



Problem

Staff: Our Jobs Are Ignored

- Charter schools do not receive as much funding as traditional neighborhood schools.
- Education is a fundamental right that everyone should have the opportunity to, regardless of skin color or class.
- With less funding, charter schools are forced to spend less money on staff, facilities, and classroom materials.
- This gap will affect our ability to educate our students to the fullest of their potential.
- This gap will also affect our job security and decisions on where we would like to work.

Families: Our Kids Are Ignored

- Charter schools do not receive as much funding as traditional neighborhood schools.
- As taxpaying citizens, our dollars must follow our students equally. Education is a fundamental right that everyone should have the opportunity to, regardless of skin color or class.
- With less funding, charter schools are forced to spend less money on teachers, facilities, school staff, and classroom materials, affecting our children's quality of education.

Solution

Communicate Our Support for Charter Schools

- Help convince others that children, taxpayers and schools should not be penalized for embracing choice.
- A "grassroots" pro-charter movement will show the voice of charter school families and citizens committed to high quality education.
- Charter school opponents claim that all charter supporters are elite, pro-business lobbyists who want to privatize schools. A strong grassroots movement will fight this lie.

Action

Becoming Vocal

- Support** charter schools publically through taking these steps to educate our community.
- Know** about frequently asked questions and counter-arguments concerning charter schools.
- Meet** with elected officials to discuss charters. Aim to leave the meeting with lawmakers feeling positive while still being clear about the importance of equal funding. Consider our own charter school stories: why is equal funding important enough to make the trip to Springfield?
- Join** pro-charter groups and attend their meetings and events.
- Promote** charters across media by writing editorials, giving positive interviews, and letting stations know about charter accomplishments and the funding gap.
- Use** social media to publicize experiences with charters, and to link to other media covering the funding issue.

Charters are a part of our nation's solution to public education, not a part of the problem.