

Evergreen Community Charter School is a public, non-profit charter school, free to any child in North Carolina in Kindergarten through 8th grade.

Charter School Facts



The purpose of NC charter school legislation is to:

- Encourage the use of innovative teaching methods
- Provide opportunities for teacher leadership
- Provide parents and students with expanded public school choices

How are charter schools funded?

- Charter schools are publicly funded schools, parents do not pay tuition or an enrollment fee.
- Charter schools receive money from state, federal and local governments to educate children.
- Charter schools do not, however, receive additional money to fund the acquisition and maintenance of school property nor do we receive state lottery funds for capital purposes.
- Local traditional public school districts receive money from the state and distribute it to charter schools based on per pupil allotment. This is a major source of strain between charters and local traditional schools, who are both underfunded. The law does not clearly define exactly how these funds are to be distributed.
- Charter schools in Buncombe County/Asheville City currently do not receive the same local funding from property taxes as traditional public schools.

What accountability and transparency standards must charter schools meet?

- Same Standardized Exams: EOG, EOC and Read to Achieve
- Same NC Standard Course of Study: Common Core
- Publicly disclosed budgets
- Office of Charter Schools renewal process
- Community feedback and input through annual surveys
- Required to have at least 50% of teachers highly qualified/certified. Evergreen has over 90% of teachers that are highly qualified/certified.

How do charter schools operate?

- Evergreen is operated independently of other school systems by a non-profit corporation and local Board of Directors.
- Evergreen's enrollment is determined by a lottery.
- Evergreen encourages diversity in its community and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, economic standing, religion, or disability in its admission policies or educational programs.

How has Evergreen proven its effectiveness over time?

- EL Education Mentor School, AdvancEd Accreditation, NC Green School of Excellence
- The students at Evergreen have consistently outperformed statewide proficiency standards on EOG assessments.
- In Evergreen's 2016 lottery, there were 749 applications and only 25 spots available.

How have recent decisions affected Evergreen, and all public schools?

At Evergreen, we have experienced significant decrease in funding which has resulted in teacher turnover, low morale, cuts to programming, reduced substitute teachers, reduced enrichment, slashed classroom budgets, professional development, counseling resources and behavior support measures.

Call to Action

The community of Evergreen Community Charter School believes that:

It is fair and beneficial for all public school children in North Carolina that per pupil allotments follow the child attending any North Carolina public school. We are committed to:

- Ensuring that if a student attends a charter school, the local school administrative unit in which the child resides transfer to the charter school an amount equal to the per pupil share of the local current expense fund of the local school administrative unit for the fiscal year;
- Ensuring that charter schools receive an equitable portion of local current expense funding for the services provided by that school;
- Forming collaborative partnerships with all public schools;
- Supporting efforts to increase the amount of per pupil funding in all North Carolina public schools to the top 25% compared to other states.
- We believe that the North Carolina Opportunity Scholarship program is detrimental to the public education system because it moves public funds into the private school sector.
- All schools that receive public funds should be open to all children regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, academic ability or disabilities.
- All schools that receive public funds should be held responsible for demonstrating financial and academic accountability and transparency consistent with public school requirements.

