



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK

WHEREAS, Florida's children deserve access to the highest-quality education possible; and

WHEREAS, charter schools are public schools that increase learning opportunities for all students and provide families with expanded choices within the public school system; and

WHEREAS, because of Governor DeSantis' bold leadership in promoting parental rights and school choice, the Heritage Foundation ranks Florida first in the nation on the Education Freedom Report Card, which ranks each state's level of education freedom; and

WHEREAS, Florida ranks first in the nation for parent involvement in education on the Center for Education Reform's Parent Power! National Overview, with Florida's charter school law achieving 92% of all of the Center's criteria for how effectively states should craft a charter school law; and

WHEREAS, Governor DeSantis' Framework for Freedom budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year invests a historic \$1.6 billion for early child education and \$26 billion for the K-12 public school system; and

WHEREAS, in the 2022-23 academic year, there are more than 726 charter schools operating in Florida serving more than 382,000 students and representing 13 percent of the public school population in the state; and

WHEREAS, 393 public charter schools in Florida earned an A or a B in the 2021-22 release of school grades, an increase of more than 34 percent, and the percentage of public charter schools that performed in the bottom five percent of public schools in Florida has decreased from nine percent in 2017 to one percent in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Florida Charter Schools Week is celebrated across the country by millions of students, parents, educators, leaders, schools, and organizations to raise awareness of these unique public schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing May 7-13, 2023, as *Florida Charter Schools Week*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 7th day of May, in the year two thousand twenty-three.



Governor