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Form **990** | **Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax** | OMB No. 1545-0047

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

2016
Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2016 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07/01/16 , and ending 06/30/17

B Check if applicable:
- [ ] Address change
- [ ] Name change
- [ ] Initial return
- [ ] Final return/terminated
- [ ] Amended return
- [ ] Application pending

C Name of organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Doing business as

Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address): 3047 15TH STREET, NW | Room/suite

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code: WASHINGTON DC 20009

D Employer identification number: 52-2103442

E Telephone number: 202-319-2249

G Gross receipts $ 9,309,987

F Name and address of principal officer:
JONATHAN MATHIS
3047 15TH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON DC 20009

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? [ ] Yes [X] No

H(b) Are all subordinates included? [ ] Yes [ ] No
If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)

I Tax-exempt status: [X] 501(c)(3) [ ] 501(c) ( ) ◀ (insert no.) [ ] 4947(a)(1) or [ ] 527

J Website: ▶ WWW.NEXTSTEPPCS.ORG

H(c) Group exemption number ▶

K Form of organization: [X] Corporation [ ] Trust [ ] Association [ ] Other ▶

L Year of formation: 1998

M State of legal domicile: DC

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities:
TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WHO FACE EXTRAORDINARY CHALLENGES AND WHO ARE NOT SUPPORTED IN TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION.

2 Check this box ▶ [ ] if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.

3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	12
4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	12
5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2016 (Part V, line 2a)	5	94
6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	75
7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0

	Prior Year	Current Year
Revenue		
8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	643,357	753,361
9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	7,792,395	7,901,321
10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	21,997	25,454
11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	75,179	130,584
12 Total revenue – add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	8,532,928	8,810,720
Expenses		
13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	5,979	28,119
14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		0
15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	4,198,398	4,720,302
16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)		0
b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 2,008		
17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	2,096,705	2,171,868
18 Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	6,301,082	6,920,289
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	2,231,846	1,890,431

Net Assets or Fund Balances	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	19,276,429	20,821,551
21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	8,349,690	7,731,133
22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	10,926,739	13,090,418

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

▶ Signature of officer | Date: 2.7.18

▶ JOHN INGOLD CHAIRPERSON
Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check [X] if self-employed	PTIN
RICHARD M JONES, CPA		02/07/18		P00621721

Firm's name ▶ KENDALL, PREBOLA AND JONES, LLC | Firm's EIN ▶ 46-2108854

Firm's address ▶ PO BOX 259 BEDFORD, PA 15522-0259 | Phone no. 814-623-1880

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) [X] Yes [ ] No

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III [X]

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WHO FACE EXTRAORDINARY CHALLENGES AND WHO ARE NOT SUPPORTED IN TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION.

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? [ ] Yes [X] No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? [ ] Yes [X] No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses $ 6,404,623 including grants of $ 28,119) (Revenue $ 7,901,321)

THE CHARTER SCHOOL OFFERS TO ITS CURRENTLY ENROLLED 393 STUDENTS, THE SUPPORT, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THEY NEED TO SUCCEED ACADEMICALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY. THE CHARTER SCHOOL OFFERS ADULT BASIC EDUCATION AND GED PREPARATION IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH AS WELL AS ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) TO DISTRICT YOUTH BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 24. THE CHARTER SCHOOL OFFERS A FULL-TIME DAY PROGRAM AND A PART-TIME NIGHT PROGRAM, WHICH RUNS FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH AUGUST, ENROLLING THREE TIMES EACH YEAR. THE CHARTER SCHOOL HAS A ROBUST STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICE DEPARTMENT AND CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM TO COMPLEMENT THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM. TNSPCS PROVIDES A SAFE AND NURTURING ENVIRONMENT THAT SUPPORTS STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND USES RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FROM CLASSROOM

4b (Code:) (Expenses $ including grants of $) (Revenue $)

4c (Code:) (Expenses $ including grants of $) (Revenue $)

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)

(Expenses $ including grants of $) (Revenue $)

4e Total program service expenses ▶ 6,404,623

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

			Yes	No
1	Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? *If "Yes," complete Schedule A*	1	X	
2	Is the organization required to complete *Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors* (see instructions)?	2	X	
3	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? *If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I*	3		X
4	**Section 501(c)(3) organizations.** Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? *If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II*	4		X
5	Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? *If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III*	5		X
6	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I*	6		X
7	Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II*	7		X
8	Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III*	8		X
9	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV*	9		X
10	Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V*	10		X
11	If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable.			
a	Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI*	11a	X	
b	Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII*	11b		X
c	Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII*	11c		X
d	Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX*	11d		X
e	Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X*	11e	X	
f	Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X*	11f	X	
12a	Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? *If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII*	12a	X	
b	Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? *If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional*	12b		X
13	Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? *If "Yes," complete Schedule E*	13	X	
14a	Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a		X
b	Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than $10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at $100,000 or more? *If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV*	14b		X
15	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than $5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? *If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV*	15		X
16	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than $5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? *If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV*	16		X
17	Did the organization report a total of more than $15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? *If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I* (see instructions)	17		X
18	Did the organization report more than $15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II*	18		X
19	Did the organization report more than $15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III*	19		X

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules *(continued)*

			Yes	No
20a	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? *If "Yes," complete Schedule H*	20a		X
b	If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b		
21	Did the organization report more than $5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? *If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II*	21		X
22	Did the organization report more than $5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? *If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III*	22	X	
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J*	23		X
24a	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than $100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? *If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a*	24a	X	
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b		X
c	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?	24c		X
d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d		X
25a	**Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations.** Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I*	25a		X
b	Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I*	25b		X
26	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II*	26		X
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III*	27		X
28	Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions):			
a	A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV*	28a		X
b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV*	28b		X
c	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? *If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV*	28c		X
29	Did the organization receive more than $25,000 in non-cash contributions? *If "Yes," complete Schedule M*	29		X
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? *If "Yes," complete Schedule M*	30		X
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? *If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I*	31		X
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? *If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II*	32		X
33	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I*	33		X
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1*	34		X
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a		X
b	If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2*	35b		
36	**Section 501(c)(3) organizations.** Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2*	36		X
37	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? *If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI*	37		X
38	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? **Note.** All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O.	38	X	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V ☐

					Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable	1a	47			
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable	1b	0			
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?			1c		
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return	2a	94			
b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns?			2b	X	
	Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to *e-file* (see instructions)					
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of $1,000 or more during the year?			3a		X
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? *If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O*			3b		
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?			4a		X
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶					
	See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).					
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?			5a		X
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?			5b		X
c	If "Yes" to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?			5c		
6a	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than $100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?			6a		X
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?			6b		
7	**Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).**					
a	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of $75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?			7a		X
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?			7b		
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?			7c		X
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year	7d				
e	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?			7e		X
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?			7f		X
g	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?			7g		
h	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?			7h		
8	**Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.** Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?			8		
9	**Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.**					
a	Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?			9a		
b	Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?			9b		
10	**Section 501(c)(7) organizations.** Enter:					
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12	10a				
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities	10b				
11	**Section 501(c)(12) organizations.** Enter:					
a	Gross income from members or shareholders	11a				
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.)	11b				
12a	**Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts.** Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?			12a		
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	12b				
13	**Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.**					
a	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state?			13a		
	Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.					
b	Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans	13b				
c	Enter the amount of reserves on hand	13c				
14a	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?			14a		X
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? *If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O*			14b		

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure *For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to line 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.*

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI [X]

Section A. Governing Body and Management

				Yes	No
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year. If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O.	1a	12		
b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent	1b	12		
2	Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?	2			X
3	Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors, or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?	3			X
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4			X
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?	5			X
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?	6			X
7a	Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?	7a			X
b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?	7b			X
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:				
a	The governing body?	8a		X	
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b		X	
9	Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? *If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O*	9			X

Section B. Policies *(This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)*

			Yes	No
10a	Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?	10a		X
b	If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?	10b		
11a	Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	11a	X	
b	Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990.			
12a	Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? *If "No," go to line 13*	12a	X	
b	Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	12b	X	
c	Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? *If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done*	12c	X	
13	Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13	X	
14	Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14	X	
15	Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?			
a	The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official	15a	X	
b	Other officers or key employees of the organization. If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (see instructions).	15b		X
16a	Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?	16a		X
b	If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?	16b		

Section C. Disclosure

17 List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed ▶ NONE

18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (Section 501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply.

