



ED, CharterRegs

From: Kate Clark <kclark@lintons1.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 11:56 AM
To: ED, CharterRegs
Subject: [External] Charter School Law Reform

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Dear Governor Wolf and Legislature,

Reforming the charter school law is not a bad idea in theory but doing it to save tax payers money is not being truthful. The state can be doing a much better job of making sure the current public schools in the state and particularly in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are better managed.

As someone who has sent three children to PA public schools, worked in the public school system and also now works with Charter schools, I can say that tax payer money is being wasted in many current public schools as I write this. I see charter schools in many areas (particularly Philadelphia) doing more with less whether it be academically or with their facilities than the public schools nearby.

Why not take the best of the charter schools and use what they are doing to improve PA public schools while also making the necessary changes in PA public schools to improve them? The system of public education is broken in many parts of the state and charter schools are taking up that slack for parents who are fed up with the PA public school system.

The goal of our elected officials should be to make whatever schools parents choose the best for their children. By constantly focusing on charter schools taking away money from public schools – work to make public schools do the right thing and be run responsibly. This starts with giving principals and school staff the ability to contribute to the issues by cutting out bureaucracy and red tape. Give them some skin in the game and you will see them rise to the occasion if they are truly dedicated to the students. If not, find others who want to be there and move out the dead weight holding down the PA public school system.

Money spent on students is important no matter where they learn. The future of our state, our nation and the world in general depends on public servants understanding who they represent in this issue. It is not the teachers and administrators more than the students. Students in charter schools love their schools just as much as any other student in the state. Please keep them in mind when pushing to make things more difficult for charter schools.

Also, try looking at those states that are the best in the country and learning a thing or two from them, it is the least you can do.

Thank you,

Kate Clark

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