



Charter School 101

Charter Schools are:

- **Innovative new public schools (not private, no religious affiliation as some claim)**
- **Free to all students (there is no tuition)**
- **Open to all students, including special ed.; no selection process or entry test**
- **Voluntary (no student, teacher, or administrator is assigned to a charter school)**

Charter Schools will:

- **Only open when and where there is a need and a demand**
- **Operate under a performance contract from an authorizing agency**
- **Be exempt from many educational regulations, but not those involving health, safety, and civil rights**
- **Be monitored and held accountable for student achievement and financial responsibility**
- **Provide new choices for students, parents, teachers, and administrators**

Charter Schools may:

- **Be a start-up public school or a conversion of an existing public school**
- **Focus curriculum around a theme such as science and technology, performing arts, marine environment, vocational training, etc.**
- **Employ different instructional methods such as expedition learning, project-based learning, Montessori, internships, etc.**
- **Focus on a specific age or grade range of students - or students with particular interests or educational needs**
- **Be rural or urban, large or small**

For more information,

Please visit our website and email us with any questions.