[ ] Own website [X] Another's website [X] Upon request [ ] Other *(explain in Schedule O)*

19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year.

20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records: ▶

TAUNYA MELVIN 3047 15TH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON DC 20009 202-319-2249

Part VII **Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII ☐

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than $100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than $100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than $10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

☐ Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee.

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former	(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
(1) RACHEL SUSSMAN - OUT GOING 2/17 CHAIRPERSON	4.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
(2) JOHN INGOLD CHAIRPERSON	4.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
(3) CELINE FEJERAN VICE CHAIRPERSON	4.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
(4) JORGE ESTRADA TREASURER	2.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
(5) KAREN BURKES SECRETARY	2.00 0.00	X		X				0	0	0
(6) NATALIE ECKFORD DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(7) RITIJA GUPTA DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(8) WILL RAGLAND DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(9) JEFFREY NOEL DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(10) ELEONOR VELASQUEZ DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(11) ELOY KAPOTE NKARA DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees *(continued)*

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former	(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
(12) CARLOS JUAREZ DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(13) JILL BRYSON - INCOMING 12/16 DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(14) ROXANA PEREZ - OUT GOING 8/16 DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(15) JENNIFER GLENSKI - OUT GOING 11/16 DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(16) TONITA GALLOWAY - OUTGOING 7/16 DIRECTOR	2.00 0.00	X						0	0	0
(17) JULIE MEYER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	40.00 0.00			X				121,289	0	26,741
(18) TAUNYA MELVIN - CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER	40.00 0.00			X				93,910	0	17,295
(19) JUAN MARTINEZ EVENING PRINCIPAL	40.00 0.00					X		104,405	0	15,544
1b Sub-total ▶								319,604		59,580
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A ▶										
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c) ▶								319,604		59,580

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than $100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization ▶ 2

		Yes	No
3 Did the organization list any **former** officer, director, or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*	3		X
4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than $150,000? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*	4		X
5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person*	5		X

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than $100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
WT CAFE WASHINGTON DC 703 EDGEWOOD STREET NE WASHINGTON DC 20017	FOOD SERVICE	125,218
EDOPS 1611 CONNECTICUT AVE NW, STE 200 WASHINGTON DC 20009	ACCOUNTING	100,407

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than $100,000 of compensation from the organization ▶ 2

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII ☐

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a Federated campaigns	1a				
	b Membership dues	1b				
	c Fundraising events	1c				
	d Related organizations	1d				
	e Government grants (contributions)	1e 670,986				
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f 82,375				
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f: $					
	h **Total.** Add lines 1a–1f ▶		753,361			
Program Service Revenue		Busn. Code				
	2a PER PUPIL FUNDING	900099	7,901,321	7,901,321		
	b					
	c					
	d					
	e					
	f All other program service revenue					
	g **Total.** Add lines 2a–2f ▶		7,901,321			
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) ▶		25,454			25,454
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds ▶					
	5 Royalties ▶					
		(i) Real / (ii) Personal				
	6a Gross rents	(i) 629,851				
	b Less: rental exps.	(i) 499,267				
	c Rental inc. or (loss)	(i) 130,584				
	d Net rental income or (loss) ▶		130,584			130,584
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities / (ii) Other				
	b Less: cost or other basis & sales exps.					
	c Gain or (loss)					
	d Net gain or (loss) ▶					
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including $ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	a				
	b Less: direct expenses	b				
	c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events ▶					
	9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	a				
	b Less: direct expenses	b				
	c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities ▶					
	10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a				
	b Less: cost of goods sold	b				
	c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory ▶					
	Miscellaneous Revenue	Busn. Code				
	11a					
	b					
	c					
	d All other revenue					
	e **Total.** Add lines 11a–11d ▶					
	12 **Total revenue.** See instructions. ▶		8,810,720	7,901,321	0	156,038

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX ☐

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21				
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22	28,119	28,119		
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	228,836	62,281	165,071	1,484
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7 Other salaries and wages	3,737,929	3,641,452	96,477	
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	123,755	121,909	1,846	
9 Other employee benefits	320,838	318,653	2,185	
10 Payroll taxes	308,944	290,240	18,600	104
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management				
b Legal	22,653		22,653	
c Accounting	102,987	96,752	6,200	35
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees				
g Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O.)	210,864	134,303	76,545	16
12 Advertising and promotion	24,613	24,613		
13 Office expenses	106,696	100,237	6,424	35
14 Information technology	37,856	35,564	2,279	13
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	296,603	278,649	17,854	100
17 Travel	21,749	20,444	1,305	
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	3,036	2,851	184	1
20 Interest	157,393	147,865	9,475	53
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	407,313	340,397	66,795	121
23 Insurance	24,351	22,877	1,466	8
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a STUDENT FOOD	154,356	154,356		
b STUDENT MATERIALS	150,720	150,720		
c STAFF DEVELOPMENT	106,410	100,026	6,384	
d TELECOMMUNICATIONS	91,611	86,065	5,515	31
e All other expenses	252,657	246,250	6,400	7
25 **Total functional expenses.** Add lines 1 through 24e	6,920,289	6,404,623	513,658	2,008
26 **Joint costs.** Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here ▶ ☐ if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X ☐

					(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest bearing			233,280	1	
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			9,443,789	2	11,821,255
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net			116,668	3	118,821
	4	Accounts receivable, net			12,552	4	13,822
	5	Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L				5	
	6	Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L				6	
	7	Notes and loans receivable, net				7	
	8	Inventories for sale or use				8	
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			65,685	9	80,108
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a	10,914,041			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	2,196,606	9,098,328	10c	8,717,435
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities				11	
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11				12	
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11				13	
	14	Intangible assets				14	
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11			306,127	15	70,110
	16	**Total assets.** Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)			19,276,429	16	20,821,551
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			376,931	17	383,511
	18	Grants payable				18	
	19	Deferred revenue				19	51,091
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities			7,484,426	20	7,081,432
	21	Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D				21	
	22	Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L				22	
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties				23	
	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties				24	
	25	Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D			488,333	25	215,099
	26	**Total liabilities.** Add lines 17 through 25			8,349,690	26	7,731,133
Net Assets or Fund Balances		**Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ▶ ☒ and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.**					
	27	Unrestricted net assets			10,926,739	27	13,025,418
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets				28	65,000
	29	Permanently restricted net assets				29	
		Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ▶ ☐ and complete lines 30 through 34.					
	30	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds				30	
	31	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund				31	
	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds				32	
	33	Total net assets or fund balances			10,926,739	33	13,090,418
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances			19,276,429	34	20,821,551

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI [X]

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	8,810,720
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	6,920,289
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	1,890,431
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	10,926,739
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	273,248
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	13,090,418

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII [ ]

			Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: [ ] Cash [X] Accrual [ ] Other If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O.			
2a	Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?	2a		X
	If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: [ ] Separate basis [ ] Consolidated basis [ ] Both consolidated and separate basis			
b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?	2b	X	
	If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both: [X] Separate basis [ ] Consolidated basis [ ] Both consolidated and separate basis			
c	If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?	2c	X	
	If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.			
3a	As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?	3a		X
b	If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits.	3b		

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SCHEDULE A (Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**

▶ **Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at** *www.irs.gov/form990.*

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Employer identification number: 52-2103442

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 12, check only one box.)

