



2014 FACT SHEET

Task Force Begins Work on Quality Charter School Authorizing

The Task Force represents a new spirit of collaboration between public charter schools and their school districts.

A special task force co-chaired by Representative Janet Adkins (R-11) and Broward Superintendent Robert Runcie is working to improve relations and communications between districts and public charter schools. Recommendations from the

Task Force address the needs of both the districts and charter schools to improve school quality and financial stability. The Task Force represents a new spirit of collaboration between public charter

schools and their school districts.

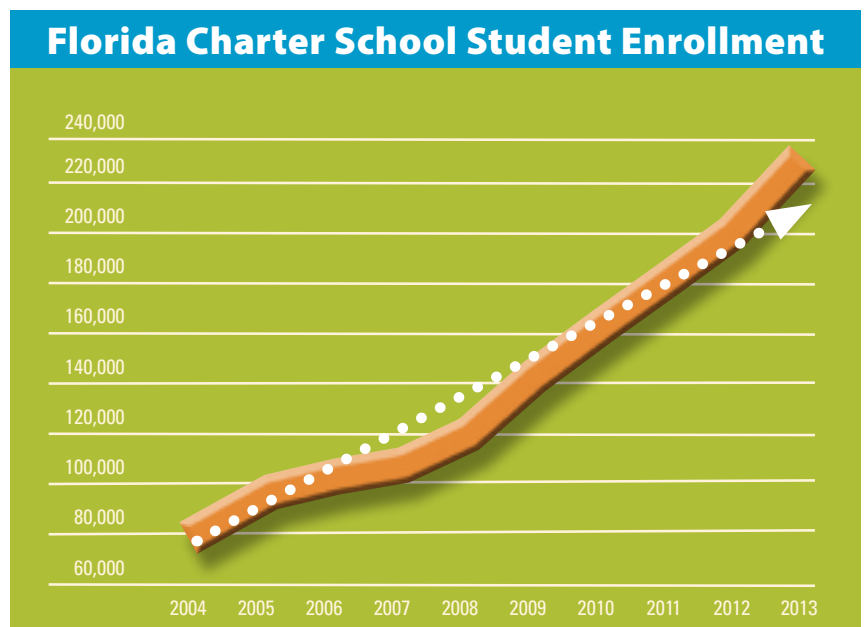
Members of the Task Force on Quality Charter School Authorizing in Florida include representatives from seven Florida school districts, independent charter school operators, and management company representatives. The Task Force has met twice to identify common goals to improve charter school quality and charter/district relations.

The Task Force was organized by the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools. “Our legislators asked us to work together on issues of concern and come back to them with recommendations. That’s exactly what we are doing,” said Robert Haag, President of the Florida Consortium.

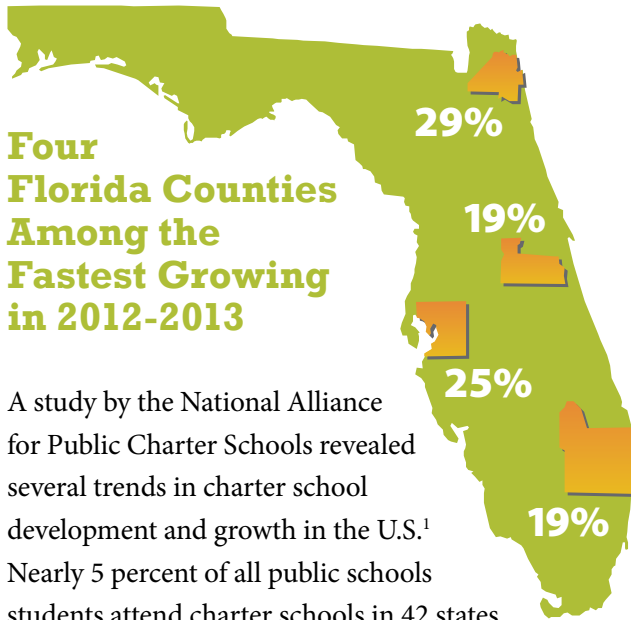
Florida Shows Steady Growth in Public Charter School Sector

A total of 229,233 students are enrolled this year in the state’s 623 public charter schools, representing 15% of the overall K-12 public student population (an increase of 1% from last year). Charter schools are operating in 44 of Florida’s 67 school districts.

Fully 10% of the enrollment increase of 28,752 students, which all Florida public schools experienced in 2013-14, was from students enrolled in public charter schools.



Study Tracks Rapid Charter School Growth Across the Nation



A study by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools revealed several trends in charter school development and growth in the U.S.¹ Nearly 5 percent of all public schools students attend charter schools in 42 states and the District of Columbia.

Four Florida school districts are among the nation's ten districts that experienced the fastest growing charter school student population: **Duval, Hillsborough, Orange and Palm Beach Counties.**

Americans Favor Public Charter Schools
 According to a recent poll of 1,001 U.S. adults on the topic of education, 68 percent favor charter schools.²

How Do Florida Districts Compare with Those in Other States?

- RANKING OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS:**
- Highest percentage of public school students attending charter schools**
1. New Orleans Public School System – 79%
 2. Detroit Public Schools – 51%
 21. Lee County, FL – 14%
 22. Broward & Miami-Dade Counties, FL – 13%
- Fastest Growth of Charter School Students in 2012-13**
1. Hall County Schools, GA – 58%
 2. San Diego Unified School District – 35%
 3. Duval County Public Schools, FL – 29%
 5. Hillsborough County Public Schools, FL – 25%
 10. Orange County Public Schools, FL – 19%
 10. School District of Palm Beach County, FL – 19%
- Number of Charter School Students**
1. Los Angeles Unified School District – 120,958
 2. New York City Department of Education – 58,353
 3. School District of Philadelphia – 55,031
 4. Detroit Public Schools – 51,083
 5. Chicago Public Schools – 49,187
 6. Miami-Dade County Public Schools, FL – 47,573
 10. Broward County Public Schools, FL – 34,408
 20. School District of Palm Beach County, FL – 12,020

About the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools

FCPCS is the voice of the Florida charter school movement, with more than 400 charter school members. It is one of the oldest and largest charter school membership associations in the nation. Founded in 1999 by a grassroots group of charter school

operators, it provides advocacy, support, resources, and networking opportunities to new and existing charter schools, parents and students. FCPCS also promotes the establishment and operation of high quality public charter schools throughout the state.



FLORIDA CONSORTIUM
 of PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

“Florida’s Charter Support Organization Since 1999”

info@floridacharterschools.org

1225 SE 2nd Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316, Phone: 954-463-9595, Fax: 904-212-0300

113 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301, Phone: 850-201-7145

www.floridacharterschools.org

¹ National Alliance for Public Charter Schools. (2013). A Growing Movement: America’s Largest Charter School Communities. Washington, D.C.

² Bushaw, William J. and Shane J. Lopez. (2013). The 45th Annual PDK/Gallup Poll of the Public’s Attitudes Toward the Public Schools. www.pdkintl.org/poll/index.htm.