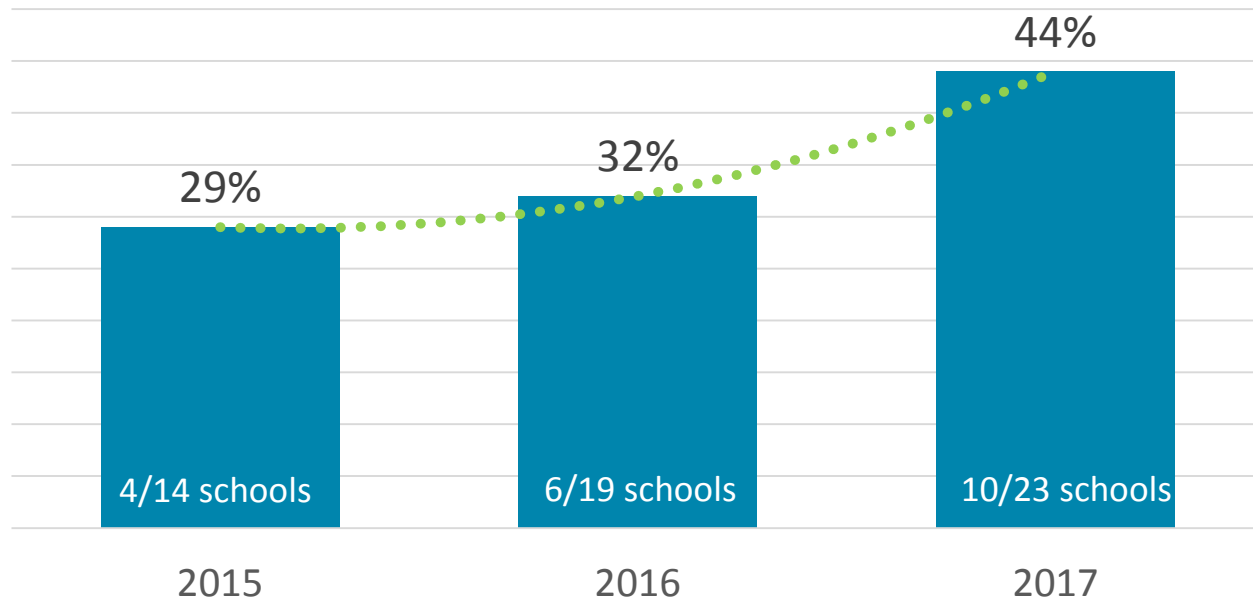


Source: GA DOE 2017 School System Financial Reports, Expenditures https://app3.doe.k12.ga.us/ows-bin/owa/fin_pack_revenue.entry_form

Note: State Charter Schools PPE is based on brick and mortar schools only. State Charter Virtual Schools spend \$5,431 per pupil



