
Media Recap Report: 2022-2023 School Year

Version: June 14, 2023

Total Count: 43 articles

COMPLETE COLORADO

[Let's expand on 30 years of charter school success](#)

June 9, 2023 – After three decades of lessons learned, it is time to re-evaluate student access to charter schools. About 270 charter schools serve 15% of students enrolled in Colorado public schools. School district support of these autonomous public schools ebbs and flows depending on the politics of the school board.

 **4 CBS Denver**

[KIPP Colorado rolls out pay increases; teachers receive top starting salary in Denver](#)

May 24, 2023 – "Here at KIPP Colorado, we are committed to the idea of the exceptional student experience. When students come here and feel a sense of belonging, curriculum that is identity affirming and joyful. We have about 350 staff, including teachers and home office, supporting our students every day," said Taamiti Bankole, Chief External Affairs Officer for KIPP.

 **colorado politics**

[Noonan's vicious swipe at charters laughable](#)

May 23, 2023 – Charter schools do not invade public schools. Charter schools *are* public schools that come to the rescue of vulnerable children. Colorado has 178 school districts with well-known reputations and disparities.

 **FORT COLLINS
COLORADOAN**
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

[Parents' rights issues helped drive Colorado charter school growth](#)

May 20, 2023 – Parents all face difficult decisions in the upbringing of their children, especially as children grow older and more influenced by their peers, media, teachers, coaches and other external factors. It's certainly reasonable, with all these uncontrollable variables, to seek control where it can be found.

 **FORT COLLINS
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[No Longer Niche: Colorado Charter Schools Educate Nearly 15% of Public Students](#)

May 18, 2023 – The combined enrollment of the 12 charter schools in Fort Collins, Loveland and Windsor this school year was 10,156, a significant increase from 2013-14, when 2,098 students were enrolled at the cities' five charter schools at that time, including two that no longer exist.

 **The Denver Gazette**

[Adams 14's exclusive chartering authority revoked by Colorado education board](#)

May 12, 2023 – In a 5 to 4 vote at its May meeting Thursday, the state board found University Prep, the charter network, met the burden for showing Adams 14 has "demonstrated a pattern of failing to comply with the Charter Schools Act."

 **Chalkbeat
COLORADO**

[Adams 14 loses chartering authority as Colorado DOE sides with University Prep](#)

May 11, 2023 – The Adams 14 school district lost its exclusive authority to approve or deny charter applications Thursday. Nor will the district be able to decide whether charters within its boundaries can seek authorization from the state.



[Immersive foreign language charter school to join Colorado Springs School District 11](#)

April 26, 2023 – Charter school offerings will grow this fall in Colorado Springs School District 11 with the transfer of one charter and the expansion of another. The Colorado International Language Academy will join the district's six existing charters next academic year after the school board unanimously approved its application Wednesday.



[Armstrong: Colorado public schools failing kids on reading](#)

March 14, 2023 – Colorado’s public schools, like those nationally, are turning far too many students into functional illiterates. To again review some results from the recently administered National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), only 35% of Colorado eighth graders read at a proficient level or higher. A full 27% read below a basic level.



[Bill would protect educators](#)

March 7, 2023 – A year after lawmakers denied employees of school districts and public universities the right to unionize and negotiate contracts, legislators are considering a bill that would provide some protections for them and other public sector employees.



[CharterFolk X – Dr. Gary Stueven: A servant leader with a passion for quality choices](#)

March 6, 2023 – This morning we’re celebrating Dr. Gary Stueven, a charter school consultant and interim principal at Montessori Peaks Academy in Littleton, Colorado, as CharterFolk Extraordinaire. Gary was recently recognized with the Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement Award by the Colorado League of Charter Schools for his passion and dedication to charter schools, their leaders, students and the communities they serve.



[Twin Peaks students receive ‘Charter Champions’ recognition](#)

Feb. 28, 2023 – The Colorado League of Charter Schools recognized two Twin Peaks Charter Academy students as “Charter Champions.” Charter Champions are high school students who exemplify and promote the valuable role of charters in public education. (Note: [Also appeared in the Boulder Daily Camera](#))



[Noonan misrepresents data in charter school argument](#)

Feb. 28, 2023 – Public charter schools in Colorado look demographically similar to traditional public schools and that includes racial segregation and integration. Specifically, the charter school sector and the traditional public school sector both serve approximately 50% students of color.



