

# THE Center for Education Reform



1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Suite 204 • Washington, DC 20036

Tel: 202-822-9000  
Fax: 202-822-5077

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**Contact: Jon Hussey**  
**(202) 822-9000**

## **CHARTER SCHOOLS OVERCOME OBSTACLES TO CREATE RIPPLE OF SUCCESS**

**Washington, D.C., February 22, 2007** – Charter schools across the country have struggled through myriad obstacles to create successful schools that have spawned innovation and transformed the American public school system. Their stories are compiled by award-winning author and journalist Joe Williams in a new report released today by The Center for Education Reform.

*Charter Schools Today: Stories of Inspiration, Struggle, and Success* offers a lens into the impact charter schools have on traditional public education, forcing changes that seemingly would never have occurred without competitive pressure, and bringing about success for students that in many cases were left behind in non-responsive systems.

“Drawn from almost every state where these new public schools exist, author Joe Williams offers stories that will inspire readers and help them gain understanding into what charters have offered as one of the most important solutions to fixing public education for all students,” said CER President Jeanne Allen. “That is why the Center has continued to work closely with school organizers and their leadership – so that beyond the school house doors there can be greater awareness of the success of a reform that all too many organized groups would prefer to keep from the public eye.”

Charter schools are innovative public schools designed by educators, parents, community leaders, and others who are interested in providing a quality education to children in their community. Charter schools explore new educational approaches, such as longer school days or extended school year, and are free from most rules and regulations governing conventional public schools.

The report from CER's Charter Schools Today program, *Stories of Inspiration, Struggle and Success*, is a detailed compendium of more than 100 stories and contact information for all highlighted schools.

To download the report, visit [http://www.edreform.com/charter\\_schools/today/](http://www.edreform.com/charter_schools/today/) or to order the printed version, call 202-822-9000.

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*The Center for Education Reform (CER) creates opportunities for and challenges obstacles to better education for America's communities. Founded in 1993, CER combines education policy with grassroots advocacy to foster positive and bold education reforms. For more information, visit [www.edreform.com](http://www.edreform.com)*