

### FCPCS 2023 FACT SHEET

## **Florida's Public Charter Schools**

Growing in Number and Popularity throughout the State

Florida's charter schools continue to see robust growth in student enrollment, proof that Florida families want and need charter schools in their communities. Florida's charter schools offer a wide variety of learning environments to meet students' academic needs and interests.



#### A HISTORY OF OUTPERFORMING TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**The Florida Department of Education** has measured the academic performance of students attending public charter schools for many years. These reports have shown that year after year, public charter school students outperform traditional public school students in most grade levels and in most academic subjects. Charter schools also do a better job overall in closing the achievement gap between White and Black students and White and Hispanic students.

\*Florida Department of Education, Student Achievement in Florida's Charter Schools: A Comparison of the Performance of Charter School Students with Traditional Public School Students.

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## What are public charter schools?

Charter schools are non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations that have a contract or charter to provide the same educational services to students as district public schools.

Charter schools are nonsectarian public schools that operate with freedom from many of the regulations that apply to traditional public schools.

Charter schools must hire certified teachers and students must take all Florida statewide assessments, just like traditional district schools.

# How are charter schools funded?

Charter schools receive funding from the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) using the same FTE formula applied to district schools. Charter schools must pay an administrative fee to their district sponsors of up to 5% of their total FTE funding.

### Florida Statutes and Rules addressing Charter Schools:

s. 1002.33, Charter schools

s. 1013.62, Charter schools capital outlay funding

s. 218.39(1), Annual financial audit reports

State Board of Education Rule 6A.6.0784, Charter School Governance Training