1 [ ] A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).**

2 [X] A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).** (Attach Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ).)

3 [ ] A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).**

4 [ ] A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).** Enter the hospital's name, city, and state:

5 [ ] An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).** (Complete Part II.)

6 [ ] A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).**

7 [ ] An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).** (Complete Part II.)

8 [ ] A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).** (Complete Part II.)

9 [ ] An agricultural research organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land grant college of agriculture (see instructions). Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university:

10 [ ] An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2).** (Complete Part III.)

11 [ ] An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4).**

12 [ ] An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2).** See **section 509(a)(3).** Check the box in lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g.

a [ ] **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**

b [ ] **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**

c [ ] **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**

d [ ] **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**

e [ ] Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.

f Enter the number of supported organizations

g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1–10 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document? Yes	No	(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
(A)						
(B)						
(C)						
(D)						
(E)						
Total						

Part II **Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2012	(b) 2013	(c) 2014	(d) 2015	(e) 2016	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 **Total.** Add lines 1 through 3						
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 **Public support.** Subtract line 5 from line 4.						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2012	(b) 2013	(c) 2014	(d) 2015	(e) 2016	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)						
11 **Total support.** Add lines 7 through 10						

12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) | 12 |

13 **First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** ▶ ☐

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2016 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) | 14 | %

15 Public support percentage from 2015 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 | 15 | %

16a **33 1/3% support test—2016.** If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

b **33 1/3% support test—2015.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

17a **10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2016.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

b **10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2015.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

18 **Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions ▶ ☐

Part III **Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)**
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 10 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2012	(b) 2013	(c) 2014	(d) 2015	(e) 2016	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 **Total.** Add lines 1 through 5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of $5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 **Public support.** (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2012	(b) 2013	(c) 2014	(d) 2015	(e) 2016	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)						
13 **Total support.** (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						

14 **First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** ▶ ☐

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15	Public support percentage for 2016 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	%
16	Public support percentage from 2015 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	%

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17	Investment income percentage for **2016** (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	%
18	Investment income percentage from **2015** Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	%

19a **33 1/3% support tests—2016.** If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

b **33 1/3% support tests—2015.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

20 **Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ▶ ☐

Part IV Supporting Organizations

(Complete only if you checked a box in line 12 on Part I. If you checked 12a of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked 12b of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked 12c of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked 12d of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

Section A. All Supporting Organizations

			Yes	No
1	Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? *If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.*	1		
2	Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? *If "Yes," explain in Part VI how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).*	2		
3a	Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? *If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below.*	3a		
b	Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? *If "Yes," describe in Part VI when and how the organization made the determination.*	3b		
c	Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? *If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.*	3c		
4a	Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? *If "Yes," and if you checked 12a or 12b in Part I, answer (b) and (c) below.*	4a		
b	Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? *If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.*	4b		
c	Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? *If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.*	4c		
5a	Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? *If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI, including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed; (ii) the reasons for each such action; (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action; and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document).*	5a		
b	**Type I or Type II only.** Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document?	5b		
c	**Substitutions only.** Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?	5c		
6	Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (i) its supported organizations, (ii) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (iii) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? *If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.*	6		
7	Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in section 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35% controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? *If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ).*	7		
8	Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described in line 7? *If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ).*	8		
9a	Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? *If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.*	9a		
b	Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined in line 9a) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? *If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.*	9b		
c	Did a disqualified person (as defined in line 9a) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? *If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI.*	9c		
10a	Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of section 4943 because of section 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? *If "Yes," answer 10b below.*	10a		
b	Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? *(Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings.)*	10b		

Part IV Supporting Organizations *(continued)*

			Yes	No
11	Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons?			
a	A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (b) and (c) below, the governing body of a supported organization?	11a		
b	A family member of a person described in (a) above?	11b		
c	A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (a) or (b) above? *If "Yes" to a, b, or c, provide detail in Part VI.*	11c		

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

			Yes	No
1	Did the directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? *If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization's activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.*	1		
2	Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? *If "Yes," explain in Part VI how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization.*	2		

Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations

			Yes	No
1	Were a majority of the organization's directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization's supported organization(s)? *If "No," describe in Part VI how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).*	1		

Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations

			Yes	No
1	Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization's tax year, (i) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (ii) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (iii) copies of the organization's governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided?	1		
2	Were any of the organization's officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization(s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? *If "No," explain in Part VI how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).*	2		
3	By reason of the relationship described in (2), did the organization's supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization's investment policies and in directing the use of the organization's income or assets at all times during the tax year? *If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role the organization's supported organizations played in this regard.*	3		

Section E. Type III Functionally-Integrated Supporting Organizations

1 *Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (see instructions).*

a ☐ The organization satisfied the Activities Test. *Complete line 2 below.*

b ☐ The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. *Complete line 3 below.*

c ☐ The organization supported a governmental entity. *Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions).*

			Yes	No
2	Activities Test. *Answer (a) and (b) below.*			
a	Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? *If "Yes," then in Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.*	2a		
b	Did the activities described in (a) constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? *If "Yes," explain in Part VI the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.*	2b		
3	Parent of Supported Organizations. *Answer (a) and (b) below.*			
a	Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? *Provide details in Part VI.*	3a		
b	Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs, and activities of each of its supported organizations? *If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role played by the organization in this regard.*	3b		

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

1 ☐ Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov. 20, 1970 (explain in Part VI). **See instructions.** All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E.

Section A - Adjusted Net Income		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1 Net short-term capital gain	1		
2 Recoveries of prior-year distributions	2		
3 Other gross income (see instructions)	3		
4 Add lines 1 through 3.	4		
5 Depreciation and depletion	5		
6 Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions)	6		
7 Other expenses (see instructions)	7		
8 **Adjusted Net Income** (subtract lines 5, 6 and 7 from line 4).	8		

Section B - Minimum Asset Amount		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1 Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year):			
a Average monthly value of securities	1a		
b Average monthly cash balances	1b		
c Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets	1c		
d **Total** (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c)	1d		
e **Discount** claimed for blockage or other factors (explain in detail in **Part VI**):			
2 Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt-use assets	2		
3 Subtract line 2 from line 1d.	3		
4 Cash deemed held for exempt use. Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions).	4		
5 Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3)	5		
6 Multiply line 5 by .035.	6		
7 Recoveries of prior-year distributions	7		
8 **Minimum Asset Amount** (add line 7 to line 6)	8		

Section C - Distributable Amount			Current Year
1 Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A)	1		
2 Enter 85% of line 1.	2		
3 Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A)	3		
4 Enter greater of line 2 or line 3.	4		
5 Income tax imposed in prior year	5		
6 **Distributable Amount.** Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions).	6		

7 ☐ Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions).

