

April 2009

# Florida's Charter Schools News

## New Applicant Training



The Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice is pleased to announce that the development of a comprehensive training plan for charter school operators is quickly progressing. As part of this training plan and pursuant to s. 1002.33, F.S., the Department will offer a training workshop for new applicants. The

training is tentatively scheduled for this summer in several locations throughout the state. The workshop will include sessions on business planning, fiscal management, accounting procedures, and the state and federal financial assistance available to charter schools.

Before workshop locations are selected, charter school staff would like to know the areas of the state where the greatest need for this training exists; therefore, individuals or groups interested in

opening a charter school should send the following information to our charter school training coordinator, Tera Teders, at [tera.teders@fldoe.org](mailto:tera.teders@fldoe.org):

Contact Person  
Phone Number  
E-mail Address  
Location (City)

In addition, please forward this information along to any interested parties and request that they respond as soon as possible so that we may secure locations for the training.

Thank you for your support!

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## National Charter Schools Week 2009

May 3-9, 2009 is National Charter Schools Week. The theme for this year's celebration is *Promoting Excellence & Innovation*. The National Alliance of Public Charter Schools has created a toolkit that can assist charter schools with activities to celebrate National Charter Schools Week. The toolkit can be found at the following link: <http://www.publiccharters.org/files/publications/Tool%20Kit%20NCSW2009%2003312009.pdf>.

Please join us in celebrating the many successes of Florida's charter schools.



FLORIDA'S  
**CHARTER**  
*Schools*



## Staff Spotlight

### Julia Somers-Arthur

Julia Somers-Arthur, while new to the position of Training and Resource Administrator, has served as Customer Service Supervisor for the School Choice Office for over two years. With a Masters in Teaching, several stints as a writer and editor, and twenty years of classroom teaching in a variety of settings, Julia brings broad experience in the world of education to her work.

She looks forward to working with the Charter Schools Program to provide useful, accurate, user-friendly support, and she welcomes hearing from stakeholders regarding their training needs.

Mrs. Somers-Arthur is the training coordinator working with school district charter contacts.



### Tera Teders



Tera is a Florida native and graduate of the University of Florida. She moved to Tallahassee in 2005 and worked with the state scholarship programs before transitioning to charter schools. Despite growing up in Florida, Tera is an avid traveler. She studied abroad in both New Zealand and the Netherlands and spent five

summers in Maine working at a children's summer camp. She enjoys cooking, running, and spending time outdoors with her husband and dog.

Mrs. Teders is the training coordinator working with charter schools.



### Charter Schools Good News Stories

The Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice is highlighting Good News stories from charter schools on the School Choice Web site. Please share your school's Good News by sending your stories to [Charterschools@fldoe.org](mailto:Charterschools@fldoe.org).



## 2009 Conferences/Workshops

Date(s)	Conference/Workshop	Location	Contact Information
June 21-24	9th Annual National Charter Schools Conference	Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC	<a href="http://www.nationalcharterconference.org/welcome.php">http://www.nationalcharterconference.org/welcome.php</a>
November 16-18	2009 Florida Charter Schools Conference	Orlando, Florida	<a href="http://charterschoolconference.com/">http://charterschoolconference.com/</a>



### Governance Training

The deadline for board members to receive training is August 1, 2009 for the 2009-2010 school year.

### Technical Assistance is Available

Charter school staff is available to provide technical assistance or assist with any questions you may have. If you need assistance, please contact staff via telephone at 850-245-0502 or via e-mail at [Charterschools@fldoe.org](mailto:Charterschools@fldoe.org).



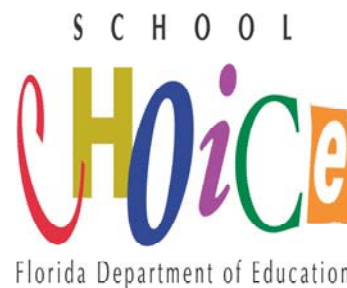
## National Charter School Teachers' Institute

A National Charter School Teachers' Institute hosted by the U.S. Department of Education is being held June 21, 2009, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. at the Washington Convention Center, free of charge, prior to the national conference. Space is limited to 500 attendees.

Prominent teacher leaders from around the country will provide 60 training sessions and share research-based practices they have successfully applied in their classrooms and schools. Participants will discuss instructional strategies in each content area and for each grade level. Content focus for the sessions will include: reading, math, science, English language leaders, history, using data, differentiating instruction, and technology to support student achievement. Sessions will also provide important resources from the National Math Panel, the National Archives, and the Library of Congress.

Additional information is available by e-mailing [nationalconference@publiccharters.org](mailto:nationalconference@publiccharters.org) or by calling: 206-463-3344.

You may register for the Institute online at: [http://center.uoregon.edu/conferences/NCSC/NCSC09/registration/reg\\_index.php](http://center.uoregon.edu/conferences/NCSC/NCSC09/registration/reg_index.php).



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