



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

Brian Whitley

bwhitley@txcharterschools.org

510-495-5542

New Report Finds Public Charter Schools Boost Achievement for English Learners

Texas Charters Enroll More English Learners, and Help Them Make More Academic Gains, Than ISDs

AUSTIN – A new research report finds that Texas public charter schools not only enroll more English learners than traditional school districts, but also help them achieve at a higher level.

English Language Learners Fly Higher in Texas Public Charter Schools, [released today](#), analyzes enrollment, outcomes, and operations data related to one of the state's largest and fastest-growing student populations. Top findings include:

- Texas charter schools enroll 33% more English learners than ISDs
- English learners at charters are also about 33% more likely to meet state reading standards, compared to their ISD peers
- Charter schools are helping English learners translate their language fluency gains into better academic outcomes at twice the rate of ISDs -- and in more subject areas.
- More English learners at charter schools are on grade level in every tested subject: science, math, ELA, social studies, and writing.
- English learners at charters are nearly twice as likely to enroll in college

Charter schools also invest nearly three times as much of their funding in associated support services.



“The future of Texas depends on the ability of our public schools to help English learners unlock their full potential,” said **Starlee Coleman**, CEO of the Texas Public Charter Schools Association. “I’m incredibly proud that our public charter schools are leaders in this area.”

This contribution to the state’s education system is sorely needed. The percent of English learners who are still learning the language after five years has skyrocketed in Texas, according to a [recent study](#) by Rice University researchers. And two-thirds of the state’s English learners graduate from high school without the reading and writing skills they need to be prepared for future success, limiting their access to college and high-wage jobs.

Public charter schools are helping turn the tide. For example: Based on the percentage of English learners in middle school who meet state reading standards, nine of the top 10 school districts in Texas are charters. For elementary school students, four of the top 10 districts are charters.

The TPCSA report also shows that compared to traditional districts, public charter schools are helping many more English learners translate their language fluency gains into better academic performance -- including in subjects besides reading. Students are taking what they learned and using it to stay on track in science, social studies, and other classes.

To speak with a charter school leader, teacher, or parent in your region, or with TPCSA CEO Starlee Coleman, please contact Brian Whitley at bwhitley@txcharterschools.org

To read the full report, [click here](#).

To read a one-page summary, [click here](#).

For more information about charter schools in Texas, [click here](#).

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About the Texas Public Charter Schools Association



The Texas Public Charter Schools Association is committed to making sure every child in Texas has access to a high-quality public school that will set them on the path to future success. Public charter schools enroll 337,000 students across Texas. Working as complements to ISDs, public charters are preparing the workforce of the future by sending more students to and through colleges, universities, and technical training programs. Public charter schools are accountable to taxpayers and are doing their part to help all Texas children can thrive.