Part V **Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations** *(continued)*

Section D - Distributions		**Current Year**
1	Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes	
2	Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity	
3	Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations	
4	Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets	
5	Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required)	
6	Other distributions (describe in **Part VI**). See instructions.	
7	**Total annual distributions.** Add lines 1 through 6.	
8	Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in **Part VI**). See instructions.	
9	Distributable amount for 2016 from Section C, line 6	
10	Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount	

	Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)	**(i) Excess Distributions**	**(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2016**	**(iii) Distributable Amount for 2016**
1	Distributable amount for 2016 from Section C, line 6			
2	Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2016 (reasonable cause required-explain in Part VI). See instructions.			
3	Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2016:			
a				
b				
c	From 2013			
d	From 2014			
e	From 2015			
f	**Total** of lines 3a through e			
g	Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
h	Applied to 2016 distributable amount			
i	Carryover from 2011 not applied (see instructions)			
j	Remainder. Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from 3f.			
4	Distributions for 2016 from Section D, line 7: $			
a	Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
b	Applied to 2016 distributable amount			
c	Remainder. Subtract lines 4a and 4b from 4.			
5	Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2016, if any. Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2. For result greater than zero, explain in Part VI. See instructions.			
6	Remaining underdistributions for 2016. Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1. For result greater than zero, explain in Part VI. See instructions.			
7	**Excess distributions carryover to 2017.** Add lines 3j and 4c.			
8	Breakdown of line 7:			
a				
b	Excess from 2013			
c	Excess from 2014			
d	Excess from 2015			
e	Excess from 2016			

Part VI **Supplemental Information.** Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; Part III, line 12; Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c; Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2; Part IV, Section C, line 1; Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3; Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b; Part V, line 1; Part V, Section B, line 1e; Part V, Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8; and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions.)

Schedule B
(Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Schedule of Contributors

▶ **Attach to Form 990, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990-PF.**
▶ **Information about Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) and its instructions is at** *www.irs.gov/form990.*

OMB No. 1545-0047
2016

Name of the organization	Employer identification number
THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL	52-2103442

Organization type (check one):

Filers of:	**Section:**
Form 990 or 990-EZ	[X] 501(c)(3) (enter number) organization
	[ ] 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation
	[ ] 527 political organization
Form 990-PF	[ ] 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
	[ ] 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation
	[ ] 501(c)(3) taxable private foundation

Check if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule.**
Note: Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.

General Rule

[X] For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling $5,000 or more (in money or property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

[ ] For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the $33^1/_3$ % support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of **(1)** $5,000 or **(2)** 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.

[ ] For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than $1,000 exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.

[ ] For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than $1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Don't complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling $5,000 or more during the year .... ▶ $ ....

Caution: An organization that isn't covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules doesn't file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990; or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990-PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it doesn't meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

Name of organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER

Employer identification number: 52-2103442

Part I **Contributors** (See instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
1	OFFICE OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION 810 FIRST STREET, NE 9TH FLOOR WASHINGTON DC 20002	$ 635,048	Person [X] Payroll [ ] Noncash [ ] (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
2	UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE CO 30 LANIDEX PLAZA WEST PO BOX 685 PARSIPPANY NJ 07054	$ 35,937	Person [X] Payroll [ ] Noncash [ ] (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
3	CITYBRIDGE EDUCATION 800 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE, NW WASHINGTON DC 20037	$ 75,000	Person [X] Payroll [ ] Noncash [ ] (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
		$	Person [ ] Payroll [ ] Noncash [ ] (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
		$	Person [ ] Payroll [ ] Noncash [ ] (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
		$	Person [ ] Payroll [ ] Noncash [ ] (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)

SCHEDULE D (Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.
▶ Attach to Form 990.
▶ Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047
2016
Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Employer identification number: 52-2103442

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

		(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1	Total number at end of year		
2	Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)		
3	Aggregate value of grants from (during year)		
4	Aggregate value at end of year		

5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part II Conservation Easements.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply).
- ☐ Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or education)
- ☐ Protection of natural habitat
- ☐ Preservation of open space
- ☐ Preservation of a historically important land area
- ☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure

2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.

			Held at the End of the Tax Year
a	Total number of conservation easements	2a	
b	Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2b	
c	Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	2c	
d	Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	2d	

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ▶

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶

5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ▶

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ▶ $

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items.

b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items:

(i) Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ $

(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ $

2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items:

a Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ $

b Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ $

Part III **Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets** *(continued)*

3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):

a ☐ Public exhibition
b ☐ Scholarly research
c ☐ Preservation for future generations
d ☐ Loan or exchange programs
e ☐ Other ....

4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII.

5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part IV **Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.**
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table:

		Amount
c Beginning balance	1c	
d Additions during the year	1d	
e Distributions during the year	1e	
f Ending balance	1f	

2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided on Part XIII ☐

Part V **Endowment Funds.**
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance					
b Contributions					
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance					

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as:

a Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶ .... %
b Permanent endowment ▶ .... %
c Temporarily restricted endowment ▶ .... %

The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%.

3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:

		Yes	No
(i) unrelated organizations	3a(i)		
(ii) related organizations	3a(ii)		
b If "Yes" on line 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?	3b		

4 Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI **Land, Buildings, and Equipment.**
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land		1,027,230		1,027,230
b Buildings		8,970,554	1,492,234	7,478,320
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		916,257	704,372	211,885
e Other				
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10c.) ▶				8,717,435

Part VII Investments—Other Securities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
(3) Other		
(A)		
(B)		
(C)		
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		
Total. *(Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 12.)* ▶		

Part VIII Investments—Program Related.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
Total. *(Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 13.)* ▶		

Part IX Other Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. *(Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 15.)* ▶	

Part X Other Liabilities.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
(1) Federal income taxes	
(2) INTEREST RATE SWAP	144,814
(3) SECURITY DEPOSIT PAYABLE	70,285
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
Total. *(Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col. (B) line 25.)* ▶	215,099

2. Liability for uncertain tax positions. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII ☒

Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements			1	8,964,061
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12:				
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a			
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b	153,341		
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c			
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d			
e	Add lines **2a** through **2d**			2e	153,341
3	Subtract line **2e** from line **1**			3	8,810,720
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1:				
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a			
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b			
c	Add lines **4a** and **4b**			4c	
5	Total revenue. Add lines **3** and **4c.** *(This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)*			5	8,810,720

Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements			1	7,073,630
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25:				
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a	153,341		
b	Prior year adjustments	2b			
c	Other losses	2c			
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	2d			
e	Add lines **2a** through **2d**			2e	153,341
3	Subtract line **2e** from line **1**			3	6,920,289
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:				
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a			
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII.)	4b			
c	Add lines **4a** and **4b**			4c	
5	Total expenses. Add lines **3** and **4c.** *(This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)*			5	6,920,289

Part XIII Supplemental Information.

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4; Part X, line 2; Part XI, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

PART X - FIN 48 FOOTNOTE

ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PROVIDE CONSISTENT GUIDANCE FOR THE ACCOUNTING FOR UNCERTAINTY IN INCOME TAXES RECOGNIZED IN THE CHARTER SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND PRESCRIBE A THRESHOLD OF "MORE LIKELY THAN NOT" FOR RECOGNITION OF TAX POSITIONS TAKEN OR EXPECTED TO BE TAKEN IN A TAX RETURN. THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL PERFORMED AN EVALUATION OF UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017, AND DETERMINED THAT THERE WERE NO MATTERS THAT WOULD REQUIRE RECOGNITION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OR THAT MAY HAVE ANY EFFECT ON ITS TAX-EXEMPT STATUS. AS OF JUNE 30, 2017, THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR TAX YEARS 2013 THROUGH 2015 REMAINS OPEN WITH THE U.S. FEDERAL JURISDICTION OR THE VARIOUS STATES AND LOCAL JURISDICTIONS IN WHICH

Part XIII Supplemental Information *(continued)*

THE CHARTER SCHOOL FILES TAX RETURNS. IT IS THE CHARTER SCHOOL'S POLICY TO RECOGNIZE INTEREST AND/OR PENALTIES RELATED TO UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS, IF ANY, IN INCOME TAX EXPENSE. AS OF JUNE 30, 2017, THE CHARTER SCHOOL HAD NO ACCRUALS FOR INTEREST AND/OR PENALTIES.

