To: Charter School Leaders
From: New York City Charter School Center
Date: April 2018
Re: Legislative Changes in the 2018-19 New York State Budget Affecting Charter Schools

New York State’s 2018-19 budget includes several budgetary items and a legislative amendment affecting charter schools in New York City.

I. Increases in Per Pupil Funding
Last year, the statutory formula for calculating charter school per pupil funding was amended and charters will receive $15,308 per student for the 2018-19 school year. For a detailed explanation on how this amount is calculated see the Charter Center’s memo from last year and for information on the difference between this formula and the previous formula used to calculate per pupil funding, see the Charter Center’s presentation.

In addition to the statutory per pupil funding, the Senate also made, as it has done over the last three years, a one-time appropriation of approximately $267 per student (this will be distributed to all charter students across New York State). This amount is not included in the base amount of the formula and will be available for distribution after April 1, 2019. In addition to the Senate’s supplemental aid, the Governor also has made a one-time appropriation available to charter school students of approximately $184 per student (this will only be distributed to charter school students in New York City). Again, this amount is not included in the base amount of the formula and will available for distribution only after April 1, 2019. With this additional $451 in supplemental aid, we estimate that schools will receive approximately $15,759 per student for the 2018-19 school year. This represents a 6% increase ($882) in charter school funding from the 2017-18 school funding amount of $14,877 (2017-18 per-pupil funding + $350 Senate supplement).

II. Ending Lunch Shaming
New legislation passed in this year’s budget provides that all schools, including district, charter and private schools, must create a plan that bars lunch shaming practices. This would apply to all schools that participate in the national school lunch or breakfast programs and do not currently offer free breakfast/lunch to all students. Each school would have to submit its plan to the Commissioner of Education by July 1, 2018 or 60 days after enactment. This plan must also be posted on the school’s website.