

Charter School Fiscal Impact on Districts

A Case Study

Who Are We?

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In The Public Interest**

Prior to work at ITPI, served for 7 years as Executive Director of CPI, overseeing research and policy efforts to advance workplace and community equity in San Diego County. Led campaigns for public school reform, renters' rights, affordable housing, electoral reform and the rights of homeowners throughout the country.

Parent of two elementary school students.

Dr. Linda Delgado

**Director: Charter School Office
West Contra Costa Unified School District**

**Charter school founder, teacher for 8 years,
School Director at three schools, served on
three school boards. Responsible for charter
oversight in WCCUSD for 7 years.**

Sailor, reader, bicycle enthusiast

Gather This Intell on Your Partner-

1. What is your his/her/their role in oversight?
2. How many charter schools do they oversee?
3. What size District do they work for?

Overview

In The Public Interest

- Purpose of impact study
- Method employed
- Results

Case Study: West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD)

- Location and demographics
- Charter Growth

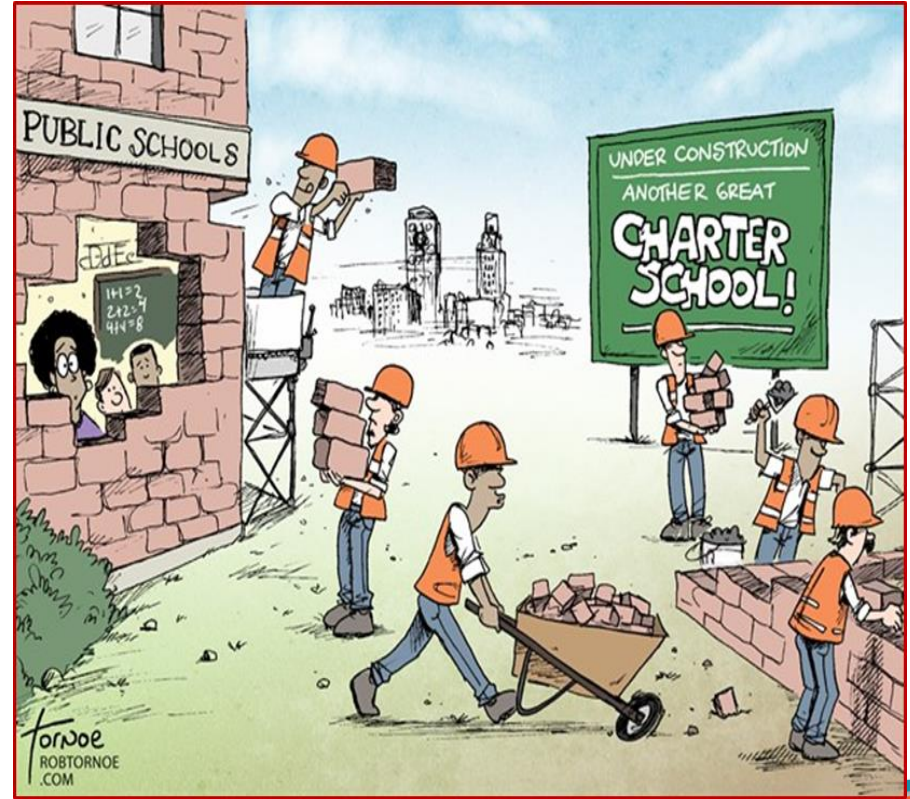
Findings of ITPI's WCCUSD Evaluation

Discussion of Fiscal Impact in New CA Legislation



Purpose: Does Growth Impact TPS Students?

Why do charter schools impose costs on public school districts?



Methodology & Limitations

- **Assess fixed costs**
 - Building rent, lease or mortgage, utilities, maintenance
 - Custodial, Transportation & Cafeteria staff
 - Principal, vice-principal, school counselor, librarian, administrative
 - Budget planners, accountants, federal aid managers
 - Special education planning and services
 - Etc.
- **Calculate Revenue Loss and Net Fiscal Impact**
- **Limitations**
 - Unequal obligations resulting in unequal costs
 - Does not calculate impact of non-fixed programmatic loss

Net Fiscal Impact of Charters on 3 Districts(2016-17)

