

Appendix A

**Statutory Provisions Governing
Texas Open-Enrollment Charter Schools**

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(2) failed to satisfy generally accepted accounting standards of fiscal management; or

(3) failed to comply with this subchapter, another law, or a state agency rule.

(b) The action the board takes under Subsection (a) shall be based on the best interest of campus or program students, the severity of the violation, and any previous violation the campus or program has committed.

Leg.H. Slats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 1997, 75th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335, effective September 1, 1997 (renumbered from Sec.12.062)

§ 12.064. Procedure for Placement on Probation or Revocation.

(a) Each board of trustees that grants a charter under this subchapter shall adopt a procedure to be used for placing on probation or revoking a charter it grants.

(b) The procedure adopted under Subsection (a) must provide an opportunity for a hearing to the campus or program for which a charter is granted under this subchapter and to parents and guardians of students at the campus or in the program. A hearing under this subsection must be held on the campus or on one of the campuses in the case of a cooperative charter program.

Leg.H. Slats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Slats. 1997, 75th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335, effective September 1, 1997 (renumbered from Sec. 12.063).

§ 12.06. Admission.

(a) Eligibility criteria for admission of student's to the campus or program for which a charter is granted under this subchapter must give priority on the basis of geographic and residency considerations. After priority is given on those bases, secondary consideration may be given to a student's age, grade level, or academic credentials in general or in a specific area, as necessary for the type of program offered.

(b) The campus or program may require an applicant to submit an application not later than a reasonable deadline the campus or program establishes.

Leg.H. Slats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Slats. 1997, 75th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335, effective September 1, 1997 (renumbered from Sec. 12.064).

SUBCHAPTER D. OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTER SCHOOL

§ 12.101. Authorization.

(a) In accordance with this subchapter, the State Board of Education may grant a charter on the application of an eligible entity for an open-enrollment charter school to

operate in a facility of a commercial or nonprofit entity or a school district, including a home-rule school district. In this subsection, "eligible entity" means:

(1) an institution of higher education as defined under Section 61.003;

(2) a private or independent institution of higher education as defined under Section 61.003;

(3) an organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C.S. Section 501(c)(3)); or

(4) a governmental entity.

(b) The State Board of Education may grant a charter for an open-enrollment charter school only to an applicant that meets any financial, governing, and operational standards adopted by the commissioner under this subchapter. The State Board of Education may not grant a total of more than 215 charters for an open-enrollment charter school.

(c) If the facility to be used for an open-enrollment charter school is a school district facility, the school must be operated in the facility in accordance with the terms established by the board of trustees or other governing body of the district in an agreement governing the relationship between the school and the district.

(d) An educator employed by a school district before the effective date of a charter for an open-enrollment charter school operated at a school district facility may not be transferred to or employed by the open-enrollment charter school over the educator's objection.

Leg.H. Stars. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Slats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.1011. [Repealed.]

Repealed Staffs. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

2001 Note: SECTION 36. (b) 4 charter for an open-enrollment charter school granted under the authority of Section 12.1011. Education Code, as that section existed before repeal by this Act, is considered to have been granted under the authority of Section 12, 101. Education Code. Stars. 2001 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1.504.

§12.1012. Definitions.

In This Subchapter:

(1) "Charter holder" means the entity to which a charter is granted under this subchapter.

(2) "Governing body of a charter holder" means the board of directors, board of trustees, or other governing body of a charter holder.

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(3) "Governing body of an open-enrollment charter school" means the board of directors, board of trustees, or other governing body of an open-enrollment charter school. The term includes the governing body of a charter holder if that body acts as the governing body of the open-enrollment charter school.

(4) "Management company" means a person, other than a charter holder, who provides management services for an open-enrollment charter school:

(5) "Management services" means services related to the management or operation of an open-enrollment charter school, including:

(A) planning, operating, supervising, and evaluating the school's educational programs, services, and facilities;

(B) making recommendations to the governing body of the school relating to the selection of school personnel;

(C) managing the school's day-to-day operations as its administrative manager;

(D) preparing and submitting to the governing body of the school a proposed budget;

(E) recommending policies to be adopted by the governing body of the school, developing appropriate procedures to implement policies adopted by the governing body of the school, and overseeing the implementation of adopted policies; and

(F) providing leadership for the attainment of student performance at the school based on the indicators adopted under Section 39.051 or by the governing body of the school.

(6) "Officer of an open-enrollment charter school" means:

(A) the principal, director, or other chief operating officer of an open-enrollment charter school;

(B) an assistant principal or assistant director of an open-enrollment charter school; or

(C) a person charged with managing the finances of an open-enrollment charter school.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001:

§ 12.102. Authority Under Charter.

An open-enrollment charter school:

(1) shall provide instruction to students at one or more elementary or secondary grade levels as provided by the charter;

(2) is governed under the governing structure described by the charter;

(3) retains authority to operate under the charter contingent on satisfactory student performance as provided by the charter in accordance with Section 12.111; and

(4) does not have authority to impose taxes.

Leg .H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995.

§ 12.103. General Applicability of Laws, Rules, and Ordinances to Open-Enrollment Charter School.

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) or (c), an open-enrollment charter school is subject to federal and state laws and rules governing public schools and to municipal zoning ordinances governing public schools.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school is subject to this code and rules adopted under this code only to the extent the applicability to an open-enrollment charter school of a provision of this code or a rule adopted under this code is specifically provided.

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a campus of an open-enrollment charter school located in whole or in part in a municipality with a population of 20,000 or less is not subject to a municipal zoning ordinance governing public schools.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 2001; 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.104. Applicability of Title.

(a) An open-enrollment charter school has the powers granted to schools under this title.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school is subject to:

(1) a provision of this title establishing a criminal offense; and

(2) a prohibition, restriction, or requirement, as applicable, imposed by this title or a rule adopted under this title, relating to:

(A) the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) to the extent necessary to monitor compliance with this subchapter as determined by the commissioner;

(B) criminal history records under Subchapter C, Chapter 22;

(C) reading instruments and accelerated reading instruction programs under Section 28.006;

- (D) satisfactory performance on assessment instruments and to accelerated instruction under Section 28.0211;
- (E) high school graduation under Section 28.025;
- (F) special education programs under Subchapter A, Chapter 29;
- (G) bilingual education under Subchapter B, Chapter 29;
- (H) prekindergarten programs under Subchapter E, Chapter 29;
- (I) extracurricular activities under Section 33.081;
- (J) discipline management practices or behavior management techniques under Section 3.7.6021;
- (K) health and safety under Chapter 38; and
- (L) public school accountability under Subchapters B, C, D; and G, Chapter 39.

(c) An open-enrollment charter school is entitled to the same level of services provided to school districts by regional education service centers. The commissioner shall adopt rules that provide for the representation of open-enrollment charter schools on the boards of directors of regional education service centers.

(d) The commissioner may by rule permit an open-enrollment charter school to voluntarily participate in any state program available to school districts, including a purchasing program, if the school complies with all terms of the program.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 1999, 76th Leg. Sess., Ch. 396, effective September 1, 1999; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Chs. 212, 15,04, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12:105. Status.

An open-enrollment charter school is part of the public school system of this state.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 1999, 76th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335, effective June 19, 1999; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.1051. Applicability of Open Meetings and Public Information Laws.

(a) With respect to the operation of an open-enrollment charter school, the governing body of a charter holder and the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school are considered to be governmental bodies for purposes of Chapters 551 and 552, Government Code.

(b) With respect to the operation of an open-enrollment charter school, any requirement in Chapter 551 or 552,

Government Code, that applies to a school district; the board of trustees of a school district, or public school students applies to an open-enrollment charter school, the governing body of a charter holder, the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school, or students attending an open-enrollment charter school.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

12:1052. Applicability of Laws Relating to Local Government Records.

(a) With respect to the operation of an open-enrollment charter school; an open-enrollment charter school is considered to be a local government for purposes of Subtitle C, Title 6, Local Government Code, and Subchapter J, Chapter 441, Government Code.

(b) Records of an open-enrollment charter school and records of a charter holder that relate to an open-enrollment charter school are government records for all purposes under state law.

(c) Any requirement in Subtitle C, Title 6, Local Government Code, or Subchapter J, Chapter 441, Government Code; that applies to a school district, the board of trustees of a school district; or an officer or employee of a school district applies to an open-enrollment charter school, the governing body of a charter holder, the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school; or an officer or employee of an open-enrollment charter school except that the records of an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate shall be transferred in the manner prescribed by Subsection (d).

(d) The records of an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate shall be transferred in the manner specified by the commissioner to a custodian designated by the commissioner. The commissioner may designate any appropriate entity to serve as custodian, including the agency, a regional education service center, or a school district. In designating a custodian, the commissioner shall ensure that the transferred records, including student and personnel records, are transferred to a custodian capable of:

- (1) maintaining the records;
- (2) making the records readily accessible to students, parents, former school employees, and other persons entitled to access; and
- (3) complying with applicable state or federal law restricting access to the records.

(e) If the charter holder of an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate or an officer or employee of such a school refuses to transfer school records in the manner specified by the commissioner under Subsection (d), the commissioner may ask the attorney general to petition a court for recovery of the records. If the court grants the petition, the court shall award attorney's fees and court costs to the state.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.1053. Applicability of Laws Relating to Public Purchasing and Contracting

(a) This section applies to an open-enrollment charter school unless the school's charter otherwise describes procedures for purchasing and contracting and the procedures, are approved by the State Board of Education.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school is considered to be:

- (1) a governmental entity for purposes, of:
 - (A) Subchapter D, Chapter 2252, Government Code; and
 - (B) Subchapter B, Chapter 271, Local Government Code;
- (2) a political subdivision for purposes of Subchapter A, Chapter 2254, Government Code; and
- (3) a local government for purposes, of Sections 2256.009-2256.016, Government Code.

(c) To the extent consistent with this section, a requirement in a law listed in this section that applies to a school district or the board of trustees of a school district applies to an open-enrollment charter school, the governing body of a charter holder, or the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.1054. Applicability of Laws Relating to Conflict of Interest.

(a) A member of the governing body of a charter holder, a member of the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school, or an officer of an open-enrollment charter school is considered to be a local public official for purposes of Chapter 171, Local Government Code. For purposes of that chapter:

- (1) a member of the governing body of a charter holder or a member of the Governing body or officer of an open-enrollment charter school is considered to have a substantial interest in a business entity if a person related to the member or officer in the third degree by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, has a

substantial interest in the business entity under Section 171.002, Local Government Code;

(2) notwithstanding any provision of Section 12.1054(1), an employee of an open-enrollment charter school rated as academically acceptable or higher under Chapter 39 for at least two of the preceding three school years may serve as a member of the governing body of the charter holder of the governing body of the school if the employees do not constitute a quorum of the governing body or any committee of the governing body; however, all members shall comply with the requirements of Sections 171.003-171.007; Local Government Code.

(b) To the extent consistent with this section, a requirement in a law listed in this section that applies to a school district or the board of trustees of a school district applies to an open-enrollment charter school; the governing body of a charter holder, or the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001; 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§12.1055. Applicability of Nepotism Laws.

(a) An open-enrollment charter school is subject to a prohibition, restriction, or requirement, as applicable, imposed by state law or by a rule adopted under state law, relating to nepotism under Chapter 573, Government Code.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), if an open-enrollment charter school is rated academically acceptable or higher under Chapter 39 for at least two of the preceding three school years, then Chapter 573, Government Code, does not apply to that school; however, a member of the governing body of a charter holder or a member of the governing body or officer of an open-enrollment charter school shall comply with the requirements of Sections 171.003-171.007, Local Government Code, with respect to a personnel matter concerning a person related to the member or officer within the degree specified by Section 573.002, Government Code, as if the personnel matter were a transaction with a business entity subject to those sections, and persons defined under Sections 573.021-573.025, Government Code, shall not constitute a quorum of the governing body or any committee of the governing body.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001:

§ 12.1056: Immunity From Liability.

In matters related to operation of an open-enrollment charter school, an open-enrollment charter school is

immune from liability to the same extent as a school district, and its employees and volunteers are immune from liability to the same extent as school district employees and volunteers. A member of the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school or of a charter holder is immune from liability to the same extent as a school district trustee.

Leg.H. Slats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.1057. Membership in Teacher Retirement System of Texas.

(a) An employee of an open-enrollment charter school who qualifies for membership in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas shall be covered under the system to the same extent a qualified employee of a school district is covered.

(b) For each employee of the school covered under the system, the school is responsible for making any contribution that otherwise would be the legal responsibility of the school district, and the state is responsible for making contributions to the same extent it would be legally responsible if the employee were a school district employee.

Leg.H. Slats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.106. State Funding.

