

# Charter School Myths vs. Facts



**Myth #1 :** Charter schools skim off the best students to make themselves look good.

**FACT:** Charter schools serve the students in their neighborhoods and are more likely to have students who live in poverty. Nearly all Rochester charter schools serve children from Rochester's most impoverished neighborhoods, ensuring a better choice for those in need.

**Myth #2 :** Charter schools charge tuition and are not public schools.

**FACT:** Charter schools ARE public schools and have no tuition cost. In NYS, charter schools are public, non-profit organizations. Unlike the RCSD, charter school board members do not get paid.



**Myth #3 :** Charter schools take money from traditional public schools.

**FACT:** Rochester City School District makes money on charter school students. RCSD receives approximately \$45,000 per child. Of that, charter schools receive about \$14,400 per student. RCSD keeps the rest.



**Myth #4 :** Charter schools expel more students than traditional public schools.

**FACT:** It's the other way around. District schools are more likely to suspend a student than a charter. Up to 40% of charter schools nationwide don't suspend students at all.



**Myth #5 :** Charter schools are becoming less popular.

**FACT:** Charter schools provide a better path to college than most traditional public schools. As a result, charter school enrollment is steadily increasing. In spite of this, Rochester charter schools are receiving less funding every year due to state and district policies.