

THE Center for Education Reform



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FAX ALERT

For Immediate Release

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THE CENTER FOR EDUCATION REFORM ISSUES 1998-1999 NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTORY

5th edition now available

June 8, 1999 Jeanne Allen, President of the Center for Education Reform (CER) today announced the release of the 1998-1999 *National Charter School Directory*. Now in its 5th edition, CER's *National Charter School Directory* is known as one of the nation's best resources available on charter schools.

"We are so pleased to be able to make this unique publication available," said Allen. "The *National Charter School Directory* has become an invaluable resource to parents, teachers and policymakers alike. Anyone who is tracking the profound impact charter schools have had on improving public education needs to utilize this tool," she added.

The *National Charter School Directory* provides an overview of the dramatic growth of charters throughout the country. In just one year, the number of charter schools has grown 65%, with 473 new schools opening in the 1998-1999 school year, bringing the current total to 1,205. The Directory also includes information on another 200 schools approved to open as early as this Fall. Among charter school's biggest selling points are accountability, choice and high levels of responsiveness to the needs of children.

During the last week in May both Oregon and Oklahoma passed charter legislation. These two states added to the five states that passed charter laws in 1998: Idaho, Missouri, Utah, Virginia and New York brings the total number of charter school laws to 37. During the 1998-1999 school year, charter schools opened for the first time in four states: Ohio, Idaho, Mississippi and Nevada. Today's 1,205 charter schools serve every grade from Pre-K to Adult. Fifty-eight percent are elementary schools, 20% are high schools and 22% serve both. Each school serves an average of 250 children. Complete enrollment figures are not yet available, but CER estimates that charter schools serve from 260,000 to 300,000 children nationwide.

Included in the 185-page directory are school addresses, with contacts and telephone numbers, enrollment figures, grades served, and a description of each school's individual program. The directory also includes state and national statistics on operating schools,

enrollment, grade levels, and sponsorship, as well as contact information for state-level charter support organizations.

CER is currently administering a charter school survey that will track specific information on student population, curriculum and instructional focus, funding and operational information. The information compiled from the survey will be released from CER this summer.

Copies of the *1998-1999 National Charter School Directory* can be obtained exclusively by contacting CER. To order a copy by phone, call (202) 822-9000. Orders may also be placed through the CER website at www.edreform.com/publicat.htm. Or, using the form below, fill out and fax back your request. The price for the *Directory* is \$15.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Special discounts are available. Contact CER for details.

ORDER FORM

1998-1998 National Charter School Directory

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

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