Cyber Charter School Profiles

21st Century Cyber Charter School – Exton, Pennsylvania

The 21st Century Cyber Charter School is a non-profit K-12 charter school that currently serves ninth through twelfth grade students. 21st Century expects to expand its program to the elementary level by Year 5 of its charter. 21st Century's student population represents 14 different counties and 30 school districts across the Commonwealth. Approximately one third of 21st Century's students are from the Philadelphia School District, the majority of whom are from members of the Rock School of Ballet. The remaining school districts send between one and five students to 21st Century Cyber Charter School.

21st Century offers its students an array of third party courses from the following providers:

- Class.com
- Keystone
- Cyber School (Oregon)
- University of Missouri

In addition, 21st Century Cyber contracts with higher education institutions, such as Pennsylvania State University, and North Hampton to offer its students online college level courses. 21st Century intends to develop a custom curriculum for the next school year.

21st Century has five full time positions: Director/Chief Administrative Officer, secondary education teacher, special education teacher (two) and clerical support/admissions.

21st Century's current budget estimates a $5,861 cost per student. 21st Century expects to receive tuition payments of, on average, $6,800 per student from contributing school districts and $98 per student in other revenue sources. This assumes that a $1,037 dividend per student will be paid to the sending districts. 21st Century plans to issue the tuition differential as a dividend back to sending districts.

Note: 21st Century's preliminary budget was developed several months ago on the assumption of enrolling 180 students. However, 21st Century currently only has 61 students.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Number of Students by Grade

Grade	*Number of Students*
K	
Grade 1	
Grade 2	
Grade 3	
Grade 4	
Grade 5	
Grade 6	
Grade 7	
Grade 8	
Grade 9	17
Grade 10	15
Grade 11	19
Grade 12	10
Total	**61**

Prior Education of Student Population

Type of School	*Number of Students*
Traditional Public School	43
Brick and Mortar Charter School	
Private School	14
Home Schooled	4
Not Previously Schooled	
Total	**61**

Number of Students per Curriculum Provider

3rd Party Curriculum Provider Name	*Number of Students*[18]
Keystone National High School	55
Class.com	35
Cyber School	28
University of Missouri	13
Pennsylvania State University	1
North Hampton Community College	3

[18] Students can take courses from more than one curriculum provider.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Midwestern Regional Virtual Charter School (Midwestern) – Grove City, Pennsylvania

The Midwestern Regional Virtual Charter School (Midwestern) is a non-profit school that offers a K-12 program to students from counties within the Midwestern Intermediate Unit (MIU IV). The curriculum for this school is limited to the American Education Corporation's *A+nywhere Learning System (A+LS)*. More than half, 37, of the school's 68 students are from the New Castle Area School District while the rest are from a number of other participating districts from within the MIU IV.

Midwestern has no full time employees because the board of the school has contracted to the MIU IV for the services of its personnel. There are currently four part-time employees that allocate from four to thirty hours of their work weeks in order to support the operation of the cyber school. One of these employees, the MIU IV Distance Education Coordinator, interacts directly with students and their families. The remaining three employees are administrative and support personnel.

Midwestern did not provide KPMG Consulting with a budget, but stated verbally that their estimated cost per student is $2,000. KPMG Consulting does not believe this cost includes all expenses necessary to operate a cyber charter school. The estimated $2,000 cost per student includes the student's courseware (A+LS), computer, monitor, printer, scanner, ink cartridges, cabling, MS Office, ISP fees, Fortress security software, paper and pencils. However, this figure does not capture essential operational costs such as a Chief Administrative Officer, teacher facilitators, repair technicians, technical support, and rent.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Number of Students by Grade

Grade	*Number of Students*
K	
Grade 1	
Grade 2	1
Grade 3	1
Grade 4	1
Grade 5	
Grade 6	
Grade 7	2
Grade 8	10
Grade 9	24
Grade 10	12
Grade 11	15
Grade 12	2
Total	**68**

Prior Education of Student Population

Type of School	*Number of Students*
Traditional Public School	55
Brick and Mortar Charter School	2
Private School	3
Home Schooled	8
Not Previously Schooled	
Total	**68**

Number of Students per Curriculum Provider

3rd Party Curriculum Provider Name	*Number of Students*
The American Education Corporation's *A+nywhere Learning System (A+LS)*	68

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

PA Learners Online (PALO) – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

PA Learners Online (PALO) is a non-profit school that offers a K-12 program to students across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. PALO currently has students that are from 66 different school districts. Pittsburgh School District, which is sending 53 students, has the highest student enrollment at this school (a total of 27% of the PALO enrollment). In collaboration with their parents and PALO staff, students enrolling in PALO develop an Individual Learning Plan built upon courses from PALO's course providers. These providers include:

- Compass Learning
- Calvert
- Class.com
- Apex

One full time administrator (the principal), a part-time administrator who works 20 hours per week (Coordinator of Student Services) and a full time administrative assistant. The school's CAO also is the Assistant Executive Director of the AIU and also assists in the operations of the school. The school also has four part-time elementary school teachers and four part-time high school teachers. PALO also has contracted four Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) employees to assist in managing the administrative functions of the school. PALO teachers are expected to have contact with students and their families during their scheduled weekly office hours. Students and their families also may contact their teachers on an as needed basis via voicemail or email.

Revenue and expenditures for PALO are estimated at $6,996 per student in year one. Based upon PALO's five-year projection, the cost estimate per student for this program decreases each year to a low of $5,431 in year five.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Number of Students by Grade

Grade	Number of Students
K	13
Grade 1	5
Grade 2	7
Grade 3	7
Grade 4	10
Grade 5	8
Grade 6	10
Grade 7	10
Grade 8	13
Grade 9	36
Grade 10	26
Grade 11	39
Grade 12	12
Total	**196**

Prior Education of Student Population

Type of School	Number of Students
Traditional Public School	165
Brick and Mortar Charter School	
Private School	
Home Schooled	31
Not Previously Schooled	
Total	**196**

Number of Students per Curriculum Provider

3rd Party Curriculum Provider Name	Number of Students[19]
Compass Learning	65
Calvert	18
Class.com	113
Apex	4

[19] Students can take courses from more than one curriculum provider.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Pennsylvania Virtual Charter School (PAVCS) – Norristown, Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Virtual Charter School (PAVCS) opened its first year as a K-2 school with approximately 622 students representing 60 different counties across the Commonwealth. PAVCS was approved as a grades K-12 school and expects to expand its enrollment to serve middle and high school students by Year four of its charter (2004).

PAVCS outsources all operational and management services to K12 Inc. (K12) and Foundations, Inc. K12, a private education company that offers learning programs and online lessons to a wide range of audiences, provides PAVCS' curriculum content. The majority of K12's curriculum is proprietary; however, some subjects are based on existing programs that were modified by K12.

PAVCS employs 14 teachers, one of whom is certified in special education. PAVCS contracts with K12 to provide one clerical support position and the following administrative positions:

- Chief Administrative Officer (full time)
- Assistant Head of School (full time)
- Director of Special Education (full time)
- Business Manager (full time - vacant position)[20]
- Director of Technology (part-time)
- Director of Instruction. (part-time)

Foundations, Inc., a nonprofit organization, provides customized educational and business services to PAVCS and other charter and public schools.

PAVCS' current budget estimates a $7,015 cost per student. This tuition amount is $623 more than the estimated tuition expected from the sending districts. PAVCS expects to make up the difference through grant revenue.

[20] PAVCS is considering making the Business Manger position a PAVCS rather than K12 position in order to aid recruitment efforts.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Number of Students by Grade

Grade	*Number of Students*
K	230
Grade 1	223
Grade 2	169
Grade 3	
Grade 4	
Grade 5	
Grade 6	
Grade 7	
Grade 8	
Grade 9	
Grade 10	
Grade 11	
Grade 12	
Total	**622**

Prior Education of Student Population

PAVCS currently does not track or analyze this data.

Number of Students per Curriculum Provider

3rd Party Curriculum Provider Name	*Number of Students*
K12 Inc.	622

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

SusQ Cyber Charter School – Milton, Pennsylvania

SusQ Cyber Charter School is a non-profit school that offers a grades 9-12 program that is limited to 5% of the high school students from the participating school districts within the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU). The school's current student population, 76 students, represents 13 school districts. Student enrollment is generally distributed evenly between these districts with Midd-West and Shikellamy School Districts having the highest number of students attending SusQ (12 students).

In collaboration with their parents and a SusQ staff member, students develop a course completion schedule that is based upon their previous academic records. All students take the majority of their coursework from the school's primary curriculum provider, Keystone National High School. Depending upon the individual needs of a particular student, some also may enroll in courses from:

- The University of Missouri
- Academy PA (AP distance learning courses offered by the CSIU)
- Northampton Community College

One full time employee and two part-time employees operate the SusQ cyber charter school. All of these employees primarily interact with students and their families in both administrative and technical support roles. All instructional support is generally provided on an as needed basis by the teaching staff at Keystone National High School. Students also can be supported by two part-time tutors who are employed by the cyber school to proctor exams and tutor.

Revenue for SusQ is estimated at $5,331 per student while the estimated cost is $4,989 per student.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Number of Students by Grade

Grade	*Number of Students*
Grade 9	9
Grade 10	21
Grade 11	21
Grade 12	25
Total	**76**

Prior Education of Student Population

Type of School	*Number of Students*
Traditional Public School	73
Brick and Mortar Charter School	
Private School	2
Home Schooled	1
Not Previously Schooled	
Total	**76**

Number of Students per Curriculum Provider

3rd Party Curriculum Provider Name	*Number of Students*[21]
Keystone National High School	76
University of Missouri	11
Academy PA	8
Northampton Community College	8

[21] Students can take courses from more than one curriculum provider.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Western Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School (WPCCS) – Midland, Pennsylvania

The Western Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School is a non-profit school that offers a K-12 program to students across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The student population represents 217 school districts across the state of Pennsylvania. While the students are distributed somewhat evenly across the districts, six districts have more than 20 students enrolled in WPCCS.[22] Pittsburgh has the highest enrollment in this cyber school with 51 students choosing to enroll. In collaboration with their parents and WPCCS staff, students enrolling in WPCCS develop an Individual Learning Plan that may include courses or supplemental instruction from the a menu of third party providers. These providers include:

- Accelerated Reader Software
- Computer Curriculum Corporation
- Pass Key Software
- Calvert School
- University of Missouri Center for Distance Learning
- Virtual Classroom
- APEX Advanced Learning Online
- Keystone National High School
- High school students may also enroll in online course offered by local colleges (e.g., Beaver Community College)

Fourteen full time administrative and support staff, two part-time employees and seven contractors from an educational consulting firm operate WPCCS. In addition, students and families are directly supported by 32 part-time Teacher Facilitators and six full time Instructional Supervisors. Students and families are contacted on a weekly basis by their teacher facilitator.

The budget for FY02 projects a cost range of $6,032 per student based on an enrollment of 980 students.

[22] Enrollment data includes 106 students enrolled after September 24, 2001.

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.

Number of Students by Grade

Grade	Number of Students
K	50
Grade 1	45
Grade 2	50
Grade 3	71
Grade 4	64
Grade 5	75
Grade 6	85
Grade 7	98
Grade 8	97
Grade 9	120
Grade 10	114
Grade 11	97
Grade 12	30
Total	**996**

Prior Education of Student Population

Type of School	Number of Students
Traditional Public School	405
Brick and Mortar Charter School	
Private School	79
Home Schooled	479
Not Previously Schooled	33
Total	**996**

Number of Students per Curriculum Provider

3rd Party Curriculum Provider Name	Number of Students
Calvert	419
Missouri	222
Keystone	98
Missouri & Keystone	95
Calvert & Missouri	4
Keystone & Missouri	83
Virtual Classroom	75

Information throughout this report has not been independently audited by KPMG Consulting.