SCHEDULE E (Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Schools

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 13, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 48.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.
▶ Information about Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at *www.irs.gov/form990.*

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Employer identification number: 52-2103442

Part I

		Line	YES	NO
1	Does the organization have a racially nondiscriminatory policy toward students by statement in its charter, bylaws, other governing instrument, or in a resolution of its governing body?	1	X	
2	Does the organization include a statement of its racially nondiscriminatory policy toward students in all its brochures, catalogues, and other written communications with the public dealing with student admissions, programs, and scholarships?	2	X	
3	Has the organization publicized its racially nondiscriminatory policy through newspaper or broadcast media during the period of solicitation for students, or during the registration period if it has no solicitation program, in a way that makes the policy known to all parts of the general community it serves? If "Yes," please describe. If "No," please explain. If you need more space, use Part II	3	X	
	THE SCHOOL IS A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AND IS OPERATING UNDER A CONTRACT WITH THE DC GOVERNMENT. REVENUE PROCEDURE 75-50 DOES NOT APPLY TO CHARTER SCHOOLS. THE NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY IS EXPLICITLY STATED IN THE REGISTRATION APPLICATION AND OUR BROCHURE.			
4	Does the organization maintain the following?			
a	Records indicating the racial composition of the student body, faculty, and administrative staff?	4a	X	
b	Records documenting that scholarships and other financial assistance are awarded on a racially nondiscriminatory basis?	4b	X	
c	Copies of all catalogues, brochures, announcements, and other written communications to the public dealing with student admissions, programs, and scholarships?	4c	X	
d	Copies of all material used by the organization or on its behalf to solicit contributions?	4d	X	
	If you answered "No" to any of the above, please explain. If you need more space, use Part II.			
5	Does the organization discriminate by race in any way with respect to:			
a	Students' rights or privileges?	5a		X
b	Admissions policies?	5b		X
c	Employment of faculty or administrative staff?	5c		X
d	Scholarships or other financial assistance?	5d		X
e	Educational policies?	5e		X
f	Use of facilities?	5f		X
g	Athletic programs?	5g		X
h	Other extracurricular activities?	5h		X
	If you answered "Yes" to any of the above, please explain. If you need more space, use Part II.			
6a	Does the organization receive any financial aid or assistance from a governmental agency?	6a	X	
b	Has the organization's right to such aid ever been revoked or suspended?	6b		X
	If you answered "Yes" on either line 6a or line 6b, explain on Part II.			
7	Does the organization certify that it has complied with the applicable requirements of sections 4.01 through 4.05 of Rev. Proc. 75-50, 1975-2 C.B. 587, covering racial nondiscrimination? If "No," explain on Part II	7	X	

Part II **Supplemental Information.** Provide the explanations required by Part I, lines 3, 4d, 5h, 6b, and 7, as applicable. Also provide any other additional information (see instructions).

SCH E - FINANCIAL AID OR GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE EXPLANATION

THE CHARTER SCHOOL RECEIVES PUBLIC FUNDS FROM THE DC GOVERNMENT BASED ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS THEY ENROLL ACCORDING TO THE UNIFORM PER STUDENT FUNDING FORMULA DEVELOPED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL. THIS PER PUPIL ALLOCATION IS SUPPLEMENTED WITH EXTRA FUNDS FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

THE CHARTER SCHOOL ALSO RECEIVES GOVERNMENTAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF YEARLY GOVERNMENTAL GRANTS. MOST FUNDS ARE RECEIVED FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PASSED THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

SCHEDULE I (Form 990)

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations, Governments, and Individuals in the United States

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.

▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule I (Form 990) and its instructions is at *www.irs.gov/form990*.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Employer identification number: 52-2103442

Part I General Information on Grants and Assistance

1 Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance? .... [X] Yes [ ] No

2 Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States.

Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than $5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

1 (a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section (if applicable)	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of noncash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
(1)							
(2)							
(3)							
(4)							
(5)							
(6)							
(7)							
(8)							
(9)							

2 Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table .... ▶

3 Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table .... ▶

Part III **Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Individuals.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 22. Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

(a) Type of grant or assistance	(b) Number of recipients	(c) Amount of cash grant	(d) Amount of noncash assistance	(e) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(f) Description of noncash assistance
1 EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS	29	28,119			
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Provide the information required in Part I, line 2; Part III, column (b); and any other additional information.

SEE SCHEDULE I SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION WORKSHEET

SCHEDULE I (Form 990)	Supplemental Information For calendar year 2016, or tax year beginning 07/01/16 , and ending 06/30/17	2016

Name of the organization		Employer identification number
	THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL	52-2103442

PART I, LINE 2 - PROCEDURES FOR MONITORING THE USE OF GRANT FUNDS

ONCE THE AWARD/SCHOLARSHIP IS PROVIDED, NO FURTHER MONITORING OF THE AWARD IS COMPLETED.

DESCRIPTION AS TO HOW THE AWARDS ARE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS:

HERE AT THE NEXT STEP PCS, WE HAVE TWO INTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS. THE FIRST SCHOLARSHIP IS NAMED THE MUNDO SCHOLARSHIP, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED IN MEMORY OF JOSE MUNDO, A MATH TEACHER AT THE NEXT STEP (TNS) PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL. THE MUNDO SCHOLARSHIP IS AVAILABLE TO ALL STUDENTS WHO RECEIVE THE OFFICIAL GED DIPLOMA OR OBTAINS A VALIDATED FOREIGN TRANSCRIPT, EQUIVALENT TO AT LEAST A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, WHILE ENROLLED AT THE NEXT STEP PCS. THE SCHOLARSHIP IS A ONE-TIME $500 AWARD TO BE USED FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES, WHICH COULD INCLUDE ACADEMIC, VOCATIONAL OR ESL PROGRAMS. THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS CAN BE USED FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES (I.E. TUITION, LAPTOP, BOOKS, SUPPLIES, ETC.), WHICH CAN INCLUDE ACADEMIC, VOCATIONAL OR ESL PROGRAMS. FUNDS MAY NOT BE USED FOR TRANSPORTATION, FOOD, OR ANY OTHER AUXILIARY EXPENSE.

CRITERIA TO RECEIVE THE MUNDO SCHOLARSHIP:

1)PASSED OFFICIAL GED EXAMS OR OBTAIN VALIDATED FOREIGN TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION - EQUIVALENT TO AT LEAST A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

SCHEDULE I (Form 990)	Supplemental Information For calendar year 2016, or tax year beginning 07/01/16 , and ending 06/30/17	2016
Name of the organization	THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL	Employer identification number 52-2103442

2)ENROLLED AT THE NEXT STEP AT THE TIME ABOVE CREDENTIAL EQUIVALENCY ESTABLISHED.

