

DON'T GET FOOLED:

Charter Schools *are* Public Schools

Opponents are working hard to pit district and charter schools against one another. Charter schools are proud to be part of the public school landscape. **Let's set the record straight.**

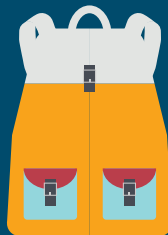
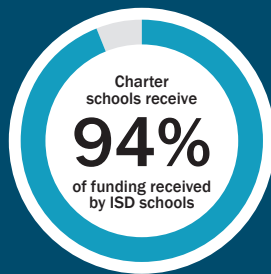
× CLAIM *"Charter schools hurt public schools."*

✓ REALITY **Charter schools ARE public schools.** They are simply another option for families within the public education system.

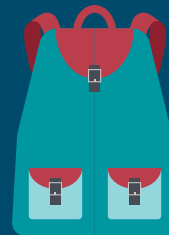


× CLAIM *"Charter schools get more money than ISDs."*

✓ REALITY **Charter schools receive less money than ISDs.**



\$10,721
per charter school student



\$11,397
per ISD student

× CLAIM *"Charter school financial dealings are not disclosed to the public and are not available for public review."*

✓ REALITY **Texas law requires charter schools to make their budgeting and financial statements available for public review on their websites.**



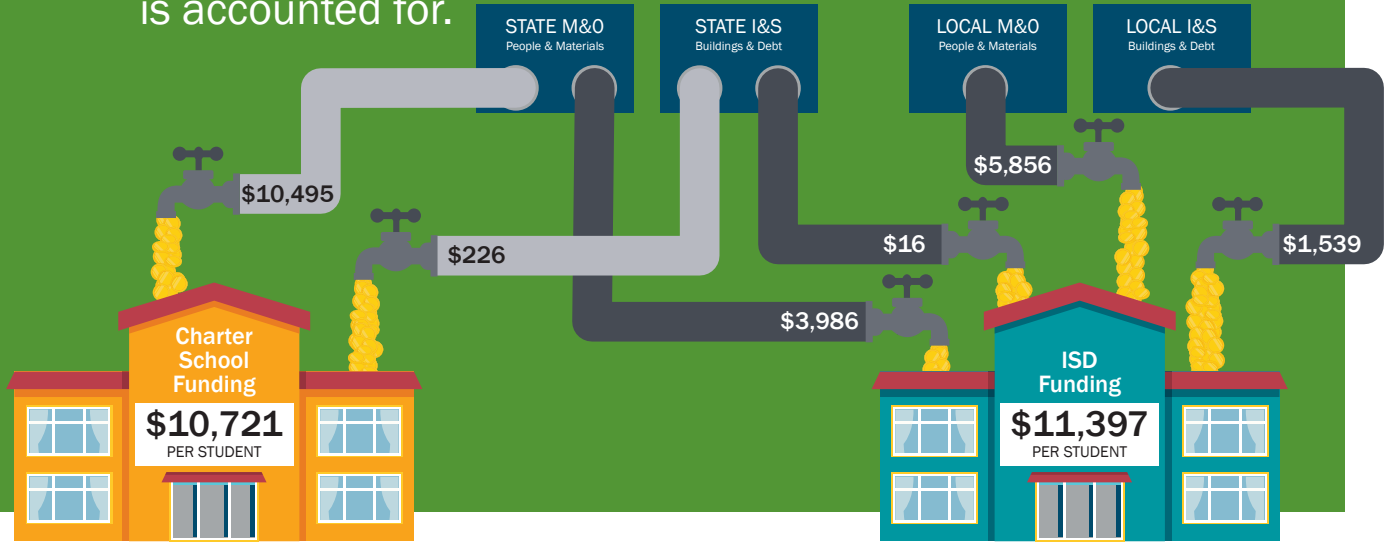
× CLAIM *"1882 partnerships are the same thing as a charter school takeover."*

✓ REALITY **ISD and charter partnerships are rooted in collaboration.** The elected boards of ISDs keep control of the campus and set the performance standards. If expectations are not met, the ISD board can vote to end the partnership.



× CLAIM *“If charters were funded in the same manner as public schools, the state of Texas would save taxpayer dollars.”*

✓ REALITY **Charter schools ARE public schools and funded the same way—with public dollars based on the number of students they serve. However, public charters receive, on average, \$676 less per student than ISDs when their local funding is accounted for.**



× CLAIM *“Charter schools create an inefficient system that is unaccountable.”*

✓ REALITY



Public charter schools are part of a single public education system and are chosen by parents who want a different public education option for their students. **Texas charter schools have the strictest accountability in the country and are shut down if they don't perform.** Charter schools are also subject to the same open record, conflict of interest, and accounting regulations as district schools.

× CLAIM *“Students are leaving district schools for charter schools.”*

✓ REALITY **Some students are leaving their assigned schools. But charter schools still only educate 6% of Texas students.**



● Texas students who attend ISDs.
● Texas students who attend charter schools

Get more facts at txcharterschools.org

Source: Texas Education Agency, Summary of Finances Report
M&O: Maintenance and Operations funding; I&S: Interest and Sinking funds

Questions? Contact Timothy Mattison at tmattison@txcharterschools.org or (512) 717-6697.

