

# TCA's Unique Financial Challenge

## "The Perpetual Storm"

People have asked, "Why does TCA raise money?" "Aren't you a public school?" "Don't our taxes pay for TCA?" Here are some answers to those very important questions.

Two factors together create a perpetual financial storm each school year for TCA:

1. The Nature of a Charter Public School
  2. Commitment to Small, Supported Classes
1. As a charter public school, TCA receives state Per Pupil Revenue (PPR) as do all Colorado Public schools. However, unlike traditional public schools, our land and most of our facilities must be funded with that PPR. This current school year the debt service on our land and buildings is a little more than **\$3.5 million**. That's **\$3.5 million** (or approximately 11% of our revenue per year!) less available at TCA to provide books, supplies, staff salaries and equipment.
  2. The second factor contributing to the perpetual storm is our commitment to small and supported classes. Looking only at our elementary schools, TCA classes average 19 students where D20 classes average 25. Because funding is based on number of students, TCA foregoes approximately **\$4.3 million** in PPR just in our elementary program! In addition, we support each TCA elementary class with a paraprofessional and most other traditional public schools do not. This adds another **\$1.3 million to our cost** of providing quality education.

The combined financial impact to these factors is about **\$9 million annually**. That's why we continuously and perpetually ask for your sacrificial donations (your treasure, along with your time and talent), and that's why we thank those of you who help us do what we can to bridge the gap!