

## Media Recap Report: 2024-2025 School Year

Data for July 1, 2024 – June 1, 2025

**Total Placements: 34**



### [‘Your life isn’t over’: Aurora school helps teen parents graduate](#)

May 21, 2025 – High school is hard enough, but add pregnancy and child care concerns, and some would consider it nearly impossible. That is where New Legacy comes in. New Legacy is a charter school for pregnant and parenting teens.



### [Good News: Turning the Tassel](#)

May 16, 2025 – 9News visited the first graduating class from the STEAD charter school located in Commerce City to give them a final pop quiz question: “What’s your good news?” What they shared was revealing and interesting.



### [Every senior at this Denver charter school network got accepted to college. There were fireworks and tears](#)

May 14, 2025 – Seniors graduating from the Rocky Mountain Prep charter school system were celebrated for achieving a 100% college acceptance rate.



### [Rocky Mountain Prep School celebrates 100% college acceptance rate](#)

May 14, 2025 – Rocky Mountain Prep School is celebrating a major milestone. One hundred percent of graduates at two of its Denver-area charter schools, RISE and SMART, were accepted to college.



### [Three charter schools pitch Castle Rock campuses](#)

May 12, 2025 – Three new charter school applications currently under review by the Douglas County School District share something in common: they all want to open in Castle Rock. Renaissance Secondary Charter School, Leman Academy of Excellence and STEM School Castle Rock each presented proposals to expand or replicate their schools.



### [DSST charter celebrates 18 years of 100% college and post-secondary acceptance](#)

May 2, 2025 – From first-generation college students to future engineers, healthcare professionals, educators and everything in between, the DSST Class of 2025 is ready to make their mark. Students across 16 schools received acceptances to more than 447 colleges and universities, including Yale, Stanford, MIT, and Colorado College, this year’s seniors are on the path to a bright future.



### [Where is the focus on education quality in Colorado?](#)

April 5, 2025 – There is no shortage of public discussion about education in Colorado. Media articles, opinion pieces and social media posts routinely talk about issues ranging from school funding and technology to school meals and safety. While these issues are no doubt important, what is sorely lacking from the public discourse about education right now is an urgent and consistent focus on quality.



**[As district-run schools shrink and charters grow, their demographics are converging](#)**

April 1, 2025 – The number of students in Colorado public schools is declining. But enrollment in Colorado’s publicly funded, privately run charter schools is heading in the opposite direction.



**[Colorado's education 'deserts' due to unfair school funding](#)**

March 20, 2025 – Senate Majority Leader James Coleman has a grand idea. He wants to allow charter schools to open in locations in what he calls “education deserts.”



**[Enough is Enough: My Grandchildren Deserve Better Schools](#)**

March 16, 2025 – As a parent or grandparent, nothing breaks your heart like watching your children struggle while the school system meant to support them continues to fail.



**[Colorado charters could open without school board approval in low-performing areas](#)**

March 13, 2025 – New charter schools authorized by the Colorado Charter School Institute would be allowed to open in communities with low-performing schools — possibly without approval from local school boards — under legislation that Colorado Senate President James Coleman is considering introducing at the Capitol this year.



**[EDITORIAL: The Politics of Charter Schools, Part Three](#)**

March 12, 2025 – Yesterday in Part Two, we briefly considered Dr. Steve Perry and his efforts to create the best possible schools for children from low-income neighborhoods. In a moment, we’ll consider a few comments made by Dr. Perry during his keynote speech at the 2025 Colorado League of Charter Schools annual conference in February.



**[EDITORIAL: The Politics of Charter Schools, Part Two](#)**

March 11, 2025 – Public education for children has always been political, even if some people wish it wasn’t. As mentioned in Part One, I attended the Colorado League of Charter Schools annual conference in Denver last month, along with four other volunteer members of the Pagosa Peak Open School board of directors.



**[EDITORIAL: The Politics of Charter Schools, Part One](#)**

March 10, 2025 – Partly to defend the rights guaranteed by the Charter School Acts of 1993, advocates formed the Colorado League of Charter Schools. I can confidently state — speaking as one of the founders of Pagosa Peak Open School — that PPOS would not exist without the financial and logistical help provided to us by the League.



**[The School Buzz: Colorado Springs charter school touts two award-winning educators](#)**

March 4, 2025 – Atlas Prep School's Brittany Stroh, CEO, and Managing Director of Operations Nicole Amidei, have both been honored. Stroh, who joined Atlas in 2012, was named a winner of the Southern Colorado Business Forum and Digest's 40 Under 40. Amidei was announced as a member of the Colorado League of Charter Schools' 2025 Hall of Fame class as the most valuable charter contributor.



### [Pagosa Charter School Board President Nominated for Statewide Award](#)

Feb. 11, 2025 – The Colorado League of Charter Schools' annual Hall of Fame is a joyous celebration honoring members, leaders, and supporters who have significantly contributed to the charter school movement... 'Hall of Fame' recognition is awarded in five categories, and this year, Lawrence Rugar — President of the Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) board of directors — was nominated in the 'Advocate of the Year' category.'



### [Charter school continues to help students find their voices](#)

Jan. 31, 2025 – Rocky Mountain Prep SMART has been serving students in southwest Denver for a decade and helping those who speak different languages find a voice in the classroom.