(a) A charter holder is entitled to receive for the open-enrollment charter school funding under Chapter 42 as if the school were a school district without a tier one local share for purposes of Section 42.253 and without any local revenue ("LR") for purposes of Section 42.302. In determining funding for an open-enrollment charter school, adjustments under Sections 42.102, 42.103, 42.104, and 42.105 and the district enrichment tax rate ("DTR") under Section 42.302 are based on the average adjustment and average district enrichment tax rate for the state.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school is entitled to funds that are available to school districts from the agency or the commissioner in the form of grants or other discretionary funding unless the statute authorizing the funding explicitly provides that open-enrollment charter schools are not entitled to the funding.

(c) The commissioner may adopt rules to provide and account for state funding of open-enrollment charter schools under this section. A rule adopted under this section may be similar to a provision of this code that is not similar to Section 12.104(b) if the commissioner

determines that the rule is related to financing of open-enrollment charter schools and is necessary or prudent to provide or account for state funds.

Leg.H. Slats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

2001 Note: SECTION 40.

(a) The change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act, applies beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, except as provided by this section.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school operating on September 1, 2001, is funded as follows:

(1) for the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 school years, the school receives funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001;

(2) for the 2003-2004 school year, the school receives 90 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 10 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(3) for the 2004-2005 school year, the school receives 80 percent of its law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 20 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code as amended by this Act;

(4) for the 2005-2006 school year, the school receives 70 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001; and 30 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(5) for the 2006-2007 school year, the school receives 60 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 40 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(6) for the 2007-2008 school year, the school receives 50 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 50 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(7) for the 2008-2009 school year, the school receives 40 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 60 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(8) for the 2009-2010 school year, the school receives 30 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 70 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(9) for the 2010-2011 school year, the school receives 20 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 80 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(10) for the 2011-2012 school year, the school receives 10 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 90 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act; and

(11) for the 2012-2013 school year and subsequent school years, the school receives 100 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act.

(c) The commissioner of education may adopt rule, as necessary to implement this section. Slats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 150.1.

§ 12.107. Status and Use of Funds.

(a) Funds received under Section 12.106 after September 1, 2001, by a charter holder:

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(1) are considered to be public funds for all purposes under state law;

(2) are held in trust by the charter holder for the benefit of the students of the open-enrollment charter school;

(3) may be used only for a purpose for which a school may use local funds under Section 45.105(c); and

(4) pending their use, must be deposited into a bank, as defined by Section 45.201, with which the charter holder has entered into a depository contract.

(b) A charter holder shall deliver to the agency a copy of the depository contract between the charter holder and any bank into which state funds are deposited.

Leg.H. Stars. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stars. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

2001 .Note: SECTION 40.

(a) The change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act, applies beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, except as provided by this section.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school operating on September 1, 2001, is funded as follows:

(1) for the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 school years, the school receives funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001;

(2) for the 2003-2004 school year, the school receives 90 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 10 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(3) for the 2004-2005 school year, the school receives 80 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 20 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(4) for the 2005-2006 school year, the school receives 70 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 30 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(5) for the 2006-2007 school year, the school receives 60 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 40 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(6) for the 2007-2008 school year, the school receives 50 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 50 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(7) for the 2008-2009 school year, the school receives 40 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 60 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(8) for the 2009-2010 school year, the school receives 30 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 70 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(9) for the 2010-2011 school year, the school receives 20 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 80 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act;

(10) for the 2011-2012 school year, the school receives 10 percent of its funding according to the law in effect on August 31, 2001, and 90 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act; and

(11) for the 2012-2013 school year and subsequent school years, the school receives 100 percent of its funding according to the change in law made by Sections 12.106 and 12.107, Education Code, as amended by this Act.

(c) The commissioner of education may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504.

§ 12.1071. Effect of Accepting State Funding.

(a) A charter holder who accepts state funds under Section 12.106 after the effective date of a provision of this subchapter agrees to be subject to that provision, regardless of the date on which the charter holder's charter was granted.

(b) A charter holder who accepts state funds under Section 12.106 after September 1, 2001, agrees to accept all liability under this subchapter for any funds accepted under that section before September 1, 2001. This subsection does not create liability for charter holder conduct occurring before September 1, 2001.

Leg.H. Stars. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.108. Tuition and Fees Restricted.

(a) An open-enrollment charter school may not charge tuition to an eligible student who applies under Section 12.117.

(h) The governing body of an open-enrollment charter school may require a student to pay any fee that the board of trustees of a school district may charge under Section 11.158(a). The governing body may not require a student to pay a fee that the board of trustees of a school district may not charge under Section 11.158(b).

Leg.H. Stars. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stars. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.109. Transportation.

An open-enrollment charter school shall provide transportation to each student attending the school to the same extent a school district is required by law to provide transportation to district students.

Leg.H. Stars. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995.

§ 12.110. Application.

(a) The State Board of Education shall adopt:

(1) an application form and a procedure that must be used to apply for a charter for an open-enrollment charter school; and

(2) criteria to use in selecting a program for which to grant a charter.

(b) The application form must provide for including the information required under Section 12.111 to be contained in a charter.

(c) As part of the application procedure, the board may require a petition supporting a charter for a school signed by a specified number of parents or guardians of school-age children residing in the area in which a school is proposed or may hold a public hearing to determine parental support for the school.

(d) The board may approve or deny an application based on criteria it adopts. The criteria the board adopts must include:

- (1) criteria relating to improving student performance and encouraging innovative programs; and
- (2) a statement from any school district whose enrollment is likely to be affected by the open-enrollment charter school, including information relating to any financial difficulty that a loss in enrollment may have on the district.

Leg.H. Slats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995.

§ 12.1101. Notification of Charter Application.

The commissioner by rule shall adopt a procedure for providing notice to the following persons on receipt by the State Board of Education of an application for a charter for an open-enrollment charter school under Section 12.110:

- (1) the board of trustees of each school district from which the proposed open-enrollment charter school is likely to draw students, as determined by the commissioner; and
- (2) each member of the legislature that represents the geographic area to be served by the proposed school, as determined by the commissioner.

Leg.H. Slats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504. effective September 1, 2001.

2001 Note: SECTION 42. Section 12.1101, Education Code. as added by this Act, applies only to an application for a charter for an open-enrollment charter school received by the State Board of Education on or after the effective date of this Act. An application received before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose. Stars. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504.

§ 12.111. Content.

Each charter granted under this subchapter must:

(1) describe the educational program to be offered, which must include the required curriculum as provided by Section 28.002:

- (2) specify the period for which the charter or any charter renewal is valid;
- (3) provide that continuation or renewal of the charter is contingent on acceptable student performance on assessment instruments adopted under Subchapter B, Chapter 39, and on compliance with any accountability provision specified by the charter, by a deadline or at intervals specified by the charter;
- (4) establish the level of student performance that is considered acceptable for purposes of Subdivision (3);
- (5) specify any basis, in addition to a basis specified by this subchapter, on which the charter may be placed on probation or revoked or on which renewal of the charter may be denied;
- (6) prohibit discrimination in admission policy on the basis of sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, academic, artistic, or athletic ability; or the district the child would otherwise attend in accordance with this code, although the charter may provide for the exclusion of a student who has a documented history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or, discipline problems under Subchapter A, Chapter 37;
- (7) specify the grade levels to be offered;
- (8) describe the governing structure of the program, including:
 - (A) the officer positions designated;
 - (B) the manner in which officers are selected and removed from office;
 - (C) the manner in which members of the governing body of the school are selected and removed from office;
 - (D) the manner in which vacancies on that governing body are filled;
 - (E) the term for which members of that governing body serve: and
 - (F) whether the terms were to be staggered;
- (9) specify the powers or duties of the governing body of the school that the governing body may delegate to an officer;
- (10) specify the manner in which the school will distribute to parents information related to the qualifications of each professional *employee* of the program, including any professional or educational degree held by each employee, a statement of any certification under Subchapter B, Chapter 21, held by each employee, and any relevant experience of each employee;

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(11) describe the process by which the person providing the program will adopt an annual budget;

(12) describe the manner in which an annual audit of the financial and programmatic operations of the program is to be conducted, including the manner in which the person providing the program will provide information necessary for the school district in which the program is located to participate, as required by this code or by State Board of Education rule, in the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS);

(13) describe the facilities to be used;

(14) describe the geographical area served by the program; and

(15) specify any type of enrollment criteria to be used. Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 1999, 76th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335, effective June 19, 1999; Scats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

1999 Note: SECTION 10.

(a) Each open-enrollment charter school for which a charter is granted before September 1, 1999, shall revise its charter as necessary to comply with Section 12.111, Education Code, as amended by this Act, not later than January 1, 2000.

(b) The entity to which a charter for an open-enrollment charter school is granted before September 1, 1999, shall file a copy of its bylaws or other document as required by Section 11119(a), Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2000. Scats. 1999, 76th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335.

§ 12.112. Form.

A charter for an open-enrollment charter school shall be in the form of a written contract signed by the chair of the State Board of Education and the chief operating officer of the school.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995.

§ 12.113. Charter Granted.

(a) Each charter the State Board of Education grants for an open-enrollment charter school must:

(1) satisfy this subchapter; and

(2) include the information that is required under Section 12.111 consistent with the information provided in the application and any modification the board requires.

(b) The grant of a charter under this subchapter does not create an entitlement to a renewal of a charter on the same terms as it was originally issued.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.114. Revision.

A revision of a charter of an open-enrollment charter school may be made only with the approval of the commissioner.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

2001 Note: SECTION 41.

(a) The change in law made by Section 12.114, Education Code, as amended by this Act, applies to a revision proposed by an open-enrollment charter school that has not been approved by the State Board of Education before September 1, 2001, regardless of the date on which the school proposed the revision.

(b) The change in law made by Section 12.127, Education Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a cause of action that accrues on or after September 1, 2001. A cause of action that accrued before September 1, 2001, is governed by the law in effect at the time the cause of action accrued, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose. Scats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504.

§ 12.115. Basis for Modification, Placement on Probation, Revocation, or Denial of Renewal.

(a) The commissioner may modify, place on probation, revoke, or deny renewal of the charter of an open-enrollment charter school if the commissioner determines that the charter holder:

(1) committed a material violation of the charter, including failure to satisfy accountability provisions prescribed by the charter;

(2) failed to satisfy generally accepted accounting standards of fiscal management;

(3) failed to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the students enrolled at the school; or

(4) failed to comply with this subchapter or another applicable law or rule.

(b) The action the commissioner takes under Subsection (a) shall be based on the best interest of the school's students, the severity of the violation, and any previous violation the school has committed.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 150-1, effective September 1,

§ 12.116. Procedure for Modification, Placement on Probation, Revocation, or Denial of Renewal.

(a) The commissioner shall adopt a procedure to be used for modifying, placing on probation, revoking, or denying renewal of the charter of an open-enrollment charter school.

(b) The procedure adopted under Subsection (a) must provide an opportunity for a hearing to the charter holder

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and to parents and guardians of students in the school. A hearing under this subsection must be held at the facility at which the program is operated.

(c) Chapter 2001, Government Code, does not apply to a hearing that is related to a modification, placement on probation, revocation, or denial of renewal under this subchapter.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.1161. Effect of Revocation, Denial of Renewal, or Surrender of Charter.

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), if the commissioner revokes or denies the renewal of a charter of an open-enrollment charter school, or if an open-enrollment charter school surrenders its charter, the school may not:

- (1) continue to operate under this subchapter; or
- (2) receive state funds under this subchapter.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school may continue to operate and receive state funds under this subchapter for the remainder of a school year if the commissioner denies renewal of the school's charter before the completion of that school year.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001,

§ 12.1162. Additional Sanctions.

(a) The commissioner shall take any of the actions described by Subsection (b) or by Section 39.131(a), to the extent the commissioner determines necessary, if an open-enrollment charter school, as determined by a report issued under Section 39.076(b):

- (1) commits a material violation of the school's charter;
- (2) fails to satisfy generally accepted accounting standards of fiscal management; or
- (3) fails to comply with this subchapter or another applicable rule or law.

(b) The commissioner may temporarily withhold funding; suspend the authority of an open-enrollment charter school to operate, or take any other reasonable action the commissioner determines necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of students enrolled at the school based on evidence that conditions at the school present a danger to the health, safety, or welfare of the students.

(c) After the commissioner acts under Subsection (b), the open-enrollment charter school may not receive

finding and may not resume operating until a determination is made that:

- (1) despite initial evidence, the conditions at the school do not present a danger of material harm to the health, safety, or welfare of students; or
- (2) the conditions at the school that presented a danger of material harm to the health, safety, or welfare of students have been corrected.

(d) Not later than the third business day after the date the commissioner acts under Subsection (b), the commissioner shall provide the charter holder an opportunity for a hearing.

