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MIAMI-DADE & BROWARD RANK IN TOP TEN OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES BY ENROLLMENT

Miami-Dade Ranks #7 & Broward County Ranks #10 by Enrollment

Washington, D.C. – Miami-Dade ranks #7 and Broward County ranks #10 in the nation for public charter school enrollment with 43, 732 students attending public charter schools, according to the annual *Top 10 Charter Communities by Market Share* report released by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools today.

Demand remains strongest in urban areas – and as a result, charter “market share” is growing rapidly in cities and adjacent suburbs, even while the overall number of students remains a modest portion of nationwide enrollment.

“Charter schools are working at scale in a growing number of American cities,” according to Nelson Smith, President and CEO of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools. “Chartering is becoming well-established as a key component of the public education delivery system,” he added.

The report finds:

- **10 Districts Enroll 22% of Charter Students:** The 10 districts with the largest number of students in public charter schools represent 22% of the total public charter school population nationwide, a total of 304,494 students out of roughly 1.4 million.
- **Charter Growth Remains Strong:** There are 14 communities where more than 20% of public school students are enrolled in charters, six more than in 2005-06. 72 communities now have at least 10% of public school students in charter schools, 27 more than three year ago.

- **More than 1/3 of Public School Students in Charters in Three Cities:** Public charter school market share breaks 30% of students in Detroit (at 32%), Washington, D.C. (36%), and New Orleans (57%).
- **New Orleans Remains at #1 in Market Share Percentage:** Not only are charters in New Orleans serving a higher percentage of public school students – 57% – than anywhere else in the nation, they are also the highest performing sector of public schools in the city. More importantly, the city’s public schools as a whole are outperforming the pre-Katrina system.

“The public charter school enrollment number for Miami-Dade and Broward counties represents a 7% and 8% market share,” said Anna Nicotera, Director of Research and Evaluation for the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools.

The “Top 10” communities with the greatest number of students enrolled in public charter schools are: Los Angeles, CA (59,122), Detroit, MI (43,035), Philadelphia, PA (32,579), Houston, TX (29,889), Chicago, IL (28,973), Washington, D.C. (25,729), Miami-Dade County, FL (23,865), New York City, NY (21,367), New Orleans, LA (20,068), and Broward County, FL (19,867).

The “Top 10” largest market share public charter school communities (including ties) are: New Orleans, LA (57%); Washington, D.C. (36%); Detroit, MI (32%); Kansas City, MO (29%); Dayton, OH (27%); Youngstown, OH (26%); St. Louis, MO (25%); Flint, MI (24%); Gary, IN (23%); Phoenix Union High School District, AZ (22%); and Minneapolis, MN (22%).

For over a decade, public charter schools have been a vital component of Florida’s K-12 public education system. There are currently more than 117,000 students enrolled in more than 390 charter schools throughout the state.

The National Alliance for Public Charter Schools (www.publiccharters.org) is the national nonprofit organization committed to advancing the charter school movement. The Alliance works to increase the number of high performing charter schools available to all families, particularly low-income and minority families who currently do not have access to quality public schools. Today, over 1.5 million students attend more than 4,900 charter schools in 39 states and the District of Columbia.

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