

PRESS RELEASE TEMPLATE

For Immediate Release
[DATE]

Contact
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[phone/cell phone and email]

[NAME OF STATE] CELEBRATES PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS DURING NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK!

[Rally at the State Capitol to Highlight [STATE]'s Public Charter Schools Successes]

[City, State] - This week, May 4th - 10th, marks National Charter Schools Week and students, parents, teachers, and communities across the state are celebrating the many successes of public charter schools. In addition to local celebrations, [hundreds/thousands] of students, parents, teachers, and school leaders will [insert description of event, including time, date, etc].

[Quote from Exec Director/President/CEO of organization]

To kick off this week's celebrations, here are a few facts about charter schools in [NAME OF STATE]:

Charter Schools Are Public Schools. Public charter schools are independent, tuition free public schools open to all students. Public charter schools are given the flexibility to be more innovative while being held accountable for improved student achievement. Public charter schools must adhere to federal and state education standards, as well as federal and state civil rights laws. In [NAME OF STATE] there are [XX] public charter schools serving a diverse student body of [XX] students.

Charter Schools Increase Student Achievement. Since 2010, all but one independent research study has found that students in charter schools do better than their traditional school peers. The most recent of those studies, by the Center for Research on Educational Outcomes at Stanford University, found that charter schools do a better job teaching low income students, minority students, and students who are still learning English than traditional schools. Separate studies by the Center for Reinventing Public Education and Mathematica Policy Research have found that charter school students are more likely to graduate from high school, go on to college, stay in college and have higher earnings in early adulthood. In [NAME OF STATE], [XX] percent of students in public charter schools graduate and pursue a higher education degree [OR other STATE STUDENT SUCCESS FACT].

Charter Schools Give Parents Public School Options. Parents want the best education possible for their children. Public charter schools give parents options within the public school system so they can find a school that best meets the needs of their child.

National Charter Schools Week is May 4-10, 2014. For information on public charter schools in [STATE], please visit [HYPERLINK TO STATE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE]. For national information on public charter schools, please visit the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools website at www.publiccharters.org.

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