(e) Immediately after a hearing under Subsection (d), the commissioner must cease the action under Subsection (b) or initiate action under Section 12.116.

(f) The commissioner shall adopt rules implementing this section. Chapter 2001, Government Code, does not apply to a hearing under this section.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.1163. Audit by Commissioner.

(a) To the extent consistent with Subsection (b), the commissioner may audit the records of:

- (1) an open-enrollment charter school;
- (2) a charter holder; and
- (3) a management company.

(b) An audit under Subsection (a) must be limited to matters directly related to the management or operation of an open-enrollment charter school, including any financial and administrative records.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.117. Admission.

(a) For admission to an open-enrollment charter school, the governing body of the school shall:

- (1) require the applicant to complete and submit an application not later than a reasonable deadline the school establishes; and
- (2) on receipt of more acceptable applications for admission under this section than available positions in the school:
 - (A) fill the available positions by lottery; or
 - (B) subject to Subsection (b), fill the available positions in the order in which applications received before the application deadline were received.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school may fill applications for admission under Subsection (a)(2)(B) only if the

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school published a notice of the opportunity to apply for admission to the school. A notice published under this subsection must:

- (1) state the application deadline; and
- (2) be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the community in which the school is located not later than the seventh day before the application deadline.

Leg.H. Stars. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.118. Evaluation of Open-Enrollment Charter Schools.

(a) The commissioner shall designate an impartial organization with experience in evaluating school choice programs to conduct an annual evaluation of open-enrollment charter schools.

(b) All evaluation under this section must include consideration of the following items before implementing the charter and after implementing the charter:

- (1) students' scores on assessment instruments administered under Subchapter B, Chapter 39;
- (2) student attendance;
- (3) students' grades;
- (4) incidents involving student discipline;
- (5) socioeconomic data on students' families;
- (6) parents' satisfaction with their children's schools; and
- (7) students' satisfaction with their schools.

(c) The evaluation of open-enrollment charter schools must also include an evaluation of:

- (1) the costs of instruction, administration, and transportation incurred by open-enrollment charter schools;
- (2) the effect of open-enrollment charter schools on school districts and on teachers, students, and parents in those districts; and
- (3) other issues, as determined by the commissioner.

Leg.H. Stats. 1995, 74th Leg. Sess., Ch. 260, effective May 30, 1995; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.119. Bylaws; Annual Report.

(a) A charter holder shall file with the State Board of Education a copy of its articles of incorporation and bylaws, or comparable documents if the charter holder does not have articles of incorporation or bylaws, within the period and in the manner prescribed by the board.

(b) Each year within the period and in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education, each open-enrollment charter school shall file with the board the following information:

(1) the name, address, and telephone number of each officer and member of the governing body of the open-enrollment charter school; and

(2) the amount of annual compensation the open enrollment charter school pays to each officer and member of the governing body.

(c) On request, the State Board of Education shall provide the information required by this section and Section 12.111(8) to a member of the public. The board may charge a reasonable fee to cover the board's cost in providing the information.

Leg.H. Stats. 1999, 76th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335, effective June 19, 1999; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

1999 Note: SECTION 10.

(a) Each open-enrollment charter school for which a charter is granted before September 1, 1999, shall revise its charter as necessary, to comply with Section 12.111, Education Code, as amended by this Act, not later than January 1, 2000.

(b) The entity to, which a charter for an open-enrollment charter school is granted before September 1, 1999, shall file a copy of its bylaws or other document as required by Section 12.119(a), Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2000. Stats. 1999, 76th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335.

§ 12.120. Restrictions on Serving As Member of Governing Body of Charter Holder or Open-Enrollment Charter School or As Officer or Employee.

(a) A person may not serve as a member of the governing body of a charter holder, as a member of the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school, or as an officer or employee of an open-enrollment charter school if the person:

- (1) has been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
- (2) has been convicted of an offense listed in Section 37.007(a);
- (3) has been convicted of an offense listed in Article 62.01(5), Criminal Procedure Code; or
- (4) has a substantial interest in a management company,

(b) For purposes of Subsection (a)(4), a person has a substantial interest in a management company if the person:

- (1) has a controlling interest in the company;
- (2) owns more than 10 percent of the voting interest in the company;

- (3) owns more than \$25,000 of the fair market value of the company;
- (4) has a direct or indirect participating interest by shares, stock, or otherwise, regardless of whether voting rights are included, in more than 10 percent of the profits, proceeds, or capital gains of the company;
- (5) is a member of the board of directors or other governing body of the company;
- (6) serves as an elected officer of the company; or
- (7) is an employee of the company.

Leg.H. Stats. 1999, 76th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1335, effective June 19, 1999; Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.121. Responsibility for Open-Enrollment Charter School.

The governing body of an open-enrollment charter school is responsible for the management, operation, and accountability of the school, regardless of whether the governing body delegates the governing body's powers and duties to another person.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001; 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.122. Liability of Members of Governing Body of Open-Enrollment Charter School:

- (a) Notwithstanding the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act (Article 1396-1-.01 et seq., Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) or other law, on request of the commissioner, the attorney general may bring suit against a member of the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school for breach of a fiduciary duty by the member, including misapplication of public funds.
- (b) The attorney general may bring suit under Subsection (a) for:
 - (1) damages;
 - (2) injunctive relief; or
 - (3) any other equitable remedy determined to be appropriate by the court.
- (c) This section is cumulative of all other remedies.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.123. Training for Members of Governing Body of School and Officers.

- (a) The commissioner shall adopt rules prescribing training for:

- (1) members of governing bodies of open-enrollment charter schools; and
- (2) officers of open-enrollment charter schools.
- (b) The rules adopted under Subsection (a) may:
 - (1) specify the minimum amount and frequency of the training;
 - (2) require the training to be provided by:
 - (A) the agency and regional education service centers;
 - (B) entities, other than the agency and service centers, subject to approval by the commissioner; or
 - (C) both the agency, service centers, and other entities; and
 - (3) require training to be provided concerning:
 - (A) basic school law, including school finance;
 - (B) health and safety issues; ,
 - (C) accountability requirements related to the use of public funds; and
 - (D) other requirements relating to accountability to the public, such as open meetings, requirements under Chapter 551, Government Code, and public information requirements under Chapter 552, Government Code.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 15045 effective September 1, 2001.

2001 Note: SECTION 37.
Not later than January 1, 2002, the commissioner of education shall adopt rules relating to training for the members of governing bodies and officers of, open-enrollment charter schools, as required by Section 12:123, Education Code, as added by this Act. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504.

§ 12.124. Loans From Management Company Prohibited:

- (a) The charter holder or the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school may not accept a loan from a management company that has a contract to provide management services to:
 - (1) that charter school; or
 - (2) another charter school that operates under a charter granted to the charter holder.
- (b) A charter holder or the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school that accepts a loan from a management company, may not enter into a contract with that management company to provide management services to the school.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

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§ 12.125. Contract for Management Services.

Any contract, including a contract renewal, between an open-enrollment charter school and a management company proposing to provide management services to the school must require the management company to maintain all records related to the management services separately from any other records of the management company.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504; effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.126. Certain Management Services Contracts Prohibited.

The commissioner may prohibit, deny renewal of, suspend, or revoke a contract between an open-enrollment charter school and a management company providing management services to the school if the commissioner determines that the management company has:

- (1) failed to provide educational or related services in compliance with the company's contractual or other legal obligation to any open-enrollment charter school in this state or to any other similar school in another state;
- (2) failed to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the students enrolled at an open-enrollment charter school served by the company;
- (3) violated this subchapter or a rule adopted under this subchapter; or
- (4) otherwise failed to comply with any contractual or other legal obligation to provide services to the school.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.127. Liability of Management Company.

(a) A management company that provides management services to an open-enrollment charter school is liable for damages incurred by the state as a result of the failure of the company to comply with its contractual or other legal obligation to provide services to the school.

(b) On request of the commissioner, the attorney general may bring suit on behalf of the state against a management company liable under Subsection (a) for:

- (1) damages, including any state funding received by the company and any consequential damages suffered by the state;
- (2) injunctive relief; or
- (3) any other equitable remedy determined to be appropriate by the court.

(c) This section is cumulative of all other remedies and does not affect:

(1) the liability of a management company to the charter holder; or

(2) the liability of a charter holder, a member of the governing body of a charter holder, or a member of the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school to the state.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

2001 Note: SECTION 41.

(a) The change in law made by Section 12.114, Education Code, as amended by this Act, applies to a revision proposed by an open-enrollment charter school that has not been approved by the State Board of Education before September 1, 2001, regardless of the date on which the school proposed the revision.

(b) The change in law made by Section 12.127, Education Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a cause of action that accrues on or after September 1, 2001. A cause of action that accrued before September 1, 2001, is governed by the law in effect at the time the cause of action accrued, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504.

§ 12.128. Property Purchased or Leased with State Funds.

(a) Property purchased or leased with funds received by a charter holder under Section 12.106 after September 1, 2001:

(1) is considered to be public property for all purposes under state law;

(2) is held in trust by the charter holder for the benefit of the students of the open-enrollment charter school; and

(3) may be used only for a purpose for which a school district may use school district property.

(b) if at least 50 percent of the funds used by a charter holder to purchase real property are funds received under Section 12.106 before September 1, 2001, the property is considered to be public property to the extent it was purchased with those funds.

(c) The commissioner shall:

(1) take possession and assume control of the property described by Subsection (a) of an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate; and

(2) supervise the disposition of the property in accordance with law.

(d) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary to administer this section.

(e) This section does not affect a security interest in or lien on property established by a creditor in compliance with law if the security interest or lien arose in connection with the sale or lease of the property to the charter holder.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.129. Minimum Teacher Qualifications.

A person employed as a teacher by an open-enrollment charter school must hold a high school diploma.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.130. Notice of Teacher Qualifications.

Each open-enrollment charter school shall provide to the parent or guardian of each student enrolled in the school written notice of the qualifications of each teacher employed by the school.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

SUBCHAPTER E. COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
CHARTER SCHOOL

§ 12.151. Definition.

In this subchapter, "public senior college or university" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.152.. Authorization:

(a) In accordance with this subchapter and Subchapter D, the State Board of Education may grant a charter on the application of a public senior college or university for an open-enrollment charter school: to operate on the campus of the public senior college or-university. or in the same county in which the campus of the public senior college or university is located.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001. .

§ 12.153. Rules.

The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this subchapter.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.154. Content.

Notwithstanding Section 12.11.0(d), the State Board of Education may grant a charter under this subchapter only if the, following criteria are satisfied in the public senior college's or university's application, as determined by the State Board of Education:

(1) the college or university charter school's educational program must include innovative teaching methods

(2) the college or university charter school's educational program must be implemented under the direct supervision of a member of the teaching or research faculty of the public senior college or university;

(3) the faculty member supervising the college or university charter school's educational program must have substantial experience and expertise in education research, teacher education, classroom instruction, or educational administration;

(4) the college or university charter school's educational program must be designed to meet specific goals described in the charter, including improving student performance, and each aspect of the program must be directed toward the attainment of the goals;

(5) the attainment of the college or university charter school's educational program goals must be measured using specific, objective standards set forth in the charter, including assessment methods and a time frame; and

(6) the financial operations of the college or university charter school must be supervised by the business office of the public senior college or university.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch.. f504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.155. School Name.

The name of a college or university charter school must include the name of the public senior college or university operating the school.

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504, effective September 1, 2001.

§ 12.156. Applicability of Certain Provisions.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, Subchapter D applies to a college or university charter school as though the college or university charter school were granted a charter under that subchapter.

(b) A charter granted under this subchapter. is not considered for purposes of the limit on the number of open-enrollment charter schools imposed by Section 12.101(b).

Leg.H. Stats. 2001, 77th Leg. Sess., Ch. 1504. effective September 1, 2001.

**CHAPTER 13. CREATION, CONSOLIDATION,
AND ABOLITION OF A DISTRICT**

SUBCHAPTER :A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section	Definition.
13.001:	
13.002:	Permitted Frequency of Proposed Actions.

