

From: Walls, Courtney

To: Card, Rachel <RachelCard@gov.sc.gov>

Soura, Christian <ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov>

Date: 9/6/2013 8:53:58 AM

Subject: FW: Charter school funding

Attachments: 2009-08-01 Public buildings for public schools.pdf

2012-08-08 Meeting Street Academy is incubator.pdf

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From: Park Dougherty [mailto:doughertypark@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 8:53 AM

To: Pearson, Tim

Cc: Walls, Courtney; 'Mary Carmichael'; 'Ben Navarro'

Subject: Charter school funding

Hi Tim,

We met at the grand opening of the Meeting Street Academy's new building on July 23, 2012. MSA is a stellar example of innovation, thanks to the hard work of its leaders and its financial independence. Spreading the techniques used at MSA via public charter schools is an exciting possibility that I hope can be accomplished. A commentary I wrote for the Charleston Mercury on it is attached.

In addition to passing this commentary along to you, I am writing to highlight the need to add funding for facilities to the SC Charter Act. That need is demonstrated by the difficulties that start-up charters have. It was a huge problem four years ago, when I wrote the attached commentary on this topic. Since then, many more start-up charters across SC have failed to open because of it. The problems being experienced by the LowCountry Leadership Academy TODAY show that the need continues and will severely limit the growth of public school choice.

Please pass this along to Governor Haley,

Thanks,

Park Dougherty

Former chair of the Charleston Charter School for Math & Science, 2006-09