[Coloradans Embrace School Choice](#)

Feb. 21, 2023 – Colorado’s kids – still reeling from the blow dealt them by school closures during the pandemic – urgently need help with their learning. The most recent achievement test scores show students continue to lag even their own underwhelming performance before COVID.



[K-12 poll finds support for school choice among Coloradans](#)

Feb. 17, 2023 – While Coloradans are discouraged by the state of public education, they support school choice and equal funding for charters, a new public opinion survey from an education advocacy group has found.



[Milliken charter school principal finalist for 2023 Charter Hall of Fame award](#)

Feb. 10, 2023 – Linda Spreitzer, principal at Knowledge Quest Academy in Milliken, has been named a finalist for the 2023 Charter School “Hall of Fame” award, according to the Colorado League of Charter Schools.



[2 Colorado Springs educators named finalists for charter school hall of fame](#)

Feb. 9, 2023 – Two Colorado Springs educators are in the running for a prestigious charter school honor. The Colorado League of Charter Schools will announce winners at the Colorado Charter Schools annual conference on Feb. 27 at the Westin Westminster.



[SkyView celebrates two Colorado League of Charter School Hall of Fame finalists](#)

Feb. 8, 2023 – SkyView Academy is honored and privileged to have two staff members named as finalists for the Colorado League Charter Schools Hall of Fame. These individuals were named finalists based on their excellence in education and advocacy within SkyView and our community.



[Flagstaff Academy teacher named finalist for Educator of the Year award](#)

Feb. 8, 2023 – A teacher at a Longmont school has been named a finalist for Colorado’s 2023 Charter School Educator of the Year award. The Colorado League of Charter Schools gives its annual award to teachers who develop their school, improve its accountability, boost the school’s performance and maintain its excellence.



[Adams 14 students need this charter school, so why was it blocked?](#)

Jan. 6, 2023 – For over a decade University Prep, a network serving more than 85% of children in poverty and more than 90% of children of color, has showcased its phenomenal dedication to its students and its overall commitment to performance.



[Aurora charter schools expanding into Montessori](#)

Jan. 6, 2023 – At the same time, charters are also a lure to keep some students and families who might otherwise turn to private schools rather than the public school system. They also offer some alternative education options that students aren’t able to get at their neighborhood school — options that some students badly need.



[Mountain Middle School awarded ‘performance with distinction’ accreditation](#)

Dec. 19, 2023 – Mountain Middle School has received the “performance with distinction” accreditation from the Colorado Charter School Institute for the fourth consecutive year. This marks the seventh time in the last 10 years that the charter school has received the accreditation.



[Bright spots amid storm clouds: Charter successes and growth continue](#)

Dec. 2, 2022 – Public charter schools showed more resilience coming out of the pandemic for several reasons. Charters are more directly accountable to their communities than schools managed by a large district. That accountability is complemented by more flexibility: school-based control over decisions related to staffing, budgeting, and academic programming.



[New report finds Colorado charter students outperform district-run school peers](#)

Nov. 30, 2022 – A new Keystone Policy Center report found following the return to in-person learning, Colorado charter schools saw larger proportions of students meet or exceed grade-level expectations and higher academic growth than students who attend district-run schools.



[Colorado charter schools outperforming district-run schools after pandemic](#)

Nov. 30, 2022 – A new report finds that coming out of the pandemic, charter schools in Colorado outperform district-managed schools on a number of key measures. The study was done by the Keystone Policy Center. It found that 85% of charter school students attend schools meeting "performance" standards on the state School Performance Framework, while just 66% of district students attended schools with the same rating.



[Report: Post-pandemic testing shows Colorado charters outperformed district schools](#)

Nov. 30, 2022 – Post-pandemic test scores of Colorado's charter schools appear to show creativity and adaptability contributed to outperforming district-managed schools, according to a report from the Keystone Policy Center.



[Colorado charter schools perform better than public schools, but serious gaps remain](#)

Nov. 29, 2022 – Dan Schaller, president of the Colorado League of Charter Schools, attributes at least part of charter schools' success to how responsive they are to students and families. The charter school model is "inherently flexible and adaptable to the needs of a given community," said Schaller, who sees charter schools' control over decisions driving much of their achievement.



['We are staying': Students at American Indian Academy of Denver speak up for school](#)

Nov. 29, 2022 – Students said AIAD's curriculum is like nothing they've been taught before. The school's founder, Terri Bissonette, describes it as an "indigenized" curriculum focused on science, technology, engineering, art, and math, which is abbreviated as STEAM.



