

Understanding the privatization of public education

[*The Cost of Charter Schools for Public School Districts*](#) (2019)

A first-of-its-kind analysis revealing that public school students in three California districts are bearing the cost of the unchecked expansion of privately managed charter schools.

[*How charter schools impact public school district budgets*](#) (2018)

A compilation of studies nationwide showing that public school students are hurt by policies that prioritize charter school growth over educational opportunities for all students.

[*How charter schools drain money from public school districts*](#) (video)

An animated video explaining how allowing too many charter schools can force cuts at traditional, neighborhood schools to things like counseling, libraries, and special education.

[*Background information on charter schools*](#) (2019)

A resource list designed to provide background information and useful policy tools to help communities grapple with how best to fit charter schools into their public education systems.

[*How private schools, charter schools, and corporate tax breaks drain public education funding*](#) (2020)

Research detailing how private interests pocket public dollars meant for education.

[*Resources for understanding Charter Management Organizations \(CMOs\)*](#) (2020)

A list of resources explaining CMOs and their role in the charter school industry.

[*How charter school operators pocket public money through real estate*](#) (2020)

Research on how charter school operators have used real estate arrangements and transactions to pocket public dollars meant for education.

[*Why online education can't replace brick-and-mortar K-12 schooling*](#) (2020)

A list of research on online education revealing a long track record of poor academic performance, lack of equity and access, and privacy concerns.

[*Frequently asked questions about online charter schools*](#) (2020)

Questions and answers designed to help parents, legislators, and school districts evaluate the use of online charter schools.

[*Resources on Virtual Charter Schools*](#) (2020)

A resource list designed to provide background information and useful policy tools to help grapple with whether or how to fit online charter schools into public education systems.

[*Resources on Education Technology*](#) (2020)

A resource list designed to provide background information and useful policy tools to help grapple with whether or how to fit edtech into public education systems.

[11 warning signs that someone is trying to privatize your school](#) (2020)

Public education advocates must be vigilant that during the coronavirus crisis no long-term commitments are made that further the privatization of public education.

[Fraud and waste in California's charter schools](#) (2018)

A report documenting that total alleged and confirmed fraud and waste in California's charter schools has reached over \$149 million, which is only the tip of the iceberg.

[The cost of charter schools for the West Contra Costa Unified School District](#) (2019)

An analysis performed in partnership with California's West Contra Costa Unified School District staff measuring the financial impact of charter schools on the district's traditional public schools.

[Are Oakland Charter Schools Double Dipping?](#) (2020)

A brief produced with Parents United for Public Schools analyzing federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans awarded to charter schools in the Oakland Unified School District.

[Examining California's charter school appeals process](#) (2019)

A report summarizing a number of instances when a California charter school closed after being granted an appeal by a county board or the State Board of Education (SBE).

[The Public School Accountability Agenda](#) (2015)

An 11-point program to ensure that charter schools, which are publicly funded but privately operated, are fulfilling their role in public education as lawmakers intended.

[The Failure of Policy Planning in California's Charter School Facility Funding](#) (2017)

A report revealing that much of the more than \$2.5 billion in tax dollars or taxpayer subsidized financing spent on California charter school facilities in the past 15 years has been misspent.

[Virtual Public Education in California](#) (2015)

A report describing management practices and student academic performance at California Virtual Academies (CAVA), the largest provider of virtual public education in California.

[Making the Grade: Questions to Ask About School Services Privatization](#) (2013)

A guide providing examples of important questions that decision makers should consider when faced with a proposed school services privatization effort.

[Ask the Right Questions Before Privatizing](#) (2019)

Ten questions to ask before any privatization decision is made.

For more resources, visit inthepublicinterest.org. For hard copies, contact Jeremy Mohler, In the Public Interest's Communications Director, at jmohler@inthepublicinterest.org.