Percent of State Charter Schools Outperforming Comparison Districts

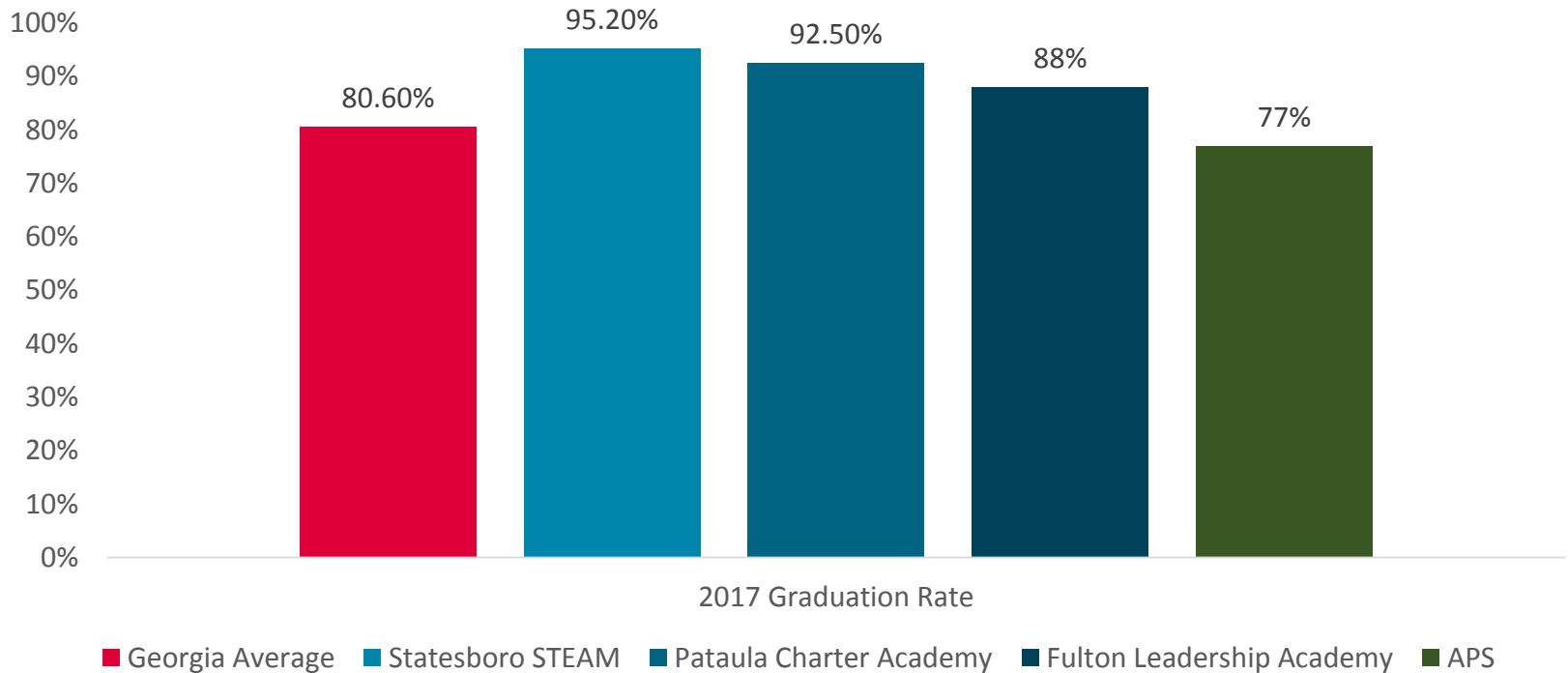


Outperforming comparison district on CCRPI: Atlanta Heights Charter, Coweta Charter Academy, DuBois Integrity Academy, Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics, International Charter School of Atlanta, Ivy Prep Kirkwood, Liberty Tech Charter, Mountain Education Charter High School, Pataula Charter Academy and Scintilla Charter Academy.

Across the portfolio of state charter schools, there are more schools of choice operating and the student data are showing a positive trend for academic performance.



