

CHARTER BASICS WORKSHEET

● What is a charter school?

A charter school in Colorado is a tuition-free public school established by a group of parents, teachers and/or community members as a semi-autonomous public school of choice that operates via a contract, or "charter," between the school's board and an authorizer. (an authorizer such as the local school district or, in some cases, the Colorado Charter School Institute.)

● What are the three main characteristics of charter schools?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

● What are three additional characteristics of charter schools?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

● Write your answer: Why are charter schools important?

● Additional Notes:



Quality

Charter schools **use their flexibility to find unique solutions** in areas such as curriculum, governance, leadership, and operations.

In exchange for their flexibility, charter schools are **held accountable to high financial, academic, and managerial standards.**

Charter schools **give teachers flexibility to teach creatively** and provide personalized attention to meet the individual needs of every student, giving students from all backgrounds the opportunity to go to a school that works for them.

Choice and Opportunity

By listening to parents and being responsive to the community, public charter schools are creating **meaningful ways for parents to be engaged** in their children's education.

Parents want and deserve to be able to choose the school that **best meets the needs of their children**, and charters give families that opportunity.

Public charter schools are helping parents, teachers and students **work together towards success.**

Equity

Charter school programs and academic designs **are as diverse as the students they enroll.**

Colorado charter schools enroll more diverse students and more English Language Learners than traditional school counterparts.