PROCEDURE TO RECEIVE THE MUNDO SCHOLARSHIP:

1)SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS WILL BE REIMBURSED TO STUDENTS (RECEIPT(S) MUST BE PROVIDED AND STATE DATE, AMOUNT AND INSTITUTION NAME) OR PAID DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL OR PROGRAM (INVOICE MUST BE PROVIDED AND STATE DATE, AMOUNT, INSTITUTION NAME AND STUDENT NAME).

2)FUNDS DO NOT EXPIRE, THEREFORE AVAILABLE FOR WHEN THE RECIPIENT NEEDS IT.

3)RECIPIENTS MAY ONLY RECEIVE THE SCHOLARSHIP ONCE.

4)RECIPIENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY THE CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS ADVISOR AND ANNOUNCED DURING GRADUATION.

THE SECOND SCHOLARSHIP IS NAMED THE BEN FRIEDBERG SCHOLARSHIP, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED IN MEMORY OF BEN FRIEDBERG, A SCIENCE TEACHER AT THE NEXT STEP (TNS) PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL DURING THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR. GRADUATED ALUMNI ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THE BEN FRIEDBERG SCHOLARSHIP. THE SCHOLARSHIP IS A ONE-TIME $1,000 AWARD GIVEN TO A MAXIMUM OF FOUR CURRENT OR FORMER TNS STUDENTS EACH YEAR (TWO PER SEMESTER). THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS CAN BE USED FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES (I.E. TUITION, LAPTOP, BOOKS, SUPPLIES, ETC.), WHICH CAN INCLUDE ACADEMIC, VOCATIONAL OR ESL

SCHEDULE I (Form 990)	Supplemental Information For calendar year 2016, or tax year beginning 07/01/16 , and ending 06/30/17	2016

Name of the organization	Employer Identification number
THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL	52-2103442

PROGRAMS. FUNDS MAY NOT BE USED FOR TRANSPORTATION, FOOD, OR ANY OTHER AUXILIARY EXPENSE.

CRITERIA TO RECEIVE THE BEN FRIEDBERG SCHOLARSHIP:

1) PASSED THE OFFICIAL GED EXAMS OR OBTAINED VALIDATED FOREIGN TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION -- EQUIVALENT TO AT LEAST A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

2) ENROLLED AT THE NEXT STEP AT THE TIME ABOVE CREDENTIAL EQUIVALENCY ESTABLISHED.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1) APPLICATION FORM

2) COPY OF PASSING UNOFFICIAL GED SCORES OR VALIDATED TRANSCRIPTS

3) AT LEAST ONE PAGE, TYPED ESSAY THAT ADDRESSES EDUCATIONAL, PERSONAL, AND CAREER OBJECTIVES PLUS A SHORT PERSONAL HISTORY DESCRIBING ANY SIGNIFICANT LIFE EVENTS. THE PERSONAL STATEMENT MUST BE IN ENGLISH. STUDENTS CAN SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS ADVISOR TO TRANSLATE/EDIT ESSAY IF NEEDED.

4) COMPLETE PANEL INTERVIEW WITH TNS BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND PREVIOUSLY AWARDED ALUMNI. THE INTERVIEW MUST BE COMPLETED IN ENGLISH, UNLESS

SCHEDULE I (Form 990)	Supplemental Information For calendar year 2016, or tax year beginning 07/01/16 , and ending 06/30/17	2016

Name of the organization	Employer identification number
THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL	52-2103442

APPLICANT'S ACADEMIC PLAN INCLUDES A POST-SECONDARY ESL PATH, AND CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS ADVISOR WILL ATTEMPT TO HAVE A TRANSLATOR(S) PRESENT TO ASSIST CANDIDATE DURING HIS/HER INTERVIEW.

PROCEDURE TO RECEIVE THE BEN FRIEDBERG SCHOLARSHIP:

1)FOUR ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS MAY BE AWARDED PER YEAR, TWO AT THE END OF EACH SEMESTER.

2)RECIPIENTS MAY ONLY RECEIVE THE SCHOLARSHIP ONCE.

3)COMPLETE APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE TURNED INTO THE CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS ADVISOR BY SET DEADLINE. APPLICATION DEADLINES COINCIDE WITH THE END OF SEMESTERS. EACH SEMESTER THE CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS ADVISOR WILL SET APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE.

4)INTERVIEWS ARE SCHEDULED WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND FORMERLY AWARDED ALUMNI. ALL APPLICANTS WILL COMPLETE A PANEL INTERVIEW. ALL INTERVIEWS MUST BE CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH, UNLESS APPLICANT'S ACADEMIC PLAN INCLUDES A POST-SECONDARY ESL PATH.

5)RECIPIENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE CORRESPONDING GRADATION AND NOTIFIED BY THE CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS ADVISOR.

6)SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS WILL BE REIMBURSED TO STUDENTS (RECEIPT(S) MUST BE

SCHEDULE I (Form 990)	Supplemental Information For calendar year 2016, or tax year beginning 07/01/16 , and ending 06/30/17	2016

Name of the organization	Employer identification number
THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL	52-2103442

PROVIDED AND STATE DATE, AMOUNT AND INSTITUTION NAME OR SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTATION WITH INSTITUTION NAME) OR PAID DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL OR PROGRAM (INVOICE MUST BE PROVIDED AND STATE DATE, AMOUNT, INSTITUTION NAME AND STUDENT NAME).

7)FUNDS DO NOT EXPIRE.

8)RECIPIENTS MAY RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT CHECKS IN PERSON OR VIA MAIL.

SCHEDULE K (Form 990)

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information on Tax-Exempt Bonds

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 24a. Provide descriptions, explanations, and any additional information in Part VI.
▶ Attach to Form 990.
▶ Information about Schedule K (Form 990) and its instructions is at *www.irs.gov/form990.*

OMB No. 1545-0047
2016
Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Employer identification number: 52-2103442

Part I Bond Issues

	(a) Issuer name	(b) Issuer EIN	(c) CUSIP #	(d) Date issued	(e) Issue price	(f) Description of purpose	(g) Defeased Yes	(g) Defeased No	(h) On behalf of issuer Yes	(h) On behalf of issuer No	(i) Pooled financing Yes	(i) Pooled financing No
A	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	53-6001131	000000000	10/01/14	7,820,000	REFINANCE LOANS		X		X		X
B												
C												
D												

Part II Proceeds

	A	B	C	D
1 Amount of bonds retired	546,531			
2 Amount of bonds legally defeased				
3 Total proceeds of issue	7,820,000			
4 Gross proceeds in reserve funds				
5 Capitalized interest from proceeds				
6 Proceeds in refunding escrows				
7 Issuance costs from proceeds	96,025			
8 Credit enhancement from proceeds				
9 Working capital expenditures from proceeds				
10 Capital expenditures from proceeds				
11 Other spent proceeds	7,723,975			
12 Other unspent proceeds				
13 Year of substantial completion	2011			

	A Yes	A No	B Yes	B No	C Yes	C No	D Yes	D No
14 Were the bonds issued as part of a current refunding issue?		X						
15 Were the bonds issued as part of an advance refunding issue?		X						
16 Has the final allocation of proceeds been made?	X							
17 Does the organization maintain adequate books and records to support the final allocation of proceeds?	X							

Part III Private Business Use

	A Yes	A No	B Yes	B No	C Yes	C No	D Yes	D No
1 Was the organization a partner in a partnership, or a member of an LLC, which owned property financed by tax-exempt bonds?		X						
2 Are there any lease arrangements that may result in private business use of bond-financed property?		X						