[American Indian Academy of Denver Fighting for Its Future](#)

Nov. 28, 2022 – "We have students who have historically not been exposed to their own cultures and their languages, and what they're finding at AIAD is that true passion, that sort of cultural identity that allows them to be proud of who they are and allows them to understand themselves in a larger context in the value of their own family," says Nicholas Martinez, AIAD board co-chair.



[Don't blame charter schools for declining enrollment](#)

Nov. 22, 2022 – Public charter schools have contended with the same effects of declining enrollment, but they simply have done so through the independent, self-regulatory mechanisms that are at the heart of the charter school model.



[MacKenzie Scott makes \\$2.5 million donation to Colorado Springs charter school](#)

Nov. 18, 2023 – A small public charter school that primarily enrolls minorities from poor families in southeast Colorado Springs has dropped onto the radar of powerhouse American philanthropist MacKenzie Scott. The novelist and former spouse of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos has donated \$2.5 million to Atlas Preparatory School.



[Parents fight to grow American Indian Academy](#)

Nov. 15, 2022 – Some families say they've moved to Denver to be close to the school, where students learn native languages and feel at home in a way they've never felt at other schools. When founder Terri Bissonette drafted the school's charter application in 2018, the high school graduation rate for Native American students in DPS was just 48%.



[Where are the kids? Colorado enrollment trends shed light on closure discussions](#)

Nov. 9, 2022 – In Denver Public Schools, only 8% of the district's students attended charter schools in 2005. By 2010, that percentage had increased to 11% and by 2020 it was 23%. Part of the reason is that there were far fewer charter schools in 2005 than there are now. For example, Denver had 20 charter schools in 2005. In 2020, it had 60.



[This charter school is 1st to have all-electric school bus fleet in Colorado](#)

Oct. 27, 2022 – One Colorado public charter school is now the first school in the state to have an all-electric school bus fleet. Peak to Peak Charter School now has four new electric buses. Three of them are 71-passenger buses, which is your typical school bus.



[Peak to Peak Charter School Launches All-Electric School Bus Fleet](#)

Oct. 27, 2022 – Peak to Peak Charter School has launched an all-electric fleet of school buses in a partnership with Highland Electric Fleets. The charter school in the Boulder Valley School District is taking advantage of SB 193 which allocated \$65 million for electric school buses in Colorado.



[Peak to Peak Charter School unveils state's first all-electric school bus fleet](#)

Oct. 27, 2022 – Gov. Jared Polis, who is pushing a plan to have school districts move to all-electric fleets, praised the school's efforts at a Thursday launch. He said electric buses are quieter, don't produce fumes, save on gas and cost less to maintain.



[Charters Help Cure What Ails Denver Schools](#)

Oct. 25, 2022 – Like Colorado's 260-plus public charter schools, Rocky Mountain Prep has brought new hope and the promise of a brighter future to its students. It gives them

a better education more attuned to their individual needs than what was available at their neighborhood schools.



[Three Adams 14 mothers express their frustration over University Prep denial](#)

Oct. 20, 2022 – We are disappointed and frustrated by the Adams 14 school board’s recent decision, going back on its word to allow an excellent University Prep charter elementary school to open in the district. Parents and children are being denied a school that would serve them well, far better than anything the district itself has to offer.



[Adams 14 school board rejects charter school contract](#)

Oct. 14, 2022 – According to the Colorado League of Charter Schools, there are 256 charter schools across the state serving more than 134,000 students – 51% are students of color.



[Adams 14 school board rejects University Prep charter school contract](#)

Oct. 12, 2022 – Nearly ten months after approving an application for a new charter school, the Adams 14 school board rejected the contract that would have allowed the school to open. Tuesday’s 4-0 vote was taken without any discussion after several closed-door sessions.



[Denver Board Approves Charter School Centering on Black Students](#)

Sept. 22, 2022 – After the state ordered Denver to reconsider a charter school centering Black students and culture, the Denver school board Thursday approved the school to open next fall.



[Denver Public Schools Loses Another Charter School Appeal](#)

Aug. 18, 2022 – The Colorado State Board of Education Wednesday rejected the Denver Public Schools board’s June denial of a charter school application centered on the needs of Black students and sent the application back to the district for reconsideration.