

Stop comparing charters and traditional public schools

Charters were made to be different from regular public schools. Charters are public schools given certain “advantages” to help get around the historical limitations of traditional schools so they can be academically better. Read [Black/Latino students outperform peers in traditional public schools on ILEARN](#)

Charters are made to “do better.” So, the news is not when they do, it’s when they don’t.

There's nothing the matter with these differences. It’s just that we can’t make valid comparisons. We do a disservice to both when we do.

For example, some charters do not have the wherewithal to take in every Special Ed student who applies. Since our public schools can’t do this, we can't make comparisons.

Also, nationally and locally, valid issues are raised regarding charter’s pushing out or “counseling out” students “...who don't “fit.” Private schools can do this. Charters aren’t supposed to. Our traditional schools can’t. See the Schott Foundation’s [Pushout Crisis](#) report.

Proposed Action Item

Equitable, not equal, school evaluations

AACI will organize educators, politicians, parents and students who will propose, plan and implement equitable school evaluations under 4 different school categories/criteria that compare schools types to similar types: traditional schools would be compared to other traditional schools, magnets to other magnets, charters be to charters, and Innovation schools to other Innovations. School size could also be a factor. B&LPI proposes a system used by the IHSAA where categories are based on school size classifications: 4A, 3A, 2A and 1 A.

	Traditional vs. Traditional	Magnet vs. Magnet	Charter vs. Charter	Innovation vs. Innovation
4A	Tech			
3A		Shortridge		?
2A	No. 31	?	Herron	?
1A	?	?	pilotED	?