



The Education Choice Expert

Your child. Your school. Your choice.

Newsletter Date

Volume 1, Number 1



Karin Piper

The Education Choice Expert
www.TheEducationChoiceExpert.com
Karin@TheEducationChoiceExpert.com

Charters are:

- Public Schools
- Tuition FREE
- Education options
- Accountable for Student Achievement
- Held Responsible for Public Funds Received
- Popular with Families
- Mission Based

Charter School Numbers

There are 4,900 charter schools in the United States

Approximately 1.5 million children are enrolled in charter schools in 2009

There are estimated half a million children on the wait lists for charter schools

Education Choice 101: What is a Charter School

Originally published in the [Examiner](#) July 15th, 2009

“Charter schools are innovative and independent public schools run by an entity other than its authorizer. These schools are produced by parents, organizations, or community groups to fill an educational need not otherwise offered by traditional schools.”—Karin Piper (excerpt from CHARTER SCHOOLS: The Ultimate Handbook for Parents)

Charter schools are tuition free public schools.

Charter schools are free from many regulations which apply to non-charter public schools. Charters are designed to self govern. This gives charter schools the independence to explore different education tools and techniques.

In exchange for this freedom charter schools are held directly accountable for student achievement and fiscal responsibility with public funds. If a charter school is not proven academically effective for its students or is financially unsound, the charter school closes.

Charter schools are intended to be unique of its traditional public school counterpart. That’s just the whole point— isn’t it? If offering a public school option, creating more of the same would simply defy the purpose. Why bother with education reform if it is not with the goal of improving the offering that already exists?

Some charter schools are theme based, while others may be designed with a specific academic goal in mind. However, all charter schools have a mission and answer to its authorizer about fulfilling its goals.

The charter school concept has been said to be experimental. It once was, but more than a decade-and-a-half after the first charter school law was passed in Minnesota this education model is hardly stuck in version 1.0.

There are more than 1.5 million children enrolled in 4,900 charter schools across the United States, with hundreds of thousands of hopeful children on the waitlists for enrollment.

Charter schools are today embraced with bipartisan political support and are increasingly popular with families.

