



Monday, August 25, 2008

**STATEMENT REGARDING THE CLOSURE OF  
SMART SCHOOL IN BROWARD COUNTY**

We empathize with the students and families impacted by the closure of Smart School Charter High. The closure of a school dramatically impacts a community, and no one is affected more than the students who are displaced and their families who must find another school option.

Last year, Smart School Charter High administrators and governing board members began working with the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools to raise their school's grade. The goal was to improve their students' overall academic performance and remain open. However, after two consecutive failing scores on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, the school – by law – was slated for closure. Charter school law clearly states that public charter schools must perform both academically and financially to continue to operate. This level of accountability and transparency is important because it guarantees that only the highest performing public charter schools – those that are successfully educating children -- remain open to serve the community.

The Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools supports Superintendent Notter and the Broward County School Board's decision to close the school.

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