



ED, CharterRegs

From: pattymcclain@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:41 PM
To: ED, CharterRegs
Subject: [External] Opposition to proposed charter regulations for brick and mortar schools

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To whom it may concern:

I'm an educator, and the parent of children enrolled in a brick and mortar charter school. While we had been enrolled in our local public school in Salisbury Township School District (Lehigh County), the school board closed our neighborhood elementary school in 2020 and in the midst of the pandemic, crammed more students in smaller spaces and caused bus rides to be up to an hour long for young elementary students. And so, we enrolled in a charter school (Seven Generations Charter School in Emmaus). The charter school has provided an outstanding education for my children. It is close to my home; when our traditional public schools took away a neighborhood elementary school, I was delighted that my children could be nearby (10 minute bus ride vs. 40-60 min). The teachers and administrators are wonderful and have navigated the pandemic better than our local public schools because the charter school is small and nimble. My children have received much more in-person schooling with much more robust safety protocols than had they been in the traditional public school.

I fear that your proposed reform actions will mean that success stories like mine will no longer exist. My children will be hurt. To be clear, I am in favor of cyber charter funding reform and support that. But when a brick and mortar charter has done such exceptional work during such trying times only to be punished by harsh regulations really devastates kids and families like mine. I implore you to limit your reforms to cyber charters.

I would be happy to share more in depth about my family's wonderful experience in our nearby charter school, and how it suits my children so much better than our local public schools. I can be reached at 610-984-2324.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Patricia McClain

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Sent from my iPhone