Appendix B

Charter Schools Operating in 1999-00

School Name	Location	Grade Levels	Origination	Generation	Years of Operation	Enrollment	Percent Eco Dis	Report Classification
21 st Century Academy	Corpus Christi	9-12	Start-up	3	3	52	0.0%	CS < 75%
A.W. Brown Fellowship	Dallas	PK-3	Start-up	3	2	231	87.0%	CS ≥ 75%
A+ Academy	Lancaster	PK-8	Conversion	4	1	82	8.5%	CS < 75%
Academy of Accelerated Learning	Houston	K-5 9-12	Start-up	2	2	139	46.0%	CS < 75%
Academy of Beaumont	Beaumont	K-6	Start-up	3	2	183	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Academy of Bexar County	San Antonio	K-6	Start-up	3	2	115	85.2%	CS ≥ 75%
Academy of Careers and Technologies	San Antonio	9-12	Start-up	3	1	40	77.5%	CS ≥ 75%
Academy of Dallas	Dallas	K-6	Start-up	3	2	249	53.4%	CS < 75%
Academy of Houston	Houston	K-6	Start-up	2	3	589	20.4%	CS < 75%
Academy of Skills and Knowledge	Tyler	3-9	Conversion	2	3	118	5.9%	CS < 75%
Academy of Transitional Studies	Corpus Christi	6-12	Start-up	1	2	107	76.1%	CS ≥ 75%
Alief Montessori	Houston	K-6	Conversion	2	3	99	46.5%	CS < 75%
Alphonso Crutch's	Houston	6-12	Start-up	3	2	855	16.1%	CS < 75%
American Academy of Excellence	Houston	6-12	Start-up	3	1	223	61.9%	CS < 75%
American Youth Works	Austin	9-12	Conversion	1	5	231	48.5%	CS < 75%
Amigos Por Vida	Houston	PK-12	Start-up	3	2	315	94.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Arlington Classics Academy	Arlington	K-8	Start-up	3	2	272	5.5%	CS < 75%
Benji's Special Education Academy	Houston	PK-12	Start-up	3	3	214	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Blessed Sacrament Academy	San Antonio	9-12	Conversion	1	5	183	83.1%	CS ≥ 75%
Brazos River	Nemo	8-12	Start-up	4	1	57	54.4%	CS < 75%
Brazos School for Inquiry	Bryan	K-12	Start-up	3	2	86	51.2%	CS < 75%
Bright Ideas	Wichita Falls	K-12	Conversion	3	2	69	50.7%	CS < 75%

School Name	Location	Grade Levels	Origination	Generation	Years of Operation	Enrollment	Percent Eco Dis	Report Classification
Building Alternative	San Antonio	9-12	Start-up	1	5	184	77.7%	CS ≥ 75%
Burnham Wood	El Paso	K-12	Start-up	2	3	169	28.4%	CS < 75%
Calvin Nelms	Houston	9-12	Start-up	3	2	168	1.2%	CS < 75%
Career Plus Learning Academy	San Antonio	6-12		3	2	15	80.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Cedar Ridge	Lometa	7-12	Start-up	2	3	41	95.1%	CS ≥ 75%
Cedars International Academy	Austin	K-6	Start-up	4	1	--	--	--
Children First Academy Dallas	Dallas	K-5	Start-up	3	3	283	23.0%	CS < 75%
Children First Academy Houston	Houston	K-5	Start-up	3	2	339	13.0%	CS < 75%
Coastal Bend Youth City	Driscoll	Ages 10-17	Start-up	2	3	48	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Comquest Academy	Tomball	9-12	Start-up	3	2	57	0.0%	CS < 75%
Crossroads Community Educational Center	Houston	9-12	Start-up	3	2	62	82.3%	CS ≥ 75%
Dallas Advantage	Dallas	K-5	Start-up	3	2	613	91.5%	CS ≥ 75%
Dallas Can! Academy	Dallas	PK, 9-12	Conversion	1	5	409	52.4%	CS < 75%
Dallas Community	Dallas	PK-3	Start-up	2	2	103	63.1%	CS < 75%
Dallas County Juvenile Justice	Dallas	5-12	Start-up	3	2	457	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Eagle Advantage	Dallas	UG	Start-up	2	3	410	49.3%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Abilene	Abilene	7-12	Start-up	3	2	116	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Beaumont	Beaumont	7-12	Start-up	3	2	145	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Brownsville	Brownsville	7-12	Start-up	3	2	114	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Bryan	Bryan	7-12	Start-up	3	2	152	2.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Dallas	Dallas	7-12	Start-up	3	2	88	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Del Rio	Del Rio	7-12	Start-up	3	2	139	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Ft. Worth	Ft. Worth	7-12	Start-up	3	2	142	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Laredo	Laredo	7-12	Start-up	3	2	152	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Lubbock	Lubbock	7-12	Start-up	3	2	107	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Midland	Midland	7-12	Start-up	3	2	144	0.0%	CS < 75%

School Name	Location	Grade Levels	Origination	Generation	Years of Operation	Enrollment	Percent Eco Dis	Report Classification
Eagle Project Pharr	Pharr	7-12	Start-up	3	2	159	1.9%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project San Antonio	San Antonio	7-12	Start-up	3	2	142	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Texarkana	Texarkana	7-12	Start-up	3	2	121	0.8%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Tyler	Tyler	7-12	Start-up	3	2	129	0.0%	CS < 75%
Eagle Project Waco	Waco	7-12	Start-up	3	2	126	0.0%	CS < 75%
East Texas Charter HS	Longview	9-12	Start-up	3	2	144	12.5%	CS < 75%
Ed White School of Educational Enhancement	Seabrook	PK-12	Start-up	2	3	108	14.9%	CS < 75%
Eden Park Academy	Austin	K-5	Start-up	2	3	191	8.4%	CS < 75%
El Paso Academy East	El Paso	9-12	Start-up	4	1	99	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
El Paso School of Excellence	El Paso	PK-6	Start-up	4	1	185	81.1%	CS ≥ 75%
Encino School	Encino	PK-8	Start-up	2	3	69	92.8%	CS ≥ 75%
Erath Excels! Academy	Stephenville	9-12	Start-up	3	2	84	66.7%	CS < 75%
Faith Family Academy	Dallas	PK-12	Conversion	3	3	745	74.1%	CS < 75%
Focus Learning Academy	Dallas	K-6	Start-up	3	2	195	0.5%	CS < 75%
Fort Worth Can! Academy	Fort Worth	9-12	Start-up	3	1	201	61.2%	CS < 75%
Fruit of Excellence School	Austin	1-12	Start-up	3	2	41	78.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Gabriel Tafolla	Uvalde	5-12	Start-up	2	3	158	88.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Gateway	Laredo	9-12	Start-up	3	2	119	44.5%	CS < 75%
George I. Sanchez	Houston	9-12	Conversion	1	5	221	64.7%	CS < 75%
George I. Sanchez San Antonio	San Antonio	8-12	Start-up	3	1	6	0.0%	CS < 75%
Girls & Boys Prep Academy	Houston	6-12	Start-up	1	5	320	51.6%	CS < 75%
Guardian Angel Performance Academy	San Antonio	6-8	Start-up	3	2	54	74.1%	CS < 75%
Gulf Shores Academy	Houston	7-12	Start-up	3	2	696	99.7%	CS ≥ 75%
Harmony Science--Houston	Houston	6-8	Start-up	4	1	186	33.3%	CS < 75%
Harris County Juvenile Justice	Houston	5-12	Start-up	2	3	111	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Heights Academy	Houston	7-12	Start-up	3	2	226	85.4%	CS ≥ 75%
Higgs, Carter, King Gifted and Talented	San Antonio	PK-6	Start-up	2	3	194	90.2%	CS ≥ 75%

School Name	Location	Grade Levels	Origination	Generation	Years of Operation	Enrollment	Percent Eco Dis	Report Classification
Honors Academy	Dallas	PK-12	Start-up	3	2	122	25.7%	CS < 75%
Houston Advantage	Houston	K-5	Start-up	3	2	700	65.7%	CS < 75%
Houston Can! Academy	Houston	9-12	Start-up	2	3	340	46.5%	CS < 75%
Houston Heights Learning Academy	Houston	PK-5	Start-up	3	2	90	81.1%	CS ≥ 75%
I Am That I Am Academy	Dallas	4-10	Start-up	3	2	126	94.4%	CS ≥ 75%
I.D.E.A Academy	Donna	4-8	Start-up	4	1	187	89.8%	CS ≥ 75%
Impact Charter	Houston	PK-4	Start-up	3	3	167	91.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Inspired Vision Academy	Dallas	PK-6	Start-up	4	1	126	7.9%	CS < 75%
Jamie's House	Houston	6-12	Start-up	3	2	44	97.7%	CS ≥ 75%
Jean Massieu Academy	Irving	K-12	Start-up	3	2	108	44.4%	CS < 75%
Jesse Jackson Academy	Houston	9-12	Start-up	3	3	215	72.6%	CS < 75%
John H. Wood	San Antonio	K-12	Start-up	2	3	173	86.1%	CS ≥ 75%
Katherine Anne Porter School	Wimberley	9-12	Start-up	3	2	114	14.0%	CS < 75%
Kenny Dorham School	Austin	6,8	Start-up	3	2	25	12.0%	CS < 75%
Kipp, Inc.	Houston	K, 5-10	Conversion	2	3	316	91.1%	CS ≥ 75%
La Amistad Love & Learning Academy	Houston	PK-K	Start-up	3	2	106	96.2%	CS ≥ 75%
La Escuela de Las Americas	San Antonio	PK-12	Start-up	3	3	63	90.5%	CS ≥ 75%
Life of Oak Cliff	Dallas	K-12	Start-up	2	3	708	47.9%	CS < 75%
Mainland Preparatory Academy	Texas City	PK-6	Start-up	2	3	259	51.4%	CS < 75%
McCullough Academy of Excellence	Austin	K-3	Start-up	3	2	185	34.1%	CS < 75%
Medical Center	Houston	K-5	Start-up	1	5	131	38.5%	CS < 75%
Midland Advantage	Midland	K-7	Start-up	3	2	702	65.1%	CS < 75%
Mid-Valley Academy	Mercedes	9-12	Start-up	3	2	45	64.4%	CS < 75%
Nancy Ney	New Braunfels	4-12	Start-up	2	3	35	48.6%	CS < 75%
New Frontiers	San Antonio	K-8	Start-up	2	3	784	81.9%	CS ≥ 75%
North Hills School	Irving	5-8	Start-up	1	4	753	2.5%	CS < 75%

School Name	Location	Grade Levels	Origination	Generation	Years of Operation	Enrollment	Percent Eco Dis	Report Classification
North Houston HS for Business	Houston	9-12	Start-up	3	2	79	62.0%	CS < 75%
Northwest Mathematics, Science, and Language Academy	Houston	PK-5	Start-up	3	2	132	37.9%	CS < 75%
Nova Southeast	Dallas	PK-5	Start-up	4	1	117	70.9%	CS < 75%
Nova School (West Oak Cliff)	Dallas	PK-6	Start-up	2	3	192	85.4%	CS ≥ 75%
NYOS	Austin	K-7	Start-up	2	3	152	4.6%	CS < 75%
Odyssey Academy	Galveston	6-12	Start-up	3	2	179	53.1%	CS < 75%
One-Stop Multiservice	McAllen	PK, 9-12	Start-up	1	5	172	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Panola Charter School	Carthage	8-12	Start-up	4	1	90	71.1%	CS < 75%
Paradigm Accelerated School	Dublin	9-12	Start-up	4	1	50	80.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Paso Del Norte	El Paso	9-12	Start-up	3	2	197	52.8%	CS < 75%
Pegasus	Dallas	7-9	Start-up	1	4	168	50.6%	CS < 75%
Pineywoods Community Academy	Lufkin	K-8	Start-up	3	2	275	4.4%	CS < 75%
Positive Solutions	San Antonio	7-12	Start-up	3	3	204	38.2%	CS < 75%
Prepared Table	Houston	PK-12	Start-up	3	2	876	99.9%	CS ≥ 75%
Radiance Academy of Learning	San Antonio	PK-12	Start-up	3	1	123	83.7%	CS ≥ 75%
Ranch Academy	Canton	6-12	Start-up	3	2	40	0.0%	CS < 75%
Rappoport Academy	Waco	PK-1	Start-up	2	3	121	93.4%	CS ≥ 75%
Raul Yzaguirre	Houston	6-9	Start-up	1	5	621	74.7%	CS < 75%
Richard Milburn Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi	9-12	Start-up	2	2	134	5.2%	CS < 75%
Richard Milburn Killeen	Killeen	9-12	Start-up	2	1	100	38.0%	CS < 75%
Richard Milburn Lubbock	Lubbock	9-12	Start-up	2	2	131	58.0%	CS < 75%
Richard Milburn Midland	Midland	9/12	Start-up	2	2	91	27.5%	CS < 75%
Rise Academy	Lubbock	K-8	Start-up	3	2	85	91.8%	CS ≥ 75%
Rylie Faith Family Academy	Dallas	PK-12	Conversion	3	3	793	74.4%	CS < 75%
San Antonio School for Inquiry	San Antonio	K-12	Start-up	3	1	21	42.9%	CS < 75%