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Part III Private Business Use *(Continued)*

	A Yes	A No	B Yes	B No	C Yes	C No	D Yes	D No
3a Are there any management or service contracts that may result in private business use of bond-financed property?		X						
b If "Yes" to line 3a, does the organization routinely engage bond counsel or other outside counsel to review any management or service contracts relating to the financed property?								
c Are there any research agreements that may result in private business use of bond-financed property?		X						
d If "Yes" to line 3c, does the organization routinely engage bond counsel or other outside counsel to review any research agreements relating to the financed property?								
4 Enter the percentage of financed property used in a private business use by entities other than a section 501(c)(3) organization or a state or local government ▶	%		%		%		%	
5 Enter the percentage of financed property used in a private business use as a result of unrelated trade or business activity carried on by your organization, another section 501(c)(3) organization, or a state or local government ▶	%		%		%		%	
6 Total of lines 4 and 5	%		%		%		%	
7 Does the bond issue meet the private security or payment test?		X						
8a Has there been a sale or disposition of any of the bond-financed property to a nongovernmental person other than a 501(c)(3) organization since the bonds were issued?		X						
b If "Yes" to line 8a, enter the percentage of bond-financed property sold or disposed of	%		%		%		%	
c If "Yes" to line 8a, was any remedial action taken pursuant to Regulations sections 1.141-12 and 1.145-2?								
9 Has the organization established written procedures to ensure that all nonqualified bonds of the issue are remediated in accordance with the requirements under Regulations sections 1.141-12 and 1.145-2?		X						

Part IV Arbitrage

	A Yes	A No	B Yes	B No	C Yes	C No	D Yes	D No
1 Has the issuer filed Form 8038-T, Arbitrage Rebate, Yield Reduction and Penalty in Lieu of Arbitrage Rebate?		X						
2 If "No" to line 1, did the following apply?								
a Rebate not due yet?		X						
b Exception to rebate?	X							
c No rebate due?		X						
If "Yes" to line 2c, provide in Part VI the date the rebate computation was performed								
3 Is the bond issue a variable rate issue?	X							
4a Has the organization or the governmental issuer entered into a qualified hedge with respect to the bond issue?	X							
b Name of provider	SUNTRUST BANK							
c Term of hedge		7.0						
d Was the hedge superintegrated?	X							
e Was the hedge terminated?		X						

Part IV Arbitrage *(Continued)*

	A Yes	A No	B Yes	B No	C Yes	C No	D Yes	D No
5a Were gross proceeds invested in a guaranteed investment contract (GIC)?		X						
b Name of provider								
c Term of GIC								
d Was the regulatory safe harbor for establishing the fair market value of the GIC satisfied?								
6 Were any gross proceeds invested beyond an available temporary period?		X						
7 Has the organization established written procedures to monitor the requirements of section 148?	X							

Part V Procedures To Undertake Corrective Action

	A Yes	A No	B Yes	B No	C Yes	C No	D Yes	D No
Has the organization established written procedures to ensure that violations of federal tax requirements are timely identified and corrected through the voluntary closing agreement program if self-remediation isn't available under applicable regulations?	X							

Part VI Supplemental Information. Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule K. See instructions

SCHEDULE K - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ON OCTOBER 1, 2014, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ISSUED AND SOLD REVENUE BONDS (THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL, INC. PROJECT, SERIES 2014) TOTALING $7,820,000 TO SUNTRUST BANK, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WERE LOANED TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSOLIDATING AND REFINANCING ALL EXISTING DEBT AS IT RELATED TO THE PURCHASE AND RENOVATION OF THE BUILDING AND LAND LOCATED AT 3047 15TH STREET, NW, WASHINGTON DC. THE PROCEEDS WERE UTILIZED TO EXTINGUISH DEBT WITH THE OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION (OSSE), BUILDING HOPE AND MANUFACTURERS AND TRADERS BANK (M & T BANK) IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF $7,723,975, AS WELL AS TO ASSIST IN THE FINANCING OF A PORTION OF THE RELATED LOAN ACQUISITION AND CLOSING COSTS IN THE AMOUNT OF $96,025. THIS NOTE CALLS FOR CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST EACH PAYABLE OVER A SEVEN (7) YEAR PERIOD BASED ON A TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEAR AMORTIZATION.

Part VI Supplemental Information. Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule K. See instructions *(Continued)*

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Employer identification number: 52-2103442

FORM 990, PART III, LINE 4A - FIRST ACCOMPLISHMENT
TO PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.

THE CHARTER SCHOOL'S CURRICULUM IS BASED ON THE COMMON CORE STANDARDS. TEACHERS INDIVIDUALIZE INSTRUCTION TO HELP STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR ACADEMIC GOALS AT THEIR OWN PACE. THE CHARTER SCHOOL PLACES STUDENTS BY SKILL LEVEL, RATHER THAN AGE OR GRADE, AND PROMOTES STUDENTS ACCORDING TO THEIR PROGRESS. WHEN STUDENTS COMPLETE THEIR PROGRAM OF STUDY, THE CHARTER SCHOOL COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS PROGRAM ASSISTS STUDENTS AND ALUMNI WITH CONTINUED EDUCATION AND CAREER PLANNING.

SERVICES

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION - TNSPCS OFFERS LITERACY, NUMERACY AND OTHER ACADEMIC CONTENT AT ALL LEVELS OF ABILITY TO STUDENTS, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND SPANISH, WITH PLACEMENT BASED UPON PRE-TESTS.

GED PREPARATION - THE CHARTER SCHOOL OFFERS STUDENTS WHO TEST ABOVE THE 8TH GRADE LEVEL THE PREPARATION, GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT NECESSARY TO PASS THE EXAM TO ATTAIN THE GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (GED) CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH OR SPANISH. STUDENTS IN DAY AND NIGHT SCHOOL STUDY GED CONTENT AND SKILLS IN THEIR CLASSES, AND MUST PASS A PRELIMINARY PRACTICE TEST BEFORE THEY TAKE THE OFFICIAL EXAM. THE CHARTER SCHOOL OFFERS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THOSE STUDENTS WHO PASS THE PRACTICE TEST WHEN THEY REGISTER FOR THE OFFICIAL GED.

Name of the organization	Employer identification number
THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER	52-2103442

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS - THE CHARTER SCHOOL OFFERS ESOL CLASSES TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELLS) IN DAY AND NIGHT SCHOOL. STUDENTS LEARN THE LANGUAGE SKILLS THAT WILL ENABLE THEM TO NAVIGATE EFFECTIVELY WITHIN THEIR SCHOOL, THEIR COMMUNITY, AND THE WIDER WORLD.