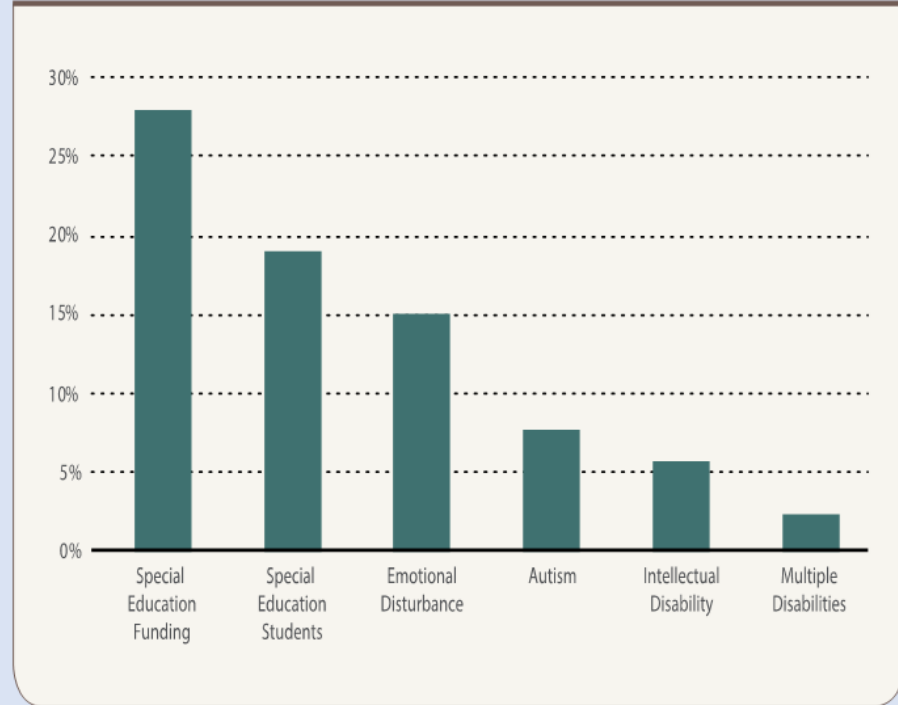
	San Diego Unified School District	Oakland Unified School District	East Side Union High School District
District Enrollment, 2016-17	106,229	36,814	23,287
Charter Entollment, 2016-17	22,559	15,487	4,811
Charter % of Total Enrollment	18%	30%	17%
Annual Economic Impact	\$65,902,809	\$57,386,832	\$19,343,602
Impact/ Charter Student	\$4,913	\$5,705	\$6,618
Impact/ District Enrollment	\$620	\$1,559	\$831
Funding Per Pubpil (Per ADA)	\$10,563	\$11,453	\$12,463

Unequal Burdens

Special Education In OUSD

Figure 1

Oakland Charter Schools Share of Special Education Funding & Students



Fiscal Impact Studies Around The US

Author	Location of Study	Academic Year	Net Fiscal Impact per Charter Student
Bifulco and Reback, NY State Dept of Education	Albany, NY	2009-10	\$3,430
Bifulco and Reback, NY State Dept of Education	Buffalo, NY	2009-10	\$3,698
Boston Consulting Group	Philadelphia, PA	2011-12	\$5,600
Ladd & Singleton, Duke University	Durham, NC	2013-14	\$3,136 - \$5,076
Afton Partners	Philadelphia, PA	2013-14	\$4,824
MGT Associates	Los Angeles	2014-15	\$4,957
MGT Associates	Nashville, TN	2015-16	\$6,557
Lapp, et al. Research for Action	Philadelphia, PA	2016-17	\$4,433
Lapp, et al. Research for Action	Rural PA district	2016-17	\$6,701