School Name	Location	Grade Levels	Origination	Generation	Years of Operation	Enrollment	Percent Eco Dis	Report Classification
SCAN			Start-up	4	1	2	0.0%	CS < 75%
School of Excellence in Educ	San Antonio	PK-9	Start-up	2	3	275	67.1%	CS < 75%
Seashore Learning Center	Corpus Christi	PK-6	Conversion	1	5	147	29.9%	CS < 75%
Sentry Technology Prep School	Brownsville	9-12	Start-up	3	3	206	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Ser-Ninos	Houston	PK-4	Start-up	1	5	330	83.9%	CS ≥ 75%
Shekinah "Radiance" Academy	San Antonio	PK-12	Start-up	3	3	150	74.0%	CS < 75%
South Plains	Lubbock	9-12	Start-up	3	2	142	62.0%	CS < 75%
Southwest High School	Houston	9-12	Start-up	3	2	87	51.1%	CS < 75%
Southwest Preparatory Academy	San Antonio	9-12	Conversion	2	2	231	26.0%	CS < 75%
Star Charter School	Austin	1-10	Conversion	3	3	140	0.0%	CS < 75%
Technology Education	Weslaco	9-12	Start-up	2	3	119	98.3%	CS ≥ 75%
Tekoa Academy	Port Arthur	K-6	Start-up	3	2	117	76.9%	CS < 75%
Texas Academy of Excellence	Austin	PK-2	Start-up	1	5	229	65.1%	CS < 75%
Texas Empowerment Academy	Austin	5-12	Start-up	2	3	75	68.0%	CS < 75%
Texas Language	Duncanville	K-6	Start-up	3	2	64	79.7%	CS ≥ 75%
Texas Serenity Academy	Conroe	6-12, GED	Start-up	3	2	7	14.3%	CS < 75%
Texas Serenity Academy Bayshore	Corpus Christi	6-12, GED	Start-up	3	2	17	23.5%	CS < 75%
The Raven School	New Waverly	9-12	Conversion	2	3	194	100.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Theresa B. Lee Academy	Ft. Worth	9-12	Start-up	3	3	176	60.2%	CS < 75%
TOVAS	Temple	PK-9	Start-up	3	2	89	52.8%	CS < 75%
Transformative Charter Academy	Killeen	9-12	Start-up	2	3	73	0.0%	CS < 75%
Treetops School International	DFW Airport	PK-12	Conversion	2	3	234	1.7%	CS < 75%
Two Dimensions Preparatory Academy	Houston	PK-8	Conversion	3	3	223	71.3%	CS < 75%

School Name	Location	Grade Levels	Origination	Generation	Years of Operation	Enrollment	Percent Eco Dis	Report Classification
University of Houston Tech	Houston	K-12	Start-up	1	5	132	14.4%	CS < 75%
Universal Academy	Dallas	PK-12	Start-up	2	3	768	41.5%	CS < 75%
University Charter School	Austin	9-12	Conversion	2	3	19	0.0%	CS < 75%
Valley High School	Harlingen	PK-12, GED	Start-up	3	1	257	93.0%	CS ≥ 75%
Varnett Charter School	Houston	PK-5	Conversion	2	3	626	11.5%	CS < 75%
Waco Charter School	Waco	K-5	Start-up	1	4	168	91.7%	CS ≥ 75%
Wa-Set Preparatory Academy	Houston	K-3	Start-up	3	2	84	72.6%	CS < 75%
Waxahachie Faith Family Academy	Waxahachie	PK-12	Conversion	3	2	241	53.9%	CS < 75%
West Houston Charter School	Houston	K-12	Start-up	1	5	114	0.0%	CS < 75%
Winfree Academy	Irving	9-12	Conversion	4	1	267	20.5%	CS < 75%
YES College Prep School	Houston	5-12	Start-up	4	1	380	75.8%	CS ≥ 75%

Appendix C
Survey Instruments

Charter School Director Survey, Year 5

Charter School Student Survey
2001-2002

Parents of Texas Charter School Children Survey

Parents of Spring Branch ISD, Dallas ISD, Houston ISD Public School Children

2001 Evaluation of Open-Enrollment Charter Schools
Survey of Public School Districts

CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR SURVEY, YEAR 5

SCHOOL NAME _____ ID _____

FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT OPENED DURING THE 2000 – 2001 SCHOOL YEAR, COMPLETE SECTIONS A & B. ALL OTHERS SKIP TO SECTION C.

SECTION A. REASON FOR FOUNDING CHARTER SCHOOL (for schools opened 2000 - 2001)

1. Charter schools have been founded for many different reasons. Would you say that the following reasons for founding your charter school were of limited or no importance, of secondary importance, or of primary importance? Circle the number of your response.

	LIMITED OR NO IMPORTANCE 1	SECONDARY IMPORTANCE 2	PRIMARY IMPORTANCE 3
a. Realize an educational vision	1	2	3
b. Serve a special student population	1	2	3
c. Seek public funding	1	2	3
d. Seek grants	1	2	3
e. Involve parents	1	2	3
f. Attract more students	1	2	3
g. Gain autonomy: 1. from local school district	1	2	3
2. from state law and regs	1	2	3
3. in personnel matters	1	2	3
4. in educational programming	1	2	3
5. in fiscal management	1	2	3
6. to develop non-tradition relationships with community	1	2	3

2. We would like some information on the origin of your charter school.
 a. Did a single individual or a group provide the impetus for founding your charter school?

_____ Single individual _____ Group

Please describe _____

CONTINUE ON BACK

**SECTION B. CHALLENGES INVOLVED IN OPENING YOUR CHARTER SCHOOL
(FOR SCHOOLS OPENED 2000 – 2001)**

1. In the process of establishing your charter school, you may have encountered difficulties. Would you say that the following factors were not at all difficult, difficult, or very difficult to overcome in establishing your charter school? Circle the number of your response.

	NOT AT ALL DIFFICULT 1	DIFFICULT 2	VERY DIFFICULT 3
a. Lack of startup funds	1	2	3
b. Lack of planning time	1	2	3
c. Inadequate operating funds	1	2	3
d. Inadequate facilities	1	2	3
e. Hiring teaching staff	1	2	3
f. State Board of Education approval process	1	2	3
g. Local board opposition	1	2	3
h. Community opposition	1	2	3
i. Teacher association resistance	1	2	3
j. Internal conflicts	1	2	3
K. Federal education regulations	1	2	3
l. Texas Education Agency regulations	1	2	3
m. State or federal health & safety regs	1	2	3

2. How much startup funding did your charter school receive (in dollars)? \$ _____

What was the source of your startup funding? _____

FOR SCHOOLS OPENED 2000 –2001, SKIP TO SECTION D

CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR SURVEY

FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS OPENED BEFORE THE 2000 – 2001 SCHOOL YEAR

SECTION C. CHALLENGES IN OPERATING CHARTER SCHOOLS

1. When did your charter school begin operation? (enter year) _____

2. The second and subsequent years of charter school operation may be somewhat different from the first year for some schools. Would you say the following were easier to handle, about the same difficulty, or somewhat more difficult? Circle the number of your response.

	EASIER TO HANDLE 1	ABOUT THE SAME 2	MORE DIFFICULT 3
a. Realizing the original vision for the school	1	2	3
b. Securing adequate funding	1	2	3
c. Attracting students	1	2	3
d. Involving parents	1	2	3
e. Attracting and retaining teachers/other staff	1	2	3

3. In the second and subsequent years of operation, you may be encountering difficulties with certain aspects of school operation. These may be difficulties continuing from last year, or they may be new difficulties that have arisen. Would you say that the following factors were easier, about the same, difficult, or very difficult to overcome this year in your charter school? Circle the number of your response.

	EASIER 1	ABOUT THE SAME 2	DIFFICULT 3	VERY DIFFICULT 4
a. Lack of planning time	1	2	3	4
b. Inadequate operating funds	1	2	3	4
c. Inadequate facilities	1	2	3	4
d. Hiring teaching staff	1	2	3	4
e. Local board opposition	1	2	3	4
f. Community opposition	1	2	3	4
g. Teacher association resistance	1	2	3	4
h. Internal conflicts	1	2	3	4
i. Federal education regulations	1	2	3	4
j. Texas Education Agency regulations	1	2	3	4
k. Health & safety regulations	1	2	3	4
l. Repayment of state aid overpayment	1	2	3	4
m. Other _____ (please name)	1	2	3	4

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR SURVEY

FOR ALL CHARTER SCHOOLS

SECTION D. GOVERNANCE

1. Do you have a sponsoring organization? _____ YES _____ NO

Name: _____

2. Do you have a governing board? _____ YES _____ NO (If no, go to Section E)

a. If so, what is the role of the governing board?

b. How are members of the governing board selected?

c. Please indicate the number of board members in the following categories:

	On Governing Board
Total number?	
How many are men?	
How many are parents of students in your school	
How many are teachers in your school	

d. How many board members are:

African-American? _____ Hispanic? _____ Asian-American? _____

e. What is the board members' term of office? Years _____

f. How often does the governing board meet? _____

g. What are the officer positions of the board? _____

h. How is the chair selected? _____

i. Has the governing board adopted bylaws or rules of procedure?

_____ YES _____ NO

j. Has the governing board approved written operating policies for the school?

_____ YES _____ NO

k. Does the governing board review and approve the charter school budget?

_____ YES _____ NO

SECTION E. FINANCE

1. What percent of your budget comes from the following sources?

a. Federal government _____ d. Private grants _____

b. State government _____ e. Chartering organization _____

c. Parent donations _____ f. Other (list below) _____

Other source and percent: _____

2. Do you receive any in-kind support from your chartering organization? _____ YES _____ NO

If yes, please describe: _____

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

3. Are you currently receiving Title I funds? _____ YES _____ NO

If no, is it because of:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| a. Not being eligible | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| b. Administrative issues | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| c. Complexity of federal regulations | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| d. Philosophic reasons | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| e. Other | _____ YES | _____ NO |

If other, please explain _____

4. Please answer the following questions about students with special needs.

- b. How many special education students does your charter school serve? _____
- c. Are you currently receiving federal funds for special education?
_____ YES _____ NO
- d. How many limited English proficient (LEP) students does your school serve? _____
- e. Are you currently receiving federal funds for LEP students?
_____ YES _____ NO

SECTION F. TEACHERS

1. How many teachers were on your faculty in the 2000 – 2001 school year? _____

- a. How many had a college degree? _____
- b. How many were certified or had vocational licenses? _____
- c. How many were in the following categories of teaching experience?

New to the profession	_____
1 – 5 years teaching experience	_____
6 – 10 years teaching experience	_____
11 – 15 years teaching experience	_____
16 – 20 years teaching experience	_____
More than 20 years teaching experience	_____

2. Of the teachers who started in Fall 2000,

- a. How many will return for the 2001 – 2002 school year? _____
- b. How many will not be returning? _____
1. How many will leave to teach in other public or private schools? _____
2. How many left voluntarily? _____
3. How many were terminated? _____

SECTION G. STUDENTS

1. How many students left your charter school during the last school year? _____

a. Of the students who left, how many left for the following reasons?