LIFE SKILLS - THE CHARTER SCHOOL OFFERS INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS ADDRESSING SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, FINANCIAL LITERACY, IMMIGRATION AND CULTURAL ADAPTATION, AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT. TEACHERS ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO DEVELOP THEIR ABILITIES IN SUCH ACADEMIC LIFE SKILLS AS GOAL-SETTING, ORGANIZATION, INITIATIVE AND SELF-ADVOCACY, INDEPENDENT WORK AND COLLABORATION WITHIN EACH CLASS.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS - THE CCR PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO HELP CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ALUMNI MAKE AND IMPLEMENT SHORT AND LONG-TERM PLANS FOR POST-SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL PATHS. TWO FULL-TIME CCR SPECIALISTS PROVIDE WORKSHOPS ON JOB READINESS SKILLS (RESUME-WRITING, INTERVIEWING, ETC.), MANAGE THE DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM WHEREBY STUDENTS TAKE COURSES AT TWO LOCAL COLLEGES WHILE ENROLLED AT TNSPCS AND OFFER GUIDANCE ON COLLEGE, EMPLOYMENT AND VOCATIONS, AS WELL AS HELP STUDENTS ACCESS FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES - CASE MANAGERS COMPLETE AN IN-DEPTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF EACH STUDENT TO EVALUATE WHAT SOCIAL, PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS WILL ENABLE THE STUDENT TO GROW ACADEMICALLY. EVERY STUDENT IS ASSIGNED A CASE MANAGER WHEN THEY ENROLL AT THE NEXT STEP. THE DEPARTMENT IS MADE UP OF SOCIAL WORKERS, CASE MANAGERS, ATTENDANCE AND TRANSPORTATION

Name of the organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER

Employer identification number: 52-2103442

COORDINATORS AND A RESOURCE AND ENRICHMENT COORDINATOR. EACH OF THESE SERVICE PROVIDERS WORKS WITH STUDENTS INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY TO IDENTIFY ANY AREAS OF THEIR PSYCHOSOCIAL FUNCTIONING THAT REQUIRE SUPPORT.

TUTORING PROGRAM/VOLUNTEERS - BOTH PAID AND VOLUNTEER TUTORS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM, AND THEIR INVOLVEMENT ALLOWS INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS, ENABLING STUDENTS TO PROGRESS AT THEIR OWN PACE. TUTORS WORK DURING THE DAY AND NIGHT SCHOOL AS CLASSROOM AIDES, OR AS ONE-ON-ONE TUTORS WITH STUDENTS IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS: ESOL, READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS, AND MATH. BILINGUAL TUTORS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

FOOD PROGRAM - THE CHARTER SCHOOL PROVIDES A FREE BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) POLICY.

VISION

AT THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL, WE ENVISION A SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS WHERE THEIR PAST DOES NOT DICTATE THEIR FUTURE. WE ENVISION STUDENTS EMPOWERED TO BE INDEPENDENT SELF-ADVOCATES, WHO SPEAK UP FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH CLARITY AND KNOWLEDGE. WE ENVISION STUDENTS WHO ARE CONFIDENT AND SELF-DISCIPLINED IN PURSUING THEIR OWN GOALS.

WE ENVISION STUDENTS WHO CAN WORK INDEPENDENTLY YET COLLABORATE WITH DIVERSE GROUPS OF PEOPLE. WE ENVISION STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT JUST RECIPIENTS OF INSTRUCTION, BUT RATHER ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THEIR EDUCATION.

Name of the organization: THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER

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WE ENVISION THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AS A COMMUNITY OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS, STAFF, AND PARENTS WHO AGREE TO LISTEN TO EACH OTHER, TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER, TO HOLD EACH OTHER TO HIGH EXPECTATIONS, TO SPEAK TRUTH WITH CONFIDENCE, AND TO VIEW DIFFERENCES AS A CATALYST FOR CREATIVITY. WE ENVISION A SCHOOL WHERE KINDNESS AND STRUCTURE GO HAND IN HAND. WE ENVISION A SCHOOL THAT MAINTAINS ITS DELICATE BALANCE OF HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR STUDENTS AND RELENTLESS SUPPORT IN MEETING THOSE EXPECTATIONS.

WE ENVISION A WORLD WHERE ALL STUDENTS, REGARDLESS OF BACKGROUND, RACE, OR STATUS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION AND TO PLAN FOR FUTURE ACCOMPLISHMENT RATHER THAN BE MARGINALIZED BY PAST FAILURE. WE ENVISION A WORLD WHERE STUDENTS WHO FACE EXTRAORDINARY CHALLENGES ARE REGARDED AS INDISPENSABLE AND INSPIRING MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 11B - ORGANIZATION'S PROCESS TO REVIEW FORM 990

RELEVANT INFORMATION IS GIVEN TO A 3RD PARTY FOR 990 PREPARATION AND REVIEW. THE COMPLETED DOCUMENT IS THEN PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WHO PRESENTS THE 990 TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. UPON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REVIEW, IT IS FORWARDED TO THE FULL BOARD FOR THEIR APPROVAL. AFTER FINAL APPROVAL, THE 990 IS FILED WITH THE IRS.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 12C - ENFORCEMENT OF CONFLICTS POLICY

DURING THE ANNUAL ORIENTATION, ALL NEW BOARD MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND SIGN A DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT. EACH PERSON SHALL COMPLETE A DISCLOSURE FORM EACH YEAR AND THE POLICY IS REVIEWED ANNUALLY BY EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD.

Name of the organization	Employer identification number
THE NEXT STEP PUBLIC CHARTER	52-2103442

PRIOR TO BOARD ACTION INVOLVING A CONFLICT OF INTEREST, THE BOARD MEMBER HAVING A CONFLICT OF INTEREST SHALL DISCLOSE ALL FACTS RELATED TO THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST. SUCH DISCLOSURE IS REFLECTED IN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING AND THE BOARD ADDRESSES THE MATTER IN A WAY TO ENSURE THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE SCHOOL ARE FURTHERED. THE BOARD MEMBER WHO HAS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST SHALL RECUSE THEMSELVES FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE DECISION EXCEPT TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 15A - COMPENSATION PROCESS FOR TOP OFFICIAL

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMPENSATION IS DETERMINED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS USING SALARY SURVEYS, FORM 990'S OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE INFORMATION RELATED TO COMPARABLE POSITIONS OF SIMILAR SIZED ORGANIZATIONS. THIS REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION MOST RECENTLY OCCURED ON APRIL 16, 2016.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 19 - GOVERNING DOCUMENTS DISCLOSURE EXPLANATION

ALL GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, POLICIES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE FORWARDED TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD, WHICH PROVIDES OVERSITE AND DISTRIBUTION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC. THE FORM 990 IS MADE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AND IS AVAILABLE ON GUIDESTAR.ORG FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.

FORM 990, PART XI, LINE 9 - OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS EXPLANATION

INTEREST RATE SWAP $ 273,248

ON OCTOBER 9, 2014, THE CHARTER SCHOOL ENTERED INTO AN INTEREST RATE SWAP AGREEMENT WITH SUNTRUST BANK FOR A NOTIONAL AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE OBLIGATION UNDER THE LOAN PAYABLE WHEREBY A PORTION OF THE FLOATING RATE WAS SWAPPED

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INTO A FIXED RATE. UNDER THE AGREEMENT, THE CHARTER SCHOOL PAYS THE BANK INTEREST AT A FIXED RATE OF 3.51% ON THE PRINCIPAL LOAN BALANCE THROUGH THE TERMINATION DATE OF THE SWAP AGREEMENT, WHICH IS OCTOBER 1, 2021. THE SWAP MECHANISM IS INTENDED TO ALLOW THE CHARTER SCHOOL TO REALIZE THE POTENTIAL BENEFIT OF A LOWER FIXED RATE BY REDUCING THE IMPACT OF MARKET CHANGES IN THE VARIABLE INTEREST RATE. INTEREST EXPENSE RELATED TO THE INTEREST RATE SWAP FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 WAS $92,401. AT JUNE 30, 2017 THE FAIR VALUE OF THE INTEREST RATE SWAP WAS $144,814 AND HAS BEEN REFLECTED AS A LIABILITY IN THE STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION.