

July 2009

Florida's Charter Schools News

2009 Legislation Affecting Charter Schools



Senate Bill (SB) 278, related to charter schools, was passed by the 2009 Florida Legislature, signed by the Governor, and became effective July 1, 2009. The provisions of the legislation affect several areas of charter school operations including the application process, reporting requirements, student assessment data, sponsor services,

and financial recovery and corrective action procedures. A complete text of the bill language is available on the [Senate Web site](#).

A presentation titled [2009 Legislative/Rules Update for Florida's Charter Schools Program](#) is posted on the School Choice Web site and reviews the changes enacted by SB 278. The Department has prepared a Question and Answer document to assist charter schools in recognizing and understanding the new requirements established by the bill. The document has been distributed and posted

on the School Choice Web site.

In addition, the Department of Education plans to propose State Board of Education Rules to further clarify some of the statutory requirements for charter schools. Rule notices have been published in the July 10, 2009 issue of the [Florida Administrative Weekly](#).

If you have any questions related to the new legislation or rule development, e-mail us at charter-schools@fldoe.org.

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Charter School Appeal Commission Hearing

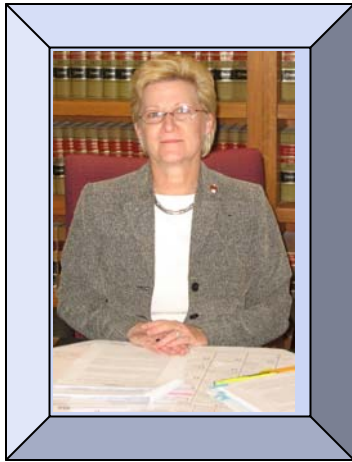
The Charter School Appeal Commission will meet via conference call on July 22, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. regarding Sunrise Community Charter School vs. Broward County School Board. Please call 1-888-808-6959 code 2450861 to participate.



FLORIDA'S
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Staff Spotlight



Lois Tepper

Mrs. Tepper provides legal assistance to the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice. Some of the assistance she provides includes reviewing the new model charter school application and model charter school contract. Mrs. Tepper also reviews proposed rules, technical assistance papers, and responds to questions from schools, districts and parents.

Mrs. Tepper serves as the Chair of the Charter School Appeal Commission and represents the Charter School Appeal Commission before the State Board of Education. She reviews appeal documents from schools and districts and assists in the preparation of documentation required to conduct Charter School Appeals.

2009 Conferences/Workshops

Date(s)	Conference/Workshop	Location	Contact Information
September 10-13	Florida Reading Association 47th Annual Conference	Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando, Florida	http://www.flreads.org
September 21-23	FL Assoc. for Staff Development Leadership Conference	Tradewinds Island Grand Resort St. Petersburg Beach, Florida	http://www.fasdonline.org
Sept. 30—Oct. 2	37th FL Assoc. for Media in Education Conference	Marriott Orlando World Center Resort, Orlando, Florida	<a href="http://www.floridamedia.org/displaycomm
on.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=16">http://www.floridamedia.org/displaycomm on.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=16
November 16-18	2009 Florida Charter Schools Conference	Orlando, Florida	http://charterschoolconference.com/

Reminders:

New Applicant Training & Rule Development

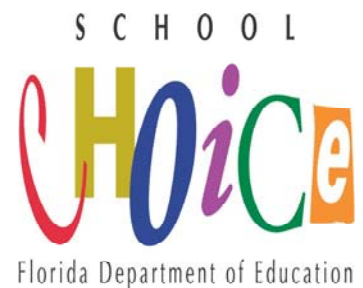
July 21—North Miami Beach at North Miami Beach Senior High School

July 23—Orlando at Valencia Community College West Campus on Kirkman Road

Rule Development Notices were advertised in the July 10, 2009, Publication of the [Florida Administrative Weekly](#).

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.



Office of Independent
Education and Parental
Choice

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School Choice Hotline:
1-800-447-1636

www.floridaschoolchoice.org