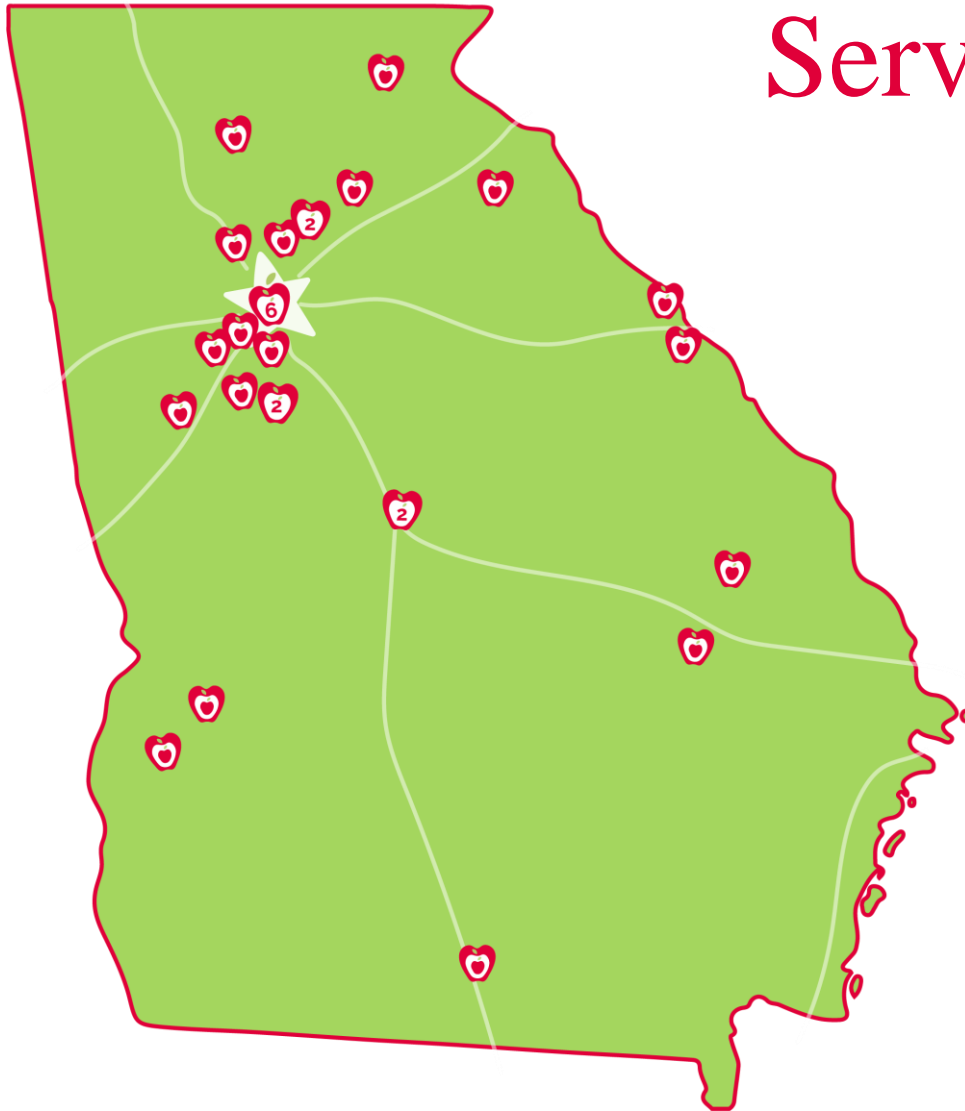
2017 Graduation Rates



Statesboro STEAM, Pataula Charter Academy, and Fulton Leadership have higher graduation rates than their comparison districts and the state of Georgia

Statesboro STEAM ranks in the top 11%; Pataula ranks in the top 21%; Fulton Leadership ranks in the top 40% of schools in Georgia





Serving Our State

- Clustered in metro-Atlanta but serving children in every county in the state
- 16 serve statewide attendance zones
- Attendance zones also include: Atlanta Public Schools, Valdosta City Schools, Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton, Gwinnett, Cobb, Cherokee, Coweta, Lowndes, Bulloch, Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Early, and Randolph counties



State Charter Schools *Foundation*

- A 501c3 nonprofit foundation
- Our mission is to *make strategic investments in the planning, implementation and growth of state charter schools to help ensure all children in Georgia have access to an excellent education.*

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Working together, *but differently*

Commission

- State commission under the authority of the State Board of Education
- Authorizes charter contracts
- Completes annual performance review of all schools
- Determines charter renewals and closures
- Provides petition, new school and governance training

Both serve state charter schools across Georgia

Foundation

- 501(c)(3) nonprofit
- Separate Board of Directors and Bylaws
- Raises philanthropic dollars and resources to support schools
- Provides technical support, network support, communications and advocacy for state charter schools



School Leader Needs Assessment Results



86% of Schools Participated

Atlanta Heights Charter School
Brookhaven Innovation Academy
Cherokee Charter Academy
Cirrus Academy
Coweta Charter Academy at Senoia
DuBois Integrity Academy
Foothills Education Charter High School
Fulton Leadership Academy
Fulton Leadership Academy
Genesis Innovation Academy for Boys
Genesis Innovation Academy for Girls

Georgia Cyber Academy
Georgia School for Innovation and the Classics
Graduation Achievement Charter High School
International Academy of Smyrna
International Charter School of Atlanta
Ivy Prep Academies (Kirkwood and Gwinnett)
Odyssey Charter School
Pataula Charter Academy
Resurgence Hall
Scintilla Charter Academy
Statesboro STEAM Academy
Utopian Academy for the Arts



What is your WHY?





Why do families
choose your school?



personalized-learning
Project-Based-Learning Structure
curriculum
diversity personalized culture
structured community
language positive cultural climate
nurturing options rigor
immersion achievement experience dissatisfied
enrichment development
learning small Flexibility place strong education
welcome dignity friendly
environment
village individual innovative family focus love
growth mission Smaller care
school viable joyful personal
choice academic respect
safety support families optiongood
high-expectations flexible
outperformed safe
alternative



What are the biggest
needs at your school?



technology
Playground
Professional-development academic
buses
academic-resources
Counselor equity Reporting
Support personnel science-labs
accountability competitive additional
Nurse Instructional
Facility facilities teachers
social-workers enrollment retention resources
remedial salaries Equitable discipline
transportation, curriculum enrichment
staff Professional funding
development.
Transportation
teacher-salaries
certified-teachers



What are barriers
to success?



funding-formula support
facility engagement
Professional transportation LEA
experienced offerings motivation
excellent-teachers
flexibility leaders recruiting teachers
achievement funding salaries
access competitive communications
facilities staff evaluation
guidance recruitment
Development
enrollment retention
remedial reporting
virtual-funding
resources



How would you invest
funds to overcome
these barriers?



technology
After-School-Program
start-up-funding
curriculum-resources
curriculum-support technology-infrastructure
extracurricular experienced attract facility
staff science-labs
teachers Coach equipment additional
salary-increase supplies
Support Counselor resources certified
highly Instructional
Academic improve facilities
classroom Transportation
staffing-support intervention-teachers
professional-development



What direct services
should SCSF consider?

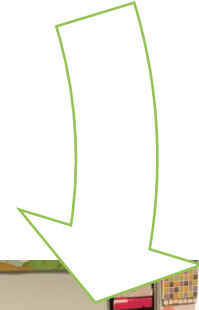
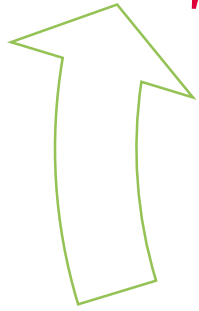


consulting-support-options
network facilities
academic-support writing
Back-office-support SCSF-listening-tour
Legal
grant-writing
Student-Information-System
Grant IT-support
LEA-reporting
governance-training-with-staff
professional-development-PBL

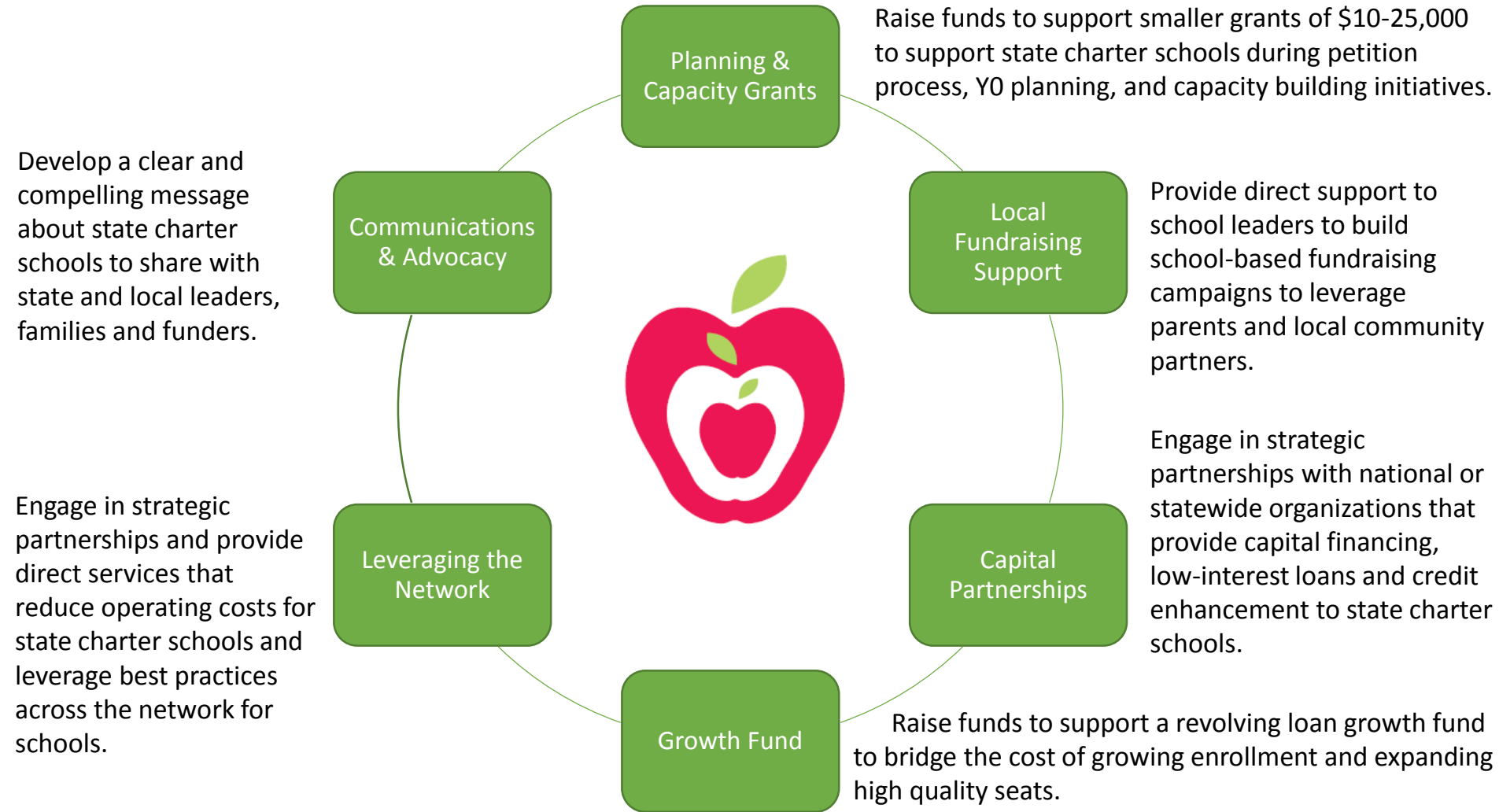




Turning Needs into Strategy



Ecosystem Approach



SCSF wants to hear from you!

On your phone...

surveymonkey.com/r/scsf-feb

Check your email for a link sent from Laura
Bollman this morning ;-)



Looking Ahead



Build Board
of Directors

Strategic
Planning
Process

Launch
Programs



Stay in Touch

- Like us on Facebook:
[@statecharterschoolsfoundationGA](#)
- Check us out online: www.scsfga.org
- Contact our team:
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