



Date

Name
School
Address
City, State Zip

Subject: [INSERT STATE] Charter School Facilities Survey

Dear [Principal/Administrator],

Time and time again, charter school leaders have told us that one of the most important and challenging issues for their school is access to adequate facilities and funding. We now have a chance to advance this issue for [INSERT STATE] Charter Schools. Because of [CSO's] commitment to getting charter schools access to equitable facilities resources [INSERT STATE] has been selected to work with the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools and the Colorado League of Charter Schools to gather the most comprehensive and reliable data for charter facilities in our state.

Charter schools across the county are spending a significant amount of operating dollars to cover facilities costs that could otherwise be spent on the students. Not only will the data you provide offer evidence of the enormity of the inequity in [INSERT STATE], it will also provide evidence of the magnitude of the problem nationally. The data from participating schools will be used to build a database of charter school facilities data; providing concrete evidence to all stakeholders and allowing research to study the potential impact that charter school facilities have on student outcomes.

Please help us to collect data and research to drive solutions to this issue by completing an important charter school facilities survey. Participation is voluntary and confidential. Your school's name will not be mentioned in any published materials without your express written consent.

Survey Access

Below is the link to the survey and the school's user name and password to access the survey.

[INSERT LINK TO SURVEY] User name: [INSERT USER NAME] Password: [INSERT PASSWORD]

We will follow-up with you in the coming days to determine the support you need to complete this survey. In addition, a staff member or consultant from our office will be contacting you to set up an appointment so we can come to your school to take measurements of your building, answer any questions you may have, and assist you with completing the survey.

If you have any questions, or need additional information in order to get started on the survey, please contact:
[INSERT NAME, TITLE, EMAIL ADDRESS AND PHONE OF CONTACT PERSON]

Thank You for Helping us Make the Case for Charter School Facility Funding!

Sincerely,

CSO Executive Director



If you have not already been contacted by the STATE CSO to make an appointment to come measure your school's facility, please contact CSO CONTACT immediately. If you have been contacted and have not yet set a time, please do so immediately. In addition to the information you have provided, measurement information on every charter school in the state will provide the best evidence to STATE policy makers that charter schools lack equitable access to quality facilities and capital funding.

Survey Tools & Tips

In order to use your time efficiently, please gather the following before beginning the survey. **Note: please provide this information for each individual school campus, not for an entire charter school network (if applicable).**

1. Current enrollment information, including FTE count and total student count.
2. Actual utilities costs for 2010-11.
3. Current facility loan and/or rent payments.
4. Information about participation in local or state capital fund programs.
5. Create a list of all rooms in your school, and obtain a building (floor) plan and an emergency exit plan.
 - a. On the list please indicate the grade(s) served and maximum number of students served at one time for each room.
 - b. If a room is used for more than one purpose, that should be indicated on the list as well.
 - c. Administrative spaces (front office, principal's office, etc) do NOT need to be included in the list, as they will not be measured.