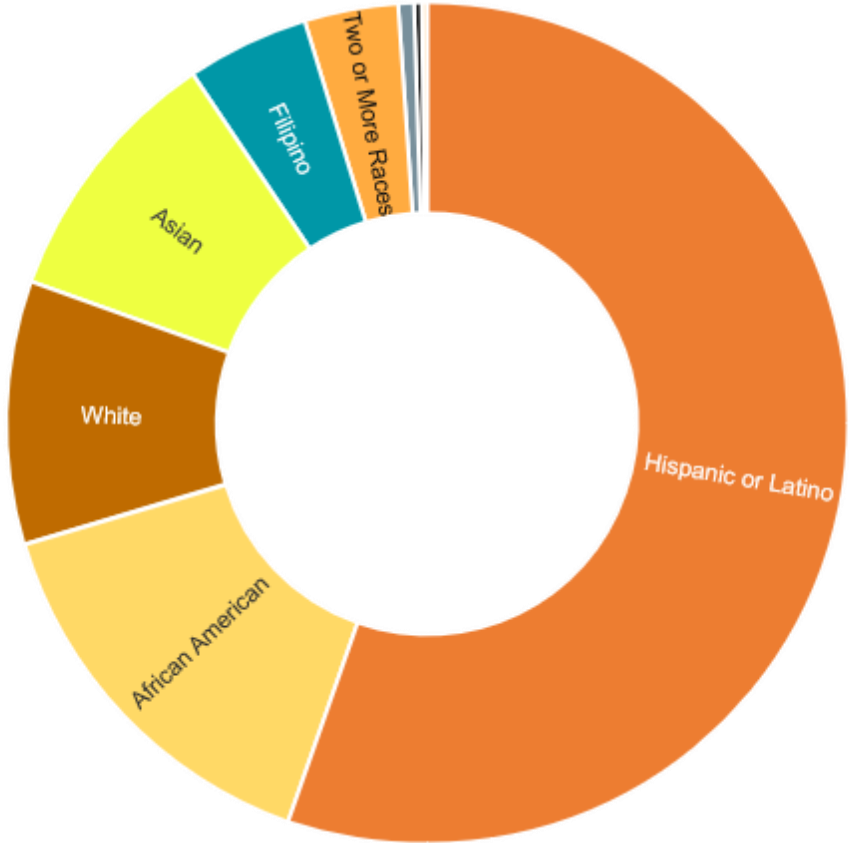
WCCUSD Background Information

District Information



- 32** Elementary Schools
- 5** Kinder - 8th Grade Schools
- 6** Middle Schools
- 7** High Schools
- 3** Alternative Schools
- 10** District-sponsored Charter Schools
- 4** County-sponsored Charters

