The Truth About Charter Schools

Letter to the Editor
The New York Times

by

Peter W. Cookson Jr.
Dean
Graduate School of Education
Lewis and Clark College

Education Policy Research Unit (EPRU)
Education Policy Studies Laboratory
College of Education
Division of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
Box 872411
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287-2411

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To the Editor:

There is no credible evidence that deregulation of public education leads to higher student achievement. A system of relatively unregulated charter schools may serve a few children in the short term, but in the long term undermines the very purpose of public education.

A shared public culture, combined with academic excellence, is the foundational belief on which to build a vibrant system of public schools.

Peter W. Cookson Jr.
Portland, Ore., Aug. 17, 2004
*The writer is dean of the Graduate School of Education at Lewis & Clark College.*