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Disciplinary problems | _____ |
| 2. Academic problems | _____ |
| 3. Moved | _____ |
| 4. Transportation problems | _____ |
| 5. Student got a job | _____ |
| 6. Medical reasons | _____ |
| 7. Student completed diploma or GED | _____ |
| 8. School didn't meet academic expectations | _____ |
| 9. Other | _____ |

If other, please explain _____

b. Of the students who left, how many:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1. Went to public schools | _____ |
| 2. Went to private schools | _____ |
| 3. Dropped out | _____ |

2. What happens to students who do not meet the academic requirements of your school?

3. What percent of eligible students in the 2000 – 2001 school year will return for classes in Fall 2001?

4. _____
What percent of students were retained in grade? _____

5. Did you have a waiting list for the past school year (2000 – 2001)? _____ YES _____ NO

6. Do you have a waiting list for Fall 2001? _____ YES _____ NO

7. Have you added grade levels for Fall 2001? _____ YES _____ NO

a. If yes, which grades? _____

b. If yes, indicate number of students increased? _____

8. Which of the following recruitment techniques did you use for the Fall 2001 classes? Fill in as many as apply)

Newspaper ads	_____	Posters	_____
Parent meetings	_____	Word of mouth	_____
Radio	_____	Other	_____
Flyers	_____		

If other, please describe _____

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

SECTION H. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

1. Are you using state-adopted Texas curriculum materials? ____ YES ____ NO
2. Do you use other curricula? ____ YES ____ NO
 - a. If yes, please specify _____
 - b. Which of the following practices are you employing in your charter school?
Fill in as many as apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Experiential learning	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-age grouping
<input type="checkbox"/> Individualized learning	<input type="checkbox"/> Mainstreaming students
<input type="checkbox"/> Project-based learning	<input type="checkbox"/> After school scheduling
<input type="checkbox"/> Use of simulations	<input type="checkbox"/> Nontraditional daily schedule
<input type="checkbox"/> Use of technology for learning	<input type="checkbox"/> Nontraditional weekly schedule
<input type="checkbox"/> Alternative assessments	<input type="checkbox"/> Nontraditional yearly schedule
<input type="checkbox"/> Performance-based assessments	<input type="checkbox"/> Community service requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Graduation/learning standards	<input type="checkbox"/> Interdisciplinary teaching
<input type="checkbox"/> Site-based decision-making	

SECTION I. STUDENT DISCIPLINE

1. What proportion of time is spent on student discipline?
By administration? _____ By teachers? _____
2. How serious do you think student discipline problems are in your school?
____ Not very serious ____ Somewhat serious ____ Very serious
3. How often are classes typically interrupted by discipline problems?
____ Almost never ____ Occasionally ____ A great deal
4. To what extent does the need for student discipline interfere with the educational process at your school?
____ Not at all ____ Occasionally ____ Pretty regularly ____ A great deal
5. How many incidents have you dealt with this past year involving:

a. Alcohol	d. Knives
b. Drugs	e. Assault
c. Guns	

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

SECTION J. PARENTS

1. What parent participation practices do you have at your charter school? (fill in all that apply)

- Regularly scheduled parent-teacher meetings
 Regularly scheduled home-school communications
 Regularly scheduled parent meetings
 Offering workshops or support groups for parents
 Offering referrals to other social or health services agencies
 Offering opportunities for parents to volunteer at the school
 Offering parent at-home learning activities to support school objectives
 Requiring parents to sign homework
 Requiring parents to work at the school
 Written plan or contract for parent involvement
 Serving on school-wide committees
 Acting as teacher/instructors
 Other, please describe
-

2. What percent of parents are involved in the following activities?

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| a. Tutoring | _____ |
| b. Community projects | _____ |
| c. Fund raising | _____ |
| d. Mentoring | _____ |
| e. Class presentations | _____ |
| f. Teaching assistants | _____ |
| g. Maintenance of physical plant | _____ |
| h. Other, please describe | _____ |
-

SECTION K. BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

1. Do you have community or business partnerships for any of the following activities?
(Fill in all that apply)

- Mentoring
 Tutoring
 Job shadowing
 Field trips
 Monetary donations
 Equipment donations
 Donations of time (volunteer)

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

2. What organizations have assisted your charter school in the past year? (Fill in all that apply)
- ____ The Charter School Resource Center of Texas
 ____ The Texas Education Agency
 ____ A college or university
 ____ A school district
 ____ A regional education service center
 ____ Other, please describe _____

SECTION L. SCHOOL DISTRICT IMPACT

1. Are you aware of any changes that have occurred in the districts from which your students are drawn as a consequence of your charter school? ____ YES ____ NO

If yes, please describe: _____

2. How would you describe your relationship with the school district from which your students are drawn?

____ Hostile ____ Neutral ____ Somewhat cooperative ____ Cooperative

SECTION M. DIRECTOR OR PRINCIPAL

1. Is mid-management certification required for the job you have? ____ YES ____ NO
2. What is your highest educational level? _____
3. How much prior public school experience do you have? (enter years)
 - a. Teaching _____
 - b. Administration _____
4. How much prior private school experience do you have? (enter years)
 - a. Teaching _____
 - b. Administration _____
5. Do you teach regularly scheduled classes at your charter school? ____ YES ____ NO
6. Are you the CEO of your charter school? ____ YES ____ NO
 - a. If no, who is the CEO? _____
 - b. Do you report directly to him/her? ____ YES ____ NO

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

COMMENTS

Is there anything else you would like to add?

If we should have questions, who was primarily responsible for completing this form?

Name _____
Title _____
Address _____

Email _____
Phone _____

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME

If you have questions regarding the survey, please call Dr. Del Taebel at 817-272-3071.

Please return the completed survey to:

Dr. Del Taebel
University of Texas at Arlington
School of Urban and Public Affairs
P.O. Box 19588
Arlington, Texas 76019-0588

OR

Fax the completed survey to:
817-272-5008 ATTN: Dr. Del Taebel

16. Whose idea was it for you to attend this school? (Select one)
 My idea My family's idea My family and I decided together Someone else's idea

17. How would you grade this school from A to F?
 A B C D F Don't know

18. How would you rate the school you attended last year from A to F? (Answer if not this school)
 A B C D F Don't know

19. So far how satisfied are you with this school?
 Very satisfied Satisfied Not satisfied

20. Does your best friend go to this school? Yes No

21. Do you plan on staying at this school next year? (Select one)
 Yes No I will switch schools No I will graduate I don't know

22. Do you think this sports and clubs are better at this school or at other schools? (Select one)
 Better at this school About the same as other schools Better at other schools Not sure

23. How interested are you in schoolwork? (Select one)
 Very interested Interested A little interested Not at all interested

24. What do you want to do when you finish high school?
 Get a job Go to a community college Not Sure
 Go to a technical school Join the military
 Go to a four year college Other

25. What activities are you involved in? (Mark as many as apply)
 School sports Neighborhood sports Boy's & Girl's club Other
 Drama/theater Dance clubs Language clubs
 Church group Yearbook staff Boy or Girl scouts
 Volunteer work Band/orchestra/choir Ethnic clubs

26. Below are some statements. Please check how well each describes you.

	Yes	Sometimes	No
a. I am smart	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
b. I am well-behaved in school	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
c. I have good ideas	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
d. School is boring	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
e. Too many adults tell me what to do	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
f. I am an important member of my class	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
g. I can give a good report in front of my class	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
h. I like being the way I am	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
i. I can succeed if I try hard enough	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
j. My classmates think I have good ideas	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
k. I am satisfied with my grades	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
l. I work hard in school	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
m. I can be anything I want when I get older	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
n. I like to try to figure things out on my own	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3
o. I am proud of my ethnic background	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3

27. What do you think the future is going to be like?
 Much better than now The same as now Much worse than now
 Better than now Worse than now

As you think about your future, please tell us how important each of the following goals are to you:

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Not at all Important
28. Being successful in your work	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
29. Using your abilities in work	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
30. Having lots of money	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
31. Having plenty of time for playing	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
32. Getting married	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
33. Having children	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
34. Having strong friendships	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
35. Making a contribution to society	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
36. Being a leader in the community	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
37. Being active in the community	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
38. Living close to parents or relatives	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
39. Owning your own home	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
40. Working to correct social and economic inequalities	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4

Finally, just a few more questions.

41. Are you male or female? Male Female

42. Do you think of yourself as: (Select one)

- White or Anglo Black or African-American Other group
Hispanic or Mexican-American Asian or Asian-American

43. What is your age? (Select one)

- Nine or younger Twelve Fifteen Eighteen
Ten Thirteen Sixteen Nineteen
Eleven Fourteen Seventeen Twenty or older

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP

Parents of Texas Charter School Children
April 19, 2002

_____ ID:

Parent's Name _____

Phone Number: Area Code _____ Number _____

Charter School Name _____

Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from the University of Houston's Center for Public Policy on behalf of the Texas Education Agency. May I speak to the parent or guardian of (STUDENT'S NAME)?

Hello. My name is _____ and I am calling to request your participation in a research project being conducted by Dr. Gregory Weiher at the University of Houston. The Texas Education Agency is required by state law to evaluate the Charter School program and we would like to ask you some questions to assess your experience with your child's charter school. The Texas Education Agency provided Dr. Weiher with school rosters and your child was selected based on a random sampling procedure. Your participation is voluntary and you may end this interview at any time. The purpose of this survey is to compare the experience and satisfaction levels of charter school parents and parents of children in traditional schools. Our interview will take approximately 20 minutes and is not intended to cause any personal distress. This is not a sales call.

May I continue?

- Yes (continue)
- No (thank person and terminate call)

As I mentioned, we are conducting a survey of parents or guardians of (charter/public) school children. Your responses are strictly confidential. A summary of the data we gather will be reported to the Texas Education Agency, the State Board of Education, and state legislators. However at no time will individual subjects be identified. If you have any questions regarding this study, please contact Dr. Gregory Weiher, Senior Research Associate of the University of Houston's Center for Public Policy at 713.743.3970. If you have any questions regarding your participation as a subject you can contact the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects at 713.743.9204. Would you like to participate in this interview?

- Yes (continue)
- No (thank person and terminate call)

If yes –

For parents of children in Charter Schools, we would like to gather information about your experience with your child's charter school. Please answer the questions regarding the charter school your child attended last year. If you have more than one child in a charter school, the questions will be about your OLDEST child who attended a Charter School last year. Let me remind you that you can refuse to answer any question or terminate this interview at any time.

First, am I correct in saying that at some point in the past you made a decision to send your child to a charter school? **(IF NO, TERMINATE)**

Respondent Gender: Male___1 Female___2

1. We need to start with some background information. First, in what year were you born?

19____

2. Do you own or rent your home? (RECORD)

Own___1 Rent___2 OTHER___3

3. We'd like to start with some questions about the community where you live. How many years have you lived in your community?_____

4. Do you expect to be living in your community five years from now?

Yes___1 UNSURE___2 No___3

5. Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity? (READ OPTIONS)

White or Anglo___1 Black or African-American___2 Hispanic or Mexican-American___3
Asian or Asian-American___4 Native-American___5 OTHER___6

6. Is the community where you live predominately white, African-American, Hispanic, Asian-or American?

White or Anglo___1 Black or African-American___2 Hispanic or Mexican-American___3
Asian or Asian-American___4 Native-American___5 OTHER___6

7. Overall, how would you rate your community as a place to live—excellent, good, only fair or poor?

Excellent___1 Good___2 UNSURE___3 Only Fair___4 Poor___5

8. What is the gender of your oldest child who attended a Charter School last year? (RECORD)

Male ___1 Female ___2

9. How many years has that child attended a Charter School?

One year or less ___1 Two years ___2 Three or more ___3 UNSURE ___4

10. What is your child's grade or school year this year? (RECORD 1 through 12, if K code 0)

11. When you were considering sending your child to a Charter school, did you feel at the time that you had a lot of information about the Charter school, some information, just a little, or none at all?

A lot ___1 Some ___2 A little ___3 None ___4 UNSURE ___5

12. When you were considering sending your child a Charter school, did you get any information about the school off the Internet?

Yes ___1 UNSURE ___2 No ___3

13. Did you consult written brochures or written descriptions of the Charter school when you were making this decision?

Yes ___1 UNSURE ___2 No ___3

14. Returning to the Charter School your child currently attends, How did you learn about the Charter School? (RECORD)

Newspapers ___1

Television or radio ___1

Private Schools ___1

Public Schools ___1

Community Center ___1

Church ___1

Friends/Relatives ___1

Teachers ___1

At work ___1

On the Internet ___1

Other (write in)

15. Do you know the average number of students in the classes of the Charter school your child attends?

Number _____

16. Do you know what grade levels are offered at the Charter School your child attends—that is grades between Kindergarten and 12th grade?

Grade levels _____

17. Do you know approximately how many students total attend the Charter School your child attends.

Number _____

18. Finally, do you the name of the principle at the Charter School your child attends?

Name _____

19. In order for your child to be admitted the Charter School, did you have you to agree to do volunteer work at the school?

Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3

20. **[IF YES]** What volunteer work did you agree to perform (record comments)

21. In order for your child to be admitted to the Charter School, did you have to sign a contract or agreement about your participation in your child’s education? For instance, did you have to agree to help your child with homework or participate in sessions with school counselors?

Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3

22. What is the name of the school your child attended before he or she went to a Charter School?

23. What is the name of the school district in which that school is located?

24. Have you talked to other parents about courses and activities at the Charter School?

Yes ___1 UNSURE ___2 NO ___3

25. **[IF YES]** Please estimate about how many different parents with which you have discussed charter school activities.

Number of parents _____

26. Different parents have different reasons for sending their children to Charter Schools. I will read you a list of some of the things parents think are important about a school. Which of the following characteristics of the Charter School your child attended last year was the single most important reason for moving your child to that Charter School. The reasons are:

Randomly Rotate Order

High math or reading scores ___1

Better Discipline ___2

A racially diverse student body ___3

The location of the Charter School ___4

Teaching moral values in school ___5

Safety ___6

NONE/CAN'T CHOOSE/DON'T KNOW ___7

27. Next I will read you the five remaining characteristics from our initial list. Which of the remaining five was the most important reason for moving your child to a Charter School?

Randomly Rotate Order

High math or reading scores ___1

Better discipline ___2

A racially diverse student body ___3

The location of the Charter School ___4

Teaching moral values in school ___5

Safety ___6

NONE/CAN'T CHOOSE/DON'T KNOW ___7

28. Finally, I will read you the last four characteristics. Which of the last four was the most important reason for moving your child to a Charter School?

