

—1992

September 21, 1992 – Charter School Act Signed Gov. Pete Wilson signed the Charter Schools Act (SB 1448) by state Senator Gary K. Hart. SB 1448 gave charter schools and their supporters – parents, teachers, leaders, and educators – more autonomy and flexibility to build good schools.

—1998

May 7, 1998 – Charter Expansion Bill Signed Allowing Greater Growth of Charters across the State Gov. Gray Davis signed the Charter Expansion bill (AB 544) by Assemblymember Ted Lempert. AB 544 effectively removed the various obstacles that had stunted the growth of charters following the enactment of SB 1448.

—2005

2005 – Charter Schools Facilities Incentive Grants Program Established, Funding New Charter Public School Growth The Governor's 2005 budget provided the largest amount of funding ever for charter school facility needs—\$28.5 million – and established the State Charter School Facilities Incentive Grants Program through the California Treasurer's office to use federal funds to assist charter school facility needs.

—2010

Charter Public Schools Garner National Attention "Waiting for Superman," which highlights the work of KIPP LA Prep, wins an Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival. Later that year, Oprah Winfrey also awards \$1 million to six organizations, including Aspire, which operates about 30 publicly funded, privately run charter schools in California, including seven in Oakland and Berkeley.

—1994

First Charter Public School in California Opens San Carlos Charter (SCC) was granted state charter number #001 in February 1993 by the State of California. SCC is the oldest charter school in California and one of the oldest charter schools in the United States. It served 85 students upon opening and today maintains enrollment at approximately 350 students.

—2004

2004 – Gov. Schwarzenegger Highlights Charter Schools in State of the State, Secures \$75 Million Federal Grant for Expansion In his State of the State address, Governor Schwarzenegger established a bold roadmap for the future of public education, committing to the goals of expanding charter and career technical schools, providing funding flexibility to public schools, and ensuring that every classroom has an effective teacher and every school has an effective principal so that all students in California graduate prepared for college and career success.

—2010

2010 – Parent Empowerment Law Signed Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed the Parent Empowerment law, also known as the "parent trigger" law, which allows parents to change the administration of a poorly performing public school. The first school to utilize the law was Desert Trails Elementary in Adelanto, which became a charter school.

—2011

CCSA Released First "Portrait of the Movement" Examining Charter School Performance Rather than comparing averages as many studies had done before, this research revealed that charter schools had higher concentrations of schools at both ends of the performance spectrum (a U-shape). students at charters serving low-income populations are very likely to be served by an over-performing school.

Stanford Study Shows LAUSD Charter School Achievements for Low Income Hispanic Students

The Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford University released a study showing that Students in independent charter schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District significantly outperform similar students in traditional schools in the district. The gains were particularly large for schools serving low-income Hispanic students.

2014

2012

Low-Income Charter Students Five Times More Likely to Be Served by a School in the Top 5th Percentile

CCSA's "Portrait of the Movement" shows that students at charters serving low-income populations are five times more likely than their non-charter counterparts to be served by a school in the top 5th percentile.

2014

50% of Charter Students Are Latino In the 2014-2015 school year, over 50% of California charter students are Latino.

2018

Over 10% of Public School Students Attend a Charter In the 2017-2018 school year, over 10% of public school students were enrolled in charter schools.

2018

Seven of the Top 10 high schools Are Charter Public High Schools. California charter public high schools represented 20 percent of the rankings' 2,185 best California high schools, demonstrating that California's charter public schools are meeting the needs of students and helping them achieve academic success.

2020

Charter Public Schools Quickly Adapt to Distance Learning, Narrowing the Digital Divide and Mitigating Learning Loss Amid Pandemic CCSA's Portrait of the Movement report details the actions of charter public schools to quickly transition during the pandemic, providing quality distance learning more rapidly than other public schools and acting quickly to ensure underserved students had access to the technology they needed to fully participate in distance learning.

2020

Three of the top 10 schools in California are charter public schools.

2022

CCSA celebrates the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Charter Schools Act

Enrollment Milestones

