

# Education Plan for America 2015-2016



**Education Freedom Alliance**  
FOCUSED & MEANINGFUL EDUCATIONAL CHANGE





# A Note from Our Founder

Mr. John D. Bryan

As this year comes to a close, we reflect on the great strides we've made in improving educational opportunities for America's children through parental choice options including charter schools. In fact, according to the *U.S. News and World Report*, **nearly one-quarter of the top 100 high schools this year are public charter schools**, despite charter schools making up only six percent of all public schools in America.

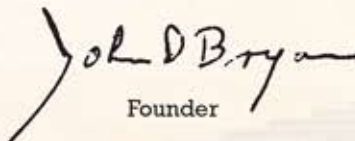
While the support for and implementation of school choice programs across the nation is at an all-time high, there is still much work to be done. **As of May 2014, the number of student names on public charter school waiting lists reached 1,043,311**, breaking one million student names for the first time. These one million plus students are stuck in failing schools – schools that are either low-achieving or simply not the right educational fit. This number is far too high. Right now, as we discuss the merit of parental educational choices, another generation of our youth isn't reaching its full potential – and we're to blame! The good news is that, if we are bold in our reforms, we can fix it.

In order to do this, we've devised a plan – one that takes both federal and state approaches to make our education system the best it can be for our kids. It should come as no surprise that our plan includes parental school choice as its key element. We believe educational choice makes great Americans, which is what we're ultimately all about.

Enclosed you will find our *Education Plan for America* that includes suggested policies and programs for both the federal and state levels. You will also find an overview of model states that are implementing school choice well and are experiencing success educating their students. We hope you will consider implementing some of these policies and programs as you write, review and pass legislation this year. With momentum on our side, we are ready to help make 2015-16 standout years for positive educational change.

Let's face it. We have choices in every aspect of our lives; where to live, work, shop, eat, and worship, but not where to educate our kids. It's been this way for too long, and it's time for us to stand up for the next generation and move education forward. So let's focus on the kids, and with our unwavering efforts, we'll make America's education system better for them. On behalf of the ones whose lives are positively changed through educational choice, we thank you for your service to our country and are proud to have supported you!

For the kids!

  
Founder

P.S. – If you have any questions regarding our Post-Election Plan, please don't hesitate to reach out to Stuart Jolly or Phil Byers, whose contact information is on the back of this pamphlet.



# Why Parental Choice Matters



Almost

**9 out of 10**  
*high school dropouts*

were struggling readers in third grade

*And high school dropouts make up:*

**75%**

of citizens receiving food stamps

**90%**

of Americans on welfare

(source: Annie E Casey Foundation)

**In Washington, D.C.**, of students enrolled in the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program,



**94%**

*graduated from high school in 2010 & 2011.*



**89%**

*enrolled in a two - or four year college.*

Students who received an Opportunity Scholarship had a graduation rate more than

**35** points higher

than that of students in Washington DC public schools.

“There is nothing more unequal than the equal treatment of unequal people.”

– Thomas Jefferson

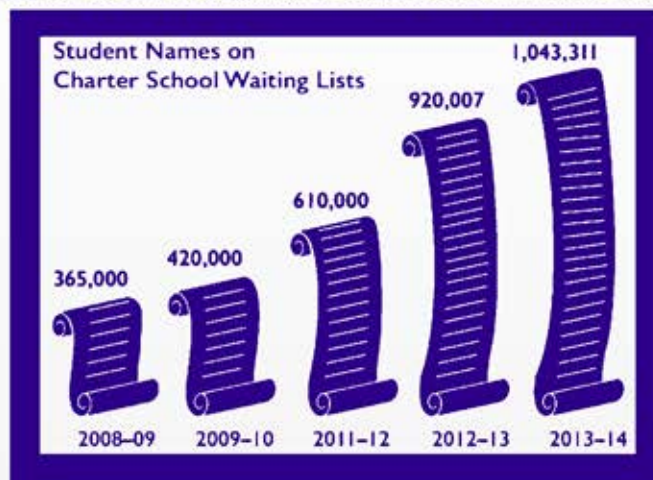
In 2000, four states had private school choice programs with 29,000 students. Today 19 states boast programs that enroll more than 308,000 children.

—Wall Street Journal 9/11/14



**100% growth**  
in **charter school** enrollment  
since 2007-08

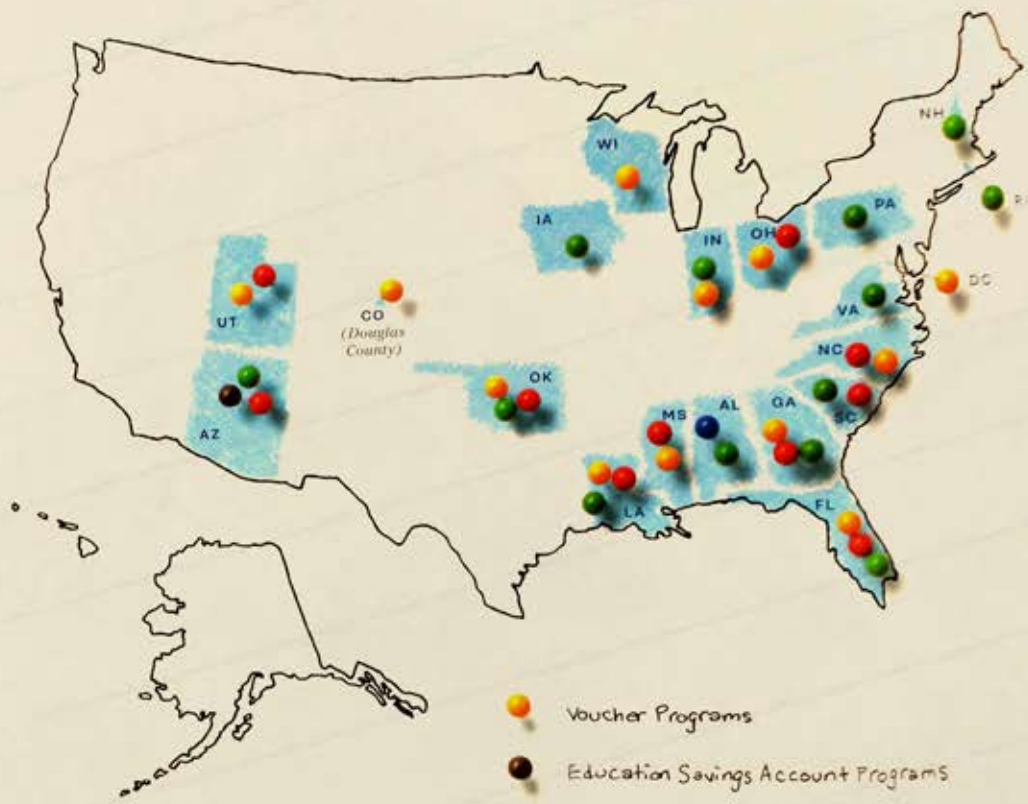
Despite the growing number of charter schools, the demand for educational choice is at an all-time high.



Source: National Alliance for Public Charter Schools







- Voucher Programs
- Education Savings Account Programs
- Individual Income Tax Credit
- Scholarship Tax Credit Programs
- Special Needs Programs

Source: Hope & Action: Results & Alliance for School Choice Yearbook 2013-14

## Education Freedom Alliance

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Education Freedom Alliance's (EFA) goals and purposes are to improve public education by expanding school choice and enhancing charter school opportunities for all children through advocacy and legislative actions at the federal, state, and local levels.