Randomly Rotate Order

High math or reading scores ___1

Better discipline code ___2

A racially diverse student body ___3

The location of the Charter School ___4

Teaching moral values in school ___5

Safety ___6

NONE/CAN'T CHOOSE/DON'T KNOW ___7

29a. [**IF RACE IS BLACK**] How important is it to you that your child attend a Charter School where a majority of the students are black or African American—very important, somewhat important, or not important?

Very important ___1 Somewhat ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

29b. [**IF Hispanic**] How important is it to you that your child attend a Charter School where a majority of the students are Mexican-American or Hispanic—very important, somewhat important, or not important?

Very important ___1 Somewhat ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

29c. [**IF WHITE**] How important is it to you that your child attend a Charter School where a majority of the students are White—very important, somewhat important, or not important?

Very important ___1 Somewhat ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

29d. [**IF ASIAN**] How important is it to you that your child attend a Charter School where a substantial percentage of the students are Asian?

Very important ___1 Somewhat ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

29e. [**IF OTHER**] How important is it you that your child attend a Charter School where a substantial percentage of the students have the same race or ethnicity as your child.

Very important ___1 Somewhat ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

30. Do you subscribe to a daily newspaper?

Yes ___1 UNSURE ___2 NO ___3

31. Do you have a dictionary in your home?

Yes__1 UNSURE__2 NO__3

32. Do you have an encyclopedia in your home?

Yes__1 UNSURE__2 NO__3

33. Do you have a computer in your home that your child uses for school work?

Yes__1 UNSURE__2 NO__3

34. In the past two years, have you ever done work in any of the following organizations. I mean, been a leader, helped organize a meeting, been an officer, or given time. First Church groups (read rest of list)

- Church groups Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3
- Sports groups Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3
- Youth Groups Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3
- Hobby or garden clubs Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3
- Political groups Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3
- Nationality or ethnic groups Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3
- Neighborhood civic clubs Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3
- Labor union Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3
- Any other type of group Yes__1 UNSURE__2 No__3

35. At the school your child attended before he or she went to a Charter School, in general were you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with . . .

[Randomly Rotate Order]

	<u>Very Satisfied</u>	<u>Somewhat Satisfied</u>	<u>Somewhat Dissatisfied</u>	<u>Very Dissatisfied</u>	
<u>UNSURE</u>					
a. the teachers	4	3	2	1	5
b. teaching moral values	4	3	2	1	5
c. the location	4	3	2	1	5
d. the discipline	4	3	2	1	5
e. parent/teacher relations	4	3	2	1	5
f. parents have adequate say in how the school was run	4	3	2	1	5
g. the background of the students	4	3	2	1	5

36. At the Charter school your child attends, in general are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with . . .

	<u>Very Satisfied</u>	<u>Somewhat Satisfied</u>	<u>Somewhat Dissatisfied</u>	<u>Very Dissatisfied</u>	
<u>UNSURE</u>					
a. the teachers	4	3	2	1	5
b. teaching moral values	4	3	2	1	5
c. the location	4	3	2	1	5
d. the discipline	4	3	2	1	5
e. parent/teacher relations	4	3	2	1	5
f. parents have adequate say in how the school was run	4	3	2	1	5
g. the background of the students	4	3	2	1	5

37. If you were to grade the school your child attended before going to a charter school from A to F, what grade would you give it? (RECORD)

A__1 B__2 C__3 D__4 F__5 UNSURE__6

38. If you were to grade the Charter School your child attends, what grade would you give it?

A__1 B__2 C__3 D__4 F__5 UNSURE__6

39. At the Charter school your child attends, have you or your spouse ever . . .

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>UNSURE</u>	<u>No</u>
a. attend PTO meetings or other special schools meetings	1	2	3
b. do volunteer work or be involved in school activities	1	2	3
c. attend a school board meeting	1	2	3
d. help make program of curriculum decisions	1	2	3
e. help with fund raising	1	2	3
f. attend parent/teacher conferences	1	2	3

40. In your view, was the school your child attended before going to a charter school safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?

Safe__1 Somewhat unsafe__2 Very unsafe__3 UNSURE__4

41. Where would your child have gone to school last year if the Charter School option had not been available? (READ OPTIONS)

Neighborhood public school ___1 Magnet public school ___2 Private religious school ___3
Private non-religious school ___4 Home school ___5 Would have dropped out ___6
DK ___7

42. At the school your child attended before going to the Charter School, did you or your spouse ever

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>UNSURE</u>	<u>No</u>
a. attend PTO meetings or other special schools meetings	1	2	3
b. do volunteer work or be involved in school activities	1	2	3
c. attend a school board meeting	1	2	3
d. help make program of curriculum decisions	1	2	3
e. help with fund raising	1	2	3
f. attend parent/teacher conferences	1	2	3

43. In summary, how satisfied are you with the Charter School your child attends – very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied?

Very satisfied ___1 Somewhat satisfied ___2 Somewhat dissatisfied ___3 Very dissatisfied ___4 UNSURE 5

44. It is important for us to know if your child falls into the at risk category. Among other things, the state defines a student as being at risk if he or she has failed any section of the most recent TAAS exam, or has failed two or more courses in the previous year. Does your oldest child who attended a Charter School last year fall into this at risk category?

Yes ___1 UNSURE ___2 No ___3 RF ___0

Finally, I'd like to finish by asking you a few brief background questions.

45. What is the highest level of education you completed? (RECORD)

8th grade or less ___1 9-11th grade ___2 GED ___3 High School Grad ___4
Less than two years college ___5 More than two years of college, but no degree ___6
College degree ___7 Graduate degree ___8 RF ___0

46. Are you currently employed full time, part time, looking for work, disabled, in school, a homemaker, or retired?

Full time___1 Part time___2 Looking___3 Disabled___4 In school___5
Homemaker___6 Retired___7

47. [IF FULL TIME OR PART TIME] How many hours a week do you work?

48. Are you married and living with your spouse, not married but living in a marriage like relationship, separated or divorced, never married, or widowed?

Married w/spouse___1 Marriage like relationship___2 Separated or divorced___3
Never Married___4 Widowed___5 RF___0

49. [IF MARRIED/LIVING WITH PARTNER] Is your spouse/partner employed full-time, part-time, or not working?

Full time___1 Part time___2 Not working___3

50. How often do you attend religious services—more than once a week, once a week, several times a month, a few times a year, or never?

More than once a week___1 Once a week___2 Several times a month___3 A few times a year___4 Never___5 UNSURE___6

51. Do you, yourself, happen to be involved in any charity or social service activities, such as helping the poor, the sick or the elderly?

Yes___1 UNSURE___2 No___3

52. Other than for your child's school, in the past two years, have you worked with others to get people in your immediate neighborhood to work together to fix or improve something?

Yes___1 No___2

53. Next I have a few questions about your immediate neighbors. These are the 10 or 20 households that live closest to you. About how often do you talk or visit with your immediate neighbors—just about everyday, several times a week, several times a month, once a month, several times a year, once a year or less, or never?

About every day___1 Several times a week___2 Several times a month___3 Once a month___3
Several times a year___4 Once a year or less___5 Never___6 Don't know___7 RF___0

54. Overall, how much impact do you think people like you can have in making your community a better place to live—no impact, a small impact, a moderate impact, or a big impact?

No impact___1 Small impact___2 Moderate impact___3 A big impact___4 Don't know___5

55. Which of the following languages are spoken in your home? (RECORD)

English___1

Spanish___1

Chinese___1

Vietnamese___1

Other___1

56. What is your zip code?

57. Last year, in which category did your total family income fall? (READ OPTIONS)

Less than \$5000___1 \$5000-\$9,999___2 \$10,000-\$14,999___3 \$15,000-\$19,999___4
\$20,000-\$24,999___5 \$25,000-\$34,999___6 \$35,000-\$49,999___7 \$50,000-\$74,999___8
more than \$75,000___9 RF___0

58. One final question. Were you born in the United States?

Yes___1 No___2 RF___0

Thank you for your time.

Parents of Spring Branch ISD, Dallas ISD, Houston ISD Public School Children
April 19, 2002

ID: 1-6

Parent's Name _____

Phone Number: Area Code _____ Number _____

Public School Name _____

Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from the University of Houston's Center for Public Policy on behalf of the Texas Education Agency. May I speak to the parent or guardian of (STUDENT'S NAME)?

Hello. My name is _____ and I am calling to request your participation in a research project being conducted by Dr. Gregory Weiher at the University of Houston. The Texas Education Agency is required by state law to evaluate the Charter School program and we would like to ask you some questions to assess your experience with your child's public school. The Spring Branch, Houston, and Dallas Independent School Districts provided Dr. Weiher with school rosters and your child was selected based on a random sampling procedure. Your participation is voluntary and you may end this interview at any time. If you decide not to participate, there will be no penalties or loss of privileges or benefits for you or your child. You do not have to answer any questions that make you feel uncomfortable. The purpose of this survey is to compare the experience and satisfaction levels of charter school parents and parents of children in traditional public schools. Our interview will take approximately 20 minutes and is not intended to cause any personal distress. This is not a sales call.

May I continue?

- Yes (continue)
- No (thank person and terminate call)

As I mentioned, we are conducting a survey of parents or guardians of (charter/public) school children. Your responses are strictly confidential. A summary of the data we gather will be reported to the Texas Education Agency, the State Board of Education, and state legislators, and research results may be reported in academic journals. However at no time will individual subjects be identified. If you have any questions regarding this study, please contact Dr. Gregory Weiher, Senior Research Associate of the University of Houston's Center for Public Policy at 713.743.3970. If you have any questions regarding your participation as a subject you can contact the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects at 713.743.9204. Would you like to participate in this interview?

- Yes (continue)
- No (thank person and terminate call)

If yes –

For parents of children in Traditional Public Schools, we would like to gather information about your experience with your child's public school. Please answer the questions regarding the public school your child attended last year. If you have more than one child in a public school, the questions will be about your OLDEST child who attended a public school last year. Let me remind you that you can refuse to answer any question or terminate this interview at any time.

Respondent Gender: Male ___1 Female ___2

1. We need to start with some background information. First, in what year were you born?

19____

2. Do you own or rent your home? (RECORD)

Own ___1 Rent ___2 OTHER ___3

3. Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity? (READ OPTIONS)

White or Anglo ___1 Black or African-American ___2 Hispanic or Mexican-American ___3
Asian or Asian-American ___4 Native-American ___5 OTHER ___6

5. Next, we'd like to ask some questions about the community where you live. How many years have you lived in your local community? _____

6. Do you expect to be living in this same community five years from now?

Yes ___1 No ___2 UNSURE ___3

7. Is the community where you live predominately Anglo or white, Black or African-American, Hispanic, Asian or Asian-American?

White or Anglo ___1 Black or African-American ___2 Hispanic or Mexican-American ___3
Asian or Asian-American ___4 Native-American ___5 OTHER ___6

8. Overall, how would you rate your community as a place to live—excellent, good, only fair or poor?

Excellent ___1 Good ___2 Only Fair ___3 Poor ___4 UNSURE ___5

9. What is the gender of your oldest child who attended public school this year? (RECORD)

Male ___1 Female ___2

10. What was your child's grade or school year this year? (RECORD 1 through 12, if K code 0)

11. Have you heard about the Charter school program in Texas **[IF YES]** Have you heard a lot about it or just something?

Nothing ___1 Just something ___2 A lot ___3 UNSURE ___4

12. In the general area where you live, is there a Charter school operating which your child would be eligible to attend?

Yes ___1 No ___2 UNSURE ___3 RF ___0

(If yes to question 12) What is the name of that charter school?

Has your child ever attended a charter school?

Yes ___1 No ___2

Have you ever attempted to enroll your child in a charter school?

Yes ___1 No ___2

13. How much information do you have about local area Charter Schools—a lot, some, just a little, or none at all?

A lot ___1 Some ___2 A little ___3 None ___4 UNSURE ___5

14. **[IF A LITTLE, SOME OR A LOT ASK IN Q11 ASK]** How did you learn about the local area Charter Schools? (RECORD)

- Newspapers___1
- Television or radio___2
- Private Schools___3
- Public Schools___4
- Community Center___5
- Church___6
- Friends/Relatives___7
- Teachers___8
- At work___9
- On the Internet___10
- Other (write in)

15. **[IF A LITTLE, SOME OR A LOT ASK IN Q11 ASK]** Did you get any information about Charter schools off the Internet?

Yes___1 No___2 UNSURE___3

16. **[IF A LITTLE, SOME OR A LOT IN Q 11 ASK]** Have you ever reviewed written brochures or written descriptions of the area Charter schools?

