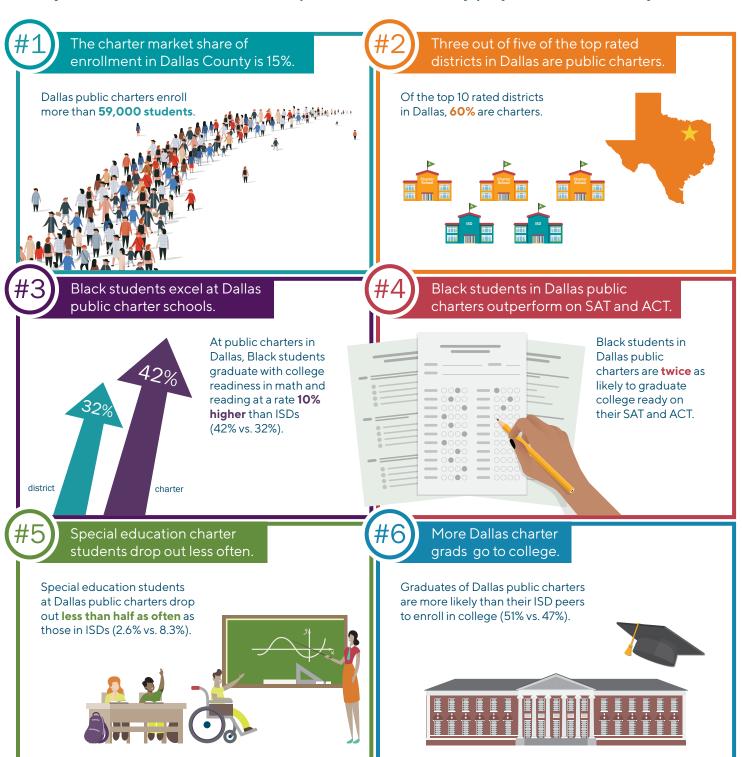
Dallas Public Charters Are Preparing Students for Success

Public charter schools in Dallas County are preparing students for success in college and the jobs of tomorrow. Here is a snapshot of the role they play in the community:









The Faces of Public Charter School Success



JAMES BRIDGES enrolled at East Grand Preparatory, a Cityscape School (Dallas), in August of 2015 as a third grader. He left behind a large traditional district setting and started receiving one-on-one attention from caring teachers who guided him to achieve goal after goal. James's family believed that a public charter school would help him have more individualized learning. The charter school teachers at East Grand Prep were child-centered and detail-oriented, they created personalized learning plans for James, and they dedicated more time for him to accomplish his tasks. James became actively involved with extracurricular activities on campus, such as basketball and student council. As a current eighth grader, his exceptional GPA and test scores qualified him to seek acceptance into a nationally recognized magnet school in Dallas, Texas.



DEUNTE LEVINE is a first-generation college graduate turned civil engineer. After spending his K-12 career at Life School, Levine continued into the Civil Engineering program at Texas A&M. Through hard work, his academic success led to a career at Pape-Dawson Engineers. Levine credits his mother for his unrelenting determination. She enrolled him in Kindergarten at Life School soon after its founding in 1998 because she wanted something more for him. Levine says, "She saw the values, the teachers, and the academics they had. She admired the discipline and how accountable the teachers were. That's why she kept me in until I graduated." In fourth grade, Levine lost his sister, which took an emotional toll. "My teacher pulled me aside and said, 'Listen... you may feel like you're alone, but you're not.' She saw me at my weakest moment and my darkest hour and stepped in." As coaches challenged him to sharpen his character, teachers encouraged him to never give up. Levine is now a Level One Engineer, licensed as an Engineer In Training (EIT), and working towards his credentialing as a Professional Engineer (PE).



MORGAN RUBLE is a graduate of the ResponsiveEd STEM-focused school iSchool of Lewisville. "I chose to attend iSchool High - Lewisville because it had a STEM focus and prepared students for college and STEM-based careers," says Morgan. "In addition, I was training and competing heavily in Eventing, an equestrian sport, and the schedule worked really well so that I could do my best both academically and athletically." After attending Abilene Christian University, Ruble was accepted to veterinary school at Royal Veterinary College in Dorchester, England and completed the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program last year. Ruble is back in Texas pursuing training and certification at an equine veterinary practice. The opportunity to have a STEM-focused public school option gave Ruble the tools she needed to prepare for a career as a vet and pursue her love of Eventing.



NETANYA SCHLAMOWITZ was being bullied at her traditional district school, which led her parents to pursue a safer educational path for their daughter. Though she has been in advanced classes since 3rd grade, Netanya was struggling socially in middle school and desired personal attention from caring teachers. She enrolled at Legacy Preparatory in Plano as a seventh grader. Netanya and her family knew that Legacy Prep could help advance her education in a way the traditional district school could not. In high school at Legacy Prep, she progressed to dual credit courses at Collin College. A course called Medical Microbiology led Netanya to realize "that my goal in life was to do research in antibiotic resistance." Today, Netanya attends Johns Hopkins on a full scholarship pursuing a career in chemical research of antibiotic resistance drugs and is working towards her PhD.