### [National School Choice Week highlights progress and inequities in Denver schools](#)

Jan. 29, 2025 – Charter schools, intended to be a more accessible alternative to private schools, show mixed results... Yet, Dan Schaller, president of the Colorado League of Charter Schools, said that it's important to "zoom out" and look at the aggregate picture when analyzing the demographics of charter schools rather than just focusing on individual situations.



### [Colorado Charter Schools Celebrate 25 Years](#)

Jan. 1, 2025 – In 1991, Minnesota parents, educators, and political leaders who were frustrated with lackluster school performance and limited options, passed the first charter school law. Colorado was the third state to follow suit when Gov. Roy Romer signed the Charter Schools Act on June 3, 1993.



### [Charter school families have clout at ballot box](#)

Dec. 12, 2024 – In last month's election, any number of consequential races were being decided for both our state and country. In the midst of all the attention being paid to the presidential and congressional contests, you'd be forgiven for not having the bandwidth to absorb much else.



### [5 Fort Collins schools ranked in state's top 20 by U.S. News and World Report](#)

Dec. 2, 2024 – Among middle schools, Compass Community Collaborative School was ranked No. 7, Liberty Common School was No. 13, and Kinard No. 20. Compass Community Collaborative and Liberty Common are both charter schools authorized through Poudre School District with middle school students attending classes in the same building as their high school students.



### [Opinion: Charter schools are helping increase integration across Colorado](#)

Dec. 2, 2024 – Based on our analysis, despite larger systemic issues and increased housing costs, there is very strong evidence of increased integration across Colorado schools as our state has become more diverse and public school choice has flourished.



### [Majority sympathetic to charter schools maintained on Colorado education board](#)

Nov. 18, 2024 – The Colorado State Board of Education maintained a majority of members who are sympathetic to charter schools following the November election, meaning that the board's approach to charter school appeals could look similar to its current behavior.



### [Perspective: Charter schools deliver](#)

Nov. 10, 2024 – Public school choice is a core part of Colorado’s educational fabric. It empowers families, improves educational outcomes and strengthens our communities. Charter schools play a vital role in offering families choices in their students receive their education.



### [One State Board of Education race could have a big impact on the future of charter schools in Colorado](#)

Oct. 18, 2024 – The outcome of the State Board of Education race in the 8th Congressional District will determine whether the board majority willing to overturn local school districts when they deny charter school applications remains.



### [KCFR-FM News Briefs](#)

Oct. 2, 2024 (aired in the 6 am, 10 am, 11 am, 12 pm and 1 pm news hours) – Public charter schools will soon get a boost from the federal government. The main advocacy group for charter schools, the Colorado League of Charter Schools, received a five-year, \$6 million federal grant. The League will distribute up to 30 grants for groups to start new charter schools, expand existing schools and replicate schools that are successful.



### [Colorado League of Charter Schools to Distribute \\$68 Million in Grants](#)

Oct. 2, 2024 – The U.S. Department of Education recently announced that it will partner with the Colorado League of Charter Schools to distribute over \$68 million in federal education funding to charter schools in Colorado.



### [Colorado League of Charter Schools Lands \\$68 Million Federal Grant](#)

Sept. 28, 2024 – The Colorado League of Charter Schools has received a five-year, \$68 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Charter School Program (CSP), which will allow the nonprofit to significantly expand the charter footprint across Colorado.



### [DPS charter school earns national attention](#)

Sept. 27, 2024 – Highline Academy Charter School Southeast is getting national recognition for creating a curriculum to help close the learning gap. The tuition-free Denver Public Schools charter school is a National Blue Ribbon School and was recently recognized as a U.S. News Best elementary and Middle school for creating a culturally relevant curriculum that takes a closer look at current events and honors communities' lived experiences.



### [CDE reports charter students continue raising the bar](#)

Sept. 25, 2025 – The data also suggest that parents know best which educational option fits their child’s educational needs. Providing options between public schools A, B, and C can no longer be about adult politics, party platforms, or governance models if we care about the outcomes, said Pete Mason of the Colorado League of Charter Schools.



### [Opponents of Amendment 80, including teachers and public school advocates, rally against proposed constitutional change](#)

Sept. 18, 2024 – A coalition of parents, educators and advocates for public schools rallied Friday against a proposed constitutional amendment they say will usher in private school vouchers that they call harmful, destructive and discriminatory.



### [Could a School Choice Ballot Initiative Lead to a Voucher Program in Colorado?](#)

Aug. 5, 2024 – A proposed ballot measure aims to protect the right to school choice in Colorado’s constitution, cementing parents’ ability to send their children to any public school, charter school, private school or homeschooling program they want.



### [Editorial: Local Governments and Their Strategic Plans](#)

July 1, 2024 – This 400-page “strategic plan” was written entirely by ordinary, “untrained” citizens, with massive assistance provided by the Colorado League of Charter Schools. PPOS is now in its seventh year, having expanded from K-4 to K-8.



### [Charter school network helped families flex their voting muscle](#)

July 1, 2024 – Last fall, Rocky Mountain Prep Creekside, a southeast Denver charter school, wanted to ensure its community had a voice in the upcoming elections. RMP set an ambitious goal to match midterm elections by increasing family voter turnout by 7 percent. The school piloted an innovative approach to family engagement, resulting in a 10.7 percentage-point increase in family turnout in the November 2023 school board election.