Yes___1 No___2 UNSURE___3

18. Do you know the average number of students in the classes of the school your child attended this year?

Number_____

19. Do you know what grade levels are offered at the school your child attended—that is grades between Kindergarten and 12th grade?

Grade levels_____

20. Do you know approximately how many students total attend the School your child went to this year?

Number_____

21. Finally, do you know the name of the principle at the School your child attended this year?

Name _____

22. Have you talked to other parents about Charter Schools?

Yes ___1 NO ___2

23. **[IF YES]** Please estimate about how many different parents you have discussed charter schools with

Number of parents _____

24. Next, I will read you a list of characteristics of schools that parents think are important. Which of the following school characteristics is most important to you when it comes to the school your child attends. The characteristics are:

Randomly Rotate Order

High math or reading scores ___1

Better Discipline ___2

A racially diverse student body ___3

The location of the Charter School ___4

Teaching moral values in school ___5

Safety ___6

NONE/CAN'T CHOOSE/DON'T KNOW ___7

25. Next, I will read you the five remaining characteristics from our initial list. Which of the remaining five was the most important characteristic when it comes to the school your child attends?

Randomly Rotate Order

High math or reading scores ___1

Better discipline ___2

A racially diverse student body ___3

The location of the Charter School ___4

Teaching moral values in school ___5

Safety ___6

NONE/CAN'T CHOOSE/DON'T KNOW ___7

26. Finally, I will read you the last four characteristics. Which of the last four was the most important characteristic when it comes to the school your child attends?

Randomly Rotate Order

High math or reading scores ___1

Better discipline code ___2

A racially diverse student body ___3

The location of the Charter School ___4

Teaching moral values in school ___5

Safety ___6

NONE/CAN'T CHOOSE/DON'T KNOW ___7

28a. [**IF RACE IS BLACK**] How important is it to you that your child attends a school where a majority or close to a majority of the students are black or African American—very important, somewhat important, or not important?

Very important ___1 Somewhat important ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

28b. [**IF HISPANIC**] How important is it to you that your child attends a School where a majority or close to a majority of the students are Mexican-American or Hispanic—very important, somewhat important, or not important?

Very important ___1 Somewhat important ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

28c. [**IF WHITE**] How important is it to you that your child attends a school where a majority or close to a majority of the students are White—very important, somewhat important, or not important?

Very important ___1 Somewhat important ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

28d. [**IF ASIAN**] How important is it to you that your child attends a school where a substantial percentage of the students are Asian?

Very important ___1 Somewhat important ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

28e. [**IF OTHER**] How important is it you that your child attends a school where a substantial percentage of the students have the same race or ethnicity as your child.

Very important ___1 Somewhat important ___2 Not important ___3 UNSURE ___4 RF ___0

29. Do you subscribe to a daily newspaper?

Yes__1 NO__2

30. Do you have a dictionary in your home?

Yes__1 NO__2

31. Do you have an encyclopedia in your home?

Yes__1 NO__2

32. Do you have a computer in your home that your child uses for school work?

Yes__1 NO__2

33. In the past two years, have you ever done work in any of the following organizations. I mean, been a leader, helped organize a meeting, been an officer, or given time. First Church groups (read rest of list)

Church groups Yes__1 No__2

Sports groups Yes__1 No__2

Youth Groups Yes__1 No__2

Hobby or garden clubs Yes__1 No__2

Political groups Yes__1 No__2

Nationality or ethnic groups Yes__1 No__2

Neighborhood civic clubs Yes__1 No__2

Labor union Yes__1 No__2

Any other type of group Yes__1 No__2

39. At the school your child attended this year, in general were you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with . . .

	<u>Very Satisfied</u>	<u>Somewhat Satisfied</u>	<u>Somewhat Dissatisfied</u>	<u>Very Dissatisfied</u>	
<u>UNSURE</u>					
a. the teachers	4	3	2	1	5
b. teaching moral values	4	3	2	1	5
c. the location	4	3	2	1	5
d. the discipline	4	3	2	1	5
e. parent/teacher relations	4	3	2	1	5
f. parents have adequate say in how the school was run	4	3	2	1	5
g. the background of the students	4	3	2	1	5

40. If you were to grade the public school your child attended this year, what grade would you give it?

A__1 B__2 C__3 D__4 F__5 UNSURE__6

41. At the school your child attended this year, did you or your spouse ever . . .

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>UNSURE</u>
a. attend PTO meetings or other special schools meetings	1	2	3
b. do volunteer work or be involved in school activities	1	2	3
c. attend a school board meeting	1	2	3
d. help make program or curriculum decisions	1	2	3
e. help with fund raising	1	2	3
f. attend parent/teacher conferences	1	2	3

42. In your view is the school your child attended this year safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?

Safe__1 Somewhat unsafe__2 Very unsafe__3 UNSURE__4

43. It is important for us to know if your child falls into the at risk category. The state defines a student as being at risk if he or she has failed any section of the most recent TAAS exam, or has failed two or more courses in the previous year. Does your child fall into the "at risk" category?

Yes__1 No__2 Unsure__3 RF__0

Finally, I'd like to finish by asking you a few brief background questions.

44. What is the highest level of education you completed? (RECORD)

8th grade or less___1 9-11th grade___2 GED___3 High School Grad___4
Less than two years college___5 More than two years of college, but no degree___6
College degree___7 Graduate degree___8 RF___0

47. Are you currently employed full time, part time, looking for work, disabled, in school, a homemaker, or retired?

Full time___1 Part time___2 Looking___3 Disabled___4 In school___5
Homemaker___6 Retired___7

48. [IF FULL TIME OR PART TIME] How many hours a week do you work?

49. Are you married and living with your spouse, not married but living in a marriage like relationship, separated or divorced, never married, or widowed?

Married w/spouse___1 Marriage like relationship___2 Separated or divorced___3
Never Married___4 Widowed___5 RF___0

50. [IF MARRIED/LIVING WITH PARTNER] Is your spouse/partner employed full-time, part-time, or not working?

Full time___1 Part time___2 Not working___3

53. How often do you attend religious services—more than once a week, once a week, several times a month, a few times a year, or never?

More than once a week___1 Once a week___2 Several times a month___3 A few times a year___4 Never___5 UNSURE___6

55. Do you, yourself, happen to be involved in any charity or social service activities, such as helping the poor, the sick or the elderly?

Yes___1 No___2 UNSURE___3

56. Other than for your child's school, in the past two years, have you worked with others to get people in your immediate neighborhood to work together to fix or improve something?

Yes ___1 No ___2 UNSURE ___3

57. Next I have a few questions about your immediate neighbors. These are the 10 or 20 households that live closest to you. About how often do you talk or visit with your immediate neighbors—just about everyday, several times a week, several times a month, once a month, several times a year, once a year or less, or never?

About every day ___1 Several times a week ___2 Several times a month ___3 Once a month ___4
Several times a year ___5 Once a year or less ___6 Never ___7 Don't know ___8 RF ___0

58. Overall, how much impact do you think people like you can have in making your community a better place to live—no impact, a small impact, a moderate impact, or a big impact?

No impact ___1 Small impact ___2 Moderate impact ___3 A big impact ___4 Don't know ___5

59. Which of the following languages is the primary language spoken in your home?
(RECORD)

English ___1
Spanish ___2
Chinese ___3
Vietnamese ___4
Other ___5

60. What is your zip code?

61. Last year, in which category did your total family income fall? (READ OPTIONS)

Less than \$5000 ___1 \$5000-\$9,999 ___2 \$10,000-\$14,999 ___3 \$15,000-\$19,999 ___4
\$20,000-\$24,999 ___5 \$25,000-\$34,999 ___6 \$35,000-\$49,999 ___7 \$50,000-\$74,999 ___8
more than \$75,000 ___9 RF ___0

62. One final question. Were you born in the United States?

Yes ___1 No ___2 RF ___0

Thank you for your time.

2001 Evaluation of Open-Enrollment Charter Schools Survey of Public School Districts

The Texas Commissioner of Education commissioned this study of charter school effects on public school districts. By providing the information requested, you will contribute to an improved understanding of the effects of open-enrollment charter schools on public schools in Texas.

Please complete this survey (or delegate the task to the appropriate person in your district) and return it in the postage-paid envelope no later than **November 9, 2001**. If you have any questions about the survey, or if you prefer to answer by telephone or fax, please contact Dr. Kelly Shapley at 800-580-8237. Thank you for your assistance.

GENERAL INFORMATION

School district name: _____

Job title: _____

District enrollment trend:

increasing enrollment stable enrollment decreasing enrollment

Are you aware of charter schools that have opened in or near your district?

Yes (*continue to question 1*) No (*skip to question 7*)

DISTRICT OPERATIONS

1. What changes has your district recently implemented in **district operations**? Please note whether or not the change was implemented, and for each change implemented, note whether charter schools served as the primary reason, a contributing reason, or were not a factor.

Changes to general district operations	<u>Occurred</u>		<u>If yes, charter school served as</u>		
	Yes	No	Primary Reason	Contributing Reason	Not a Factor
Track students leaving for or returning from charter schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Compare district student achievement with charter school student achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased district marketing to inform parents about district programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved responsiveness to district parents' needs and concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased communication with parents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promoted parent involvement activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

2. How have charter schools in your area affected your district’s **budget or financial operations**?
(select all that apply)

- The district lost approximately \$_____ in ADA funding.
- The district lost approximately \$_____ in federal funding.
- Changing enrollments made it difficult to estimate the budget for personnel, materials, and overhead.
- District had to close school(s).
- District had to downsize teaching staff.
- District had to downsize administrative staff.
- The need to build additional school buildings was reduced.
- Other _____
- District budget and financial operations were not affected.

CHANGES TO EDUCATIONAL APPROACHES AND PRACTICES

3. What changes has your district recently implemented in **educational approaches and practices**? Please note whether or not the change was implemented, and for each change implemented, note whether charter school(s) served as the primary reason, a contributing reason, or were not a factor.

Changes to educational approaches and practices	<u>Occurred</u>		<u>If yes, charter school served as</u>		
	Yes	No	Primary Reason	Contributing Reason	Not a Factor
Developed new educational program(s) (e.g., after-school program, at-risk student program)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expanded current district educational program(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changed or expanded curricular offerings (e.g., character education, Core Knowledge)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Established campus charter school(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Established an alternative education program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changed school organizational structure (e.g., block scheduling, multiage grouping)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Instituted smaller schools or schools-within-schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decreased class sizes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased class sizes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopted one or more practices similar to area charter schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide additional comments on changes to district operations, budget/financial operations, or educational approaches/practices.

DISTRICT-CHARTER SCHOOL INTERACTION

4. Did contact occur between district educators and charter school educators during the 2000-01 school year?

- No
- Yes, contact occurred (*select all that apply*)
 - Partnered with charter school(s) on state/federal grant initiatives
 - Held organizational/planning meeting(s) with charter school educators
 - Observed charter school classrooms
 - Interacted with charter school educators during regional or state-level meetings or training sessions
 - Networked with charter school educators at professional conferences
 - Interacted with charter school educators at ESC-sponsored events
 - Other _____

5. In the 2000-01 school year:

a. Did students leave schools in your district to attend charter schools?

- Yes No Not sure

b. Did students return or transfer to schools in your district from charter schools?

- Yes No Not sure

c. Did teachers leave schools in your district to teach at charter schools?

- Yes No Not sure

d. Please provide additional comment on the effects of students and/or teachers leaving for or returning from charter schools.

EFFECTS ON DISTRICT STUDENTS

6. Have charter schools affected **students** currently attending **district schools**?

- No
- Yes (*select all that apply*)
 - Teachers or administrators in my district inform students about charter school opportunities.
 - Students are informed about special charter school programs or practices (e.g., Montessori, half-day program, flexible scheduling).
 - At-risk students are informed about alternative learning programs in charter schools.
 - Other _____

Please provide additional comments on the effects of charter schools on district students.

EDUCATORS PERCEPTIONS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS

7. Describe your overall perceptions of charter schools. (*select all that apply*)

- Educators view charter schools as a challenge or competition to the district.
- Educators view charter schools as sources of good ideas and information.
- Educators believe charter schools provide educational opportunities for students who are not currently being appropriately served in district schools.
- Educators believe charter schools have provided alternatives for dissatisfied parents.
- Educators worry that special-needs students in charter schools may not get an appropriate education.
- Educators regard increased mobility between the district and charter schools as disruptive to the educational process.
- Educators are concerned about the quality of instruction in charter schools.
- Educators are concerned about the grading standards (i.e., standards for assigning grades and course credits) used in charter schools.
- Educators view charter schools as providing more personalized instruction for students.
- Educators believe charter schools provide better opportunities for parent involvement.
- Other _____
