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For Immediate Release

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STUDIES PROVE THAT CHARTER SCHOOLS ARE WORKING

(Washington, DC 11/2/00) What do we know about charter schools? Plenty. Since their arrival on the national scene in 1991, literally hundreds of policy papers, studies, articles and analyses have been conducted of the charter school phenomenon, an educational innovation that has skyrocketed from just one school in 1992 to more than 2,000 schools operating for the 2000-2001 school year.

The Center for Education Reform (CER) has analyzed the existing research universe and identified 53 actual research-based studies that draw mainly objective conclusions based on the evaluation of data. Contained in this analysis, **“What the Research Reveals about Charter Schools,”** are 53 studies offering a critique of charter schools. The conclusion of the overwhelming majority (50) of these papers is that charter schools have been innovative and accountable, and have created both opportunities for the children that attend them and a “ripple” effect on traditional public schools within their jurisdiction.

“These analyses address head-on some of the more common criticisms and show that charter schools don’t cause Balkanization, that competition has provoked improvement, charter schools provide both innovation and accountability and there is evidence that they are working,” said CER president Jeanne Allen.

Literally hundreds of policy papers, studies articles, and analyses have been conducted of the charter school phenomenon, an educational innovation that has skyrocketed from just one school in 1992 to more than 2,000 schools in place for the 2000-2001 school year.

“What the Research Reveals about Charter Schools,” is available from the Center for Education Reform for \$14.95 (free for members), or by accessing it on line at the CER website.

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The Center for Education Reform is a national, independent, non-profit advocacy organization providing support and guidance to individuals, community and civic groups, policymakers and others who are working to bring fundamental reforms to their schools. For further information, please call (202) 822-9000 or visit our website at <http://www.edreform.com>.