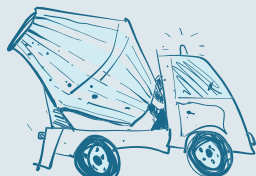


Building Brighter Futures

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF TEXAS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

Laying the Foundation



Senate Bill 1 in 1995 created a brand new kind of public school — tuition-free, open to all, and empowered with freedom and flexibility.

A Bipartisan Project: Sen. Ratliff (R) and Rep. Sadler (D) secured a combined vote of 146 to 30 across the Texas House and Senate.

THE BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS

Public Charter Schools Are Delivering on Their Promises



Improved Student **LEARNING**

Texas public charter schools have graduated nearly a quarter million students over 30 years. Charter graduates are significantly more likely to be college or career ready than their peers.

More **CHOICES** in Public Education

Texas public charter schools have created new school models — including classical, college prep, STEM, and more — to meet the diverse needs of families.

INNOVATIVE Learning Methods

Texas public charter schools have blazed new trails for students who drop out. More than 103,000 recovery students have graduated — changing their lives.

A New Form of **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Texas public charter schools empower parents to “vote with their feet” and are held to a “Three Strikes” closure law that ranks among the strictest in the nation.

A Pipeline of **NEW TEACHERS**

Texas public charter schools attract talented professionals from other fields. Nearly 100,000 teachers have honed their craft in a public charter school, including some entrepreneurial educators who started their own schools.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

We don't know which “big ideas” in public education will resonate with families over the next 30 years. But we do know public charter schools will continue hammering out new ways to meet student needs and increase achievement.



****HARD HATS REQUIRED****



Questions? Contact communications@txcharterschools.org

BRICK BY BRICK

HOW PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL SUCCESS TOOK SHAPE



The Texas Legislature creates public charter schools as **SB 1 PASSES** with strong bipartisan support.

"This is not a Republican bill or a Democratic bill. This is a Texas bill," Gov. Bush says at the signing ceremony.

The **TEXAS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION** is founded so that public charter schools can speak with one voice.



During the pandemic, families with the greatest need turn to public charter schools. The number of **AT-RISK** students increases at charters while decreasing at other public schools.

Texas public charter schools exceed **1.5 MILLION** total students educated.



1995

1996

2005

2008

2013

2019

2020

2021

2025

The **FIRST 20** public charters open their doors to about 2,000 total students.

A large majority are low income or at-risk, quickly refuting critics who predicted "white flight."

MELEKA BLACKLOCK becomes the first graduate of a Texas public charter school, turning to a dropout recovery program with flexibility for new parents and other non-traditional students.



Texas A&M economists find that public charter schools drive **ALL** public schools to up their game, leading to **HIGHER** English and math **SCORES** at ISDs.



Lawmakers lift the cap on the number of public charter schools while significantly increasing accountability. A new **"THREE STRIKES"** provision requires charters with consistently low ratings to close.

Public charter schools shine in TEA's academic ratings, accounting for **5 OF THE TOP 10** districts!

TEA's first analysis of public charter school demand finds 58,600 students are on at least one waitlist.

That number is **73,800** today, demonstrating large and growing popularity among parents.