Demographics

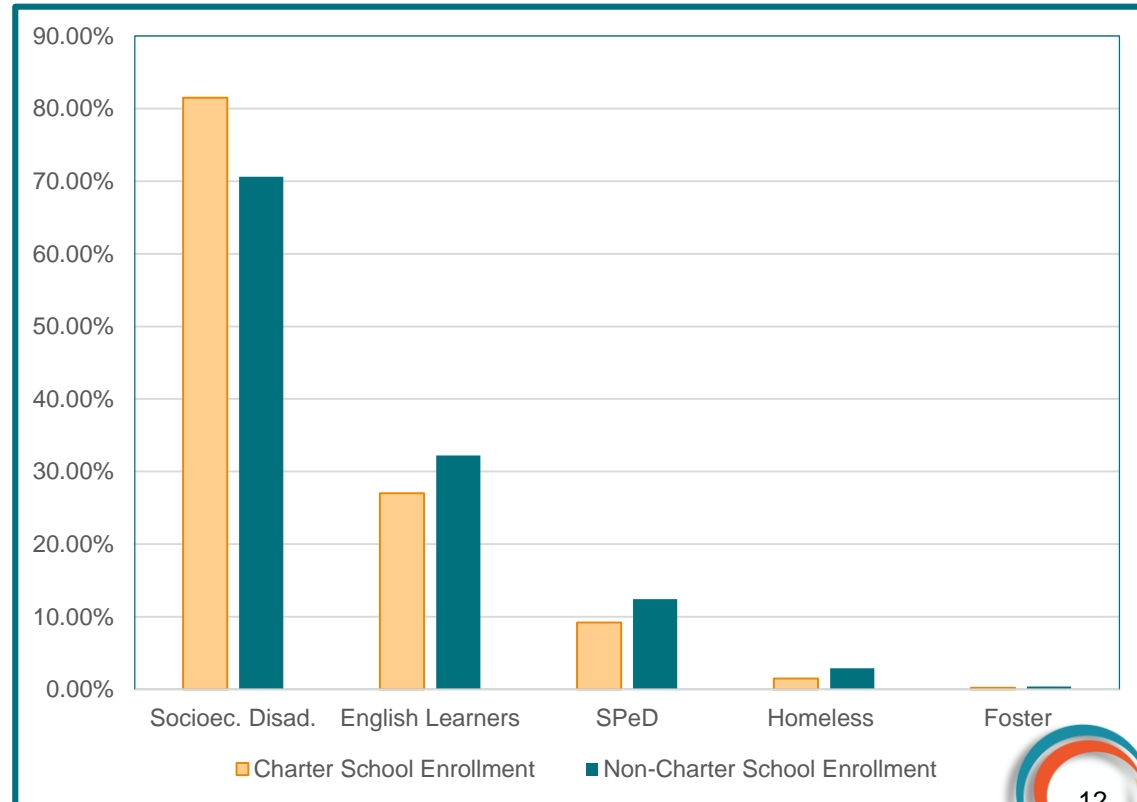


Ethnicity	District	Charter
Hispanic & Latino	52%	81%
African American	16%	9%
White	11%	9%
Asian	11%	4%
Filipino	5%	1%

Subpopulations

Charter & Traditional Public Schools

- Socioeconomically Disadvantaged
- English Language Learners
- Special Education Students
- Homeless Youth
- Foster Youth



WCC Charter Growth from 2001--2019

**74 Students in Charter
Schools ----->**

**34,667 in Traditional
Public Schools ----->**

**6993 Students in Charter
Schools**

**28,121 in Traditional
Public Schools**

Fiscal Impact of Charter Schools to WCCUSD

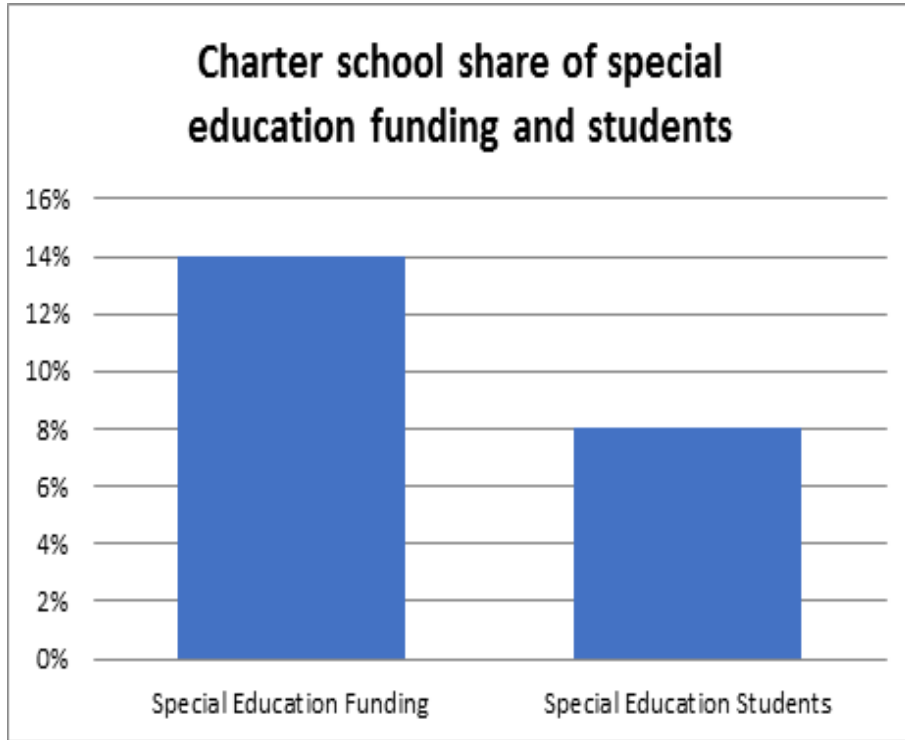
WCCUSD Net Loss

Total Current Net Loss	\$27,891,514
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Net Loss Per Charter Student	\$6,233.62
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Net Loss Per Current District Student	\$978.03
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Additional Costs In WCCUSD



Refugees and Other Newly Arrived Children

Total newcomers: 1839
Total newcomers arriving after October census: 304

What Cuts Have Been Made?

**THE RICHMOND
STANDARD**

Funded by Chevron

Home › Community › Education › WCCUSD board approves \$12.5M in cuts

**WCCUSD board approves \$12.5M in
cuts**

December 14, 2018



1170 5

- Graduate Tutors
- Counselors
- Nurses
- “Playworks” Program

Allows Districts to weigh:

- What is the fiscal impact of a charter school (how to measure?)
- What will the effect of a charter school be on a District's academic programs?
- What does it mean to be “consistent with the interests of the community”?