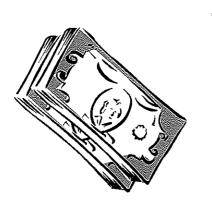
TAXPAYERS FOR ACHIEVEMENT INC.

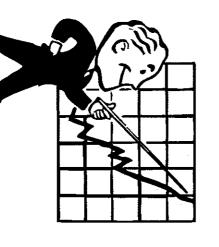
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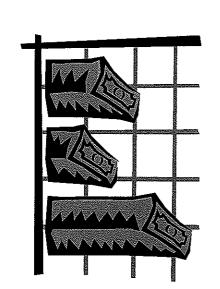
A COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS:

LET'S SAVE HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS!

**Smart School Choice** 







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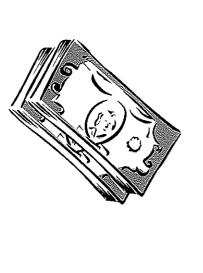
By Lisa Mieritz

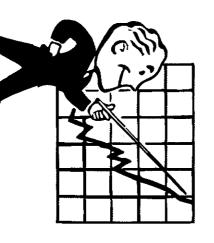
LISA MIERITZ,

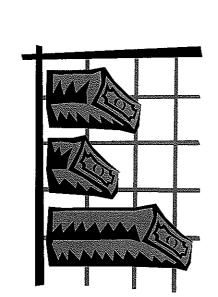
Member 4 years, District 11 Accreditation Committee Master of Science in Administration, UC, Irvine Colorado Real Estate Broker, 1979-Present Director, Economics in Education, Inc.

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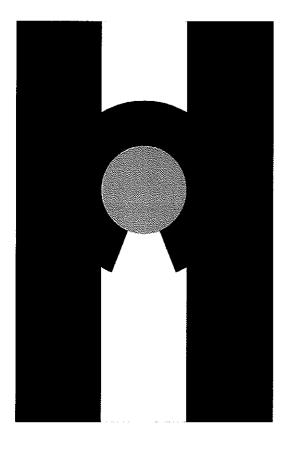
By Lisa Mieritz

## COLORADO TAXPAYERS PAY AN UNFUNDED MANDATE OF

YEAR **MORE** TO PAY FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS THAN

EDUCATING THOSE STUDENTS IN DISTRICT

**PROGRAMS** 



INCREASE AND PRESERVE

REVENUE BY

TRANSITIONING FROM CHARTER TO DISTRICT PROGRAMS, INCLUDING SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION







# CHARTERS COST MORE THAN DISTRICT PROGRAMS IN TWO WAYS:

# 1. CHARTERS DUPLICATE SPENDING: PER PUPIL COSTS INCREASE,

40% INSTEAD OF 15% ON ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OR \$50,000 FOR A 20-STUDENT FOOTBALL PROGRAM. ...SINCE CHARTERS SPREAD COSTS ACROSS FEWER STUDENTS—LIKE SPENDING

2. CHARTERS DUPLICATE FUNDING: AUTHORIZERS PAY CHARTERS SCALE, THE WAY ALL OTHER PROGRAMS ARE FUNDED. BASED ON THE FULL PPR INSTEAD OF ON THE MARGINAL FUNDING

# THE UNFUNDED MANDATE COST FOR DISTRICTS: \$309 MILLION/YEAR

THE COST TO THESE SPECIFIC DISTRICTS OF FUNDING A 250 PUPIL CHARTER PROGRAM **INSTEAD OF A DISTRICT PROGRAM:** 

Source: School

District Data: FY 07/08

Madams 12: \$1,540,500

■ Col. Springs D-11: \$1,214,500

■ Lewis Palmer: \$772,000

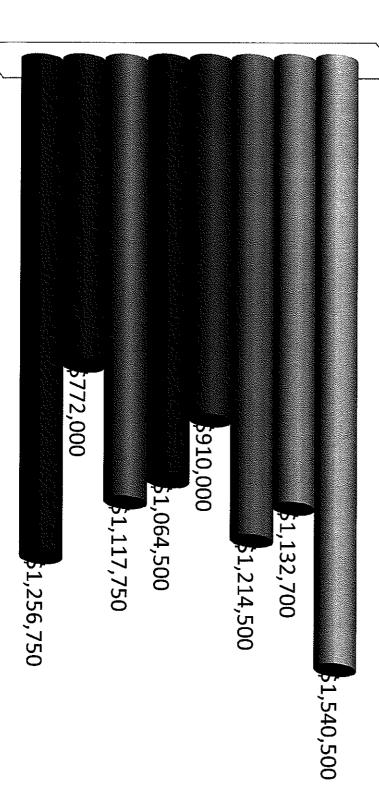
■ Falcon D-49 \$ 1,064,500

Adams/Arapahoe: \$1,132,700

■ Poudre: \$910,000

■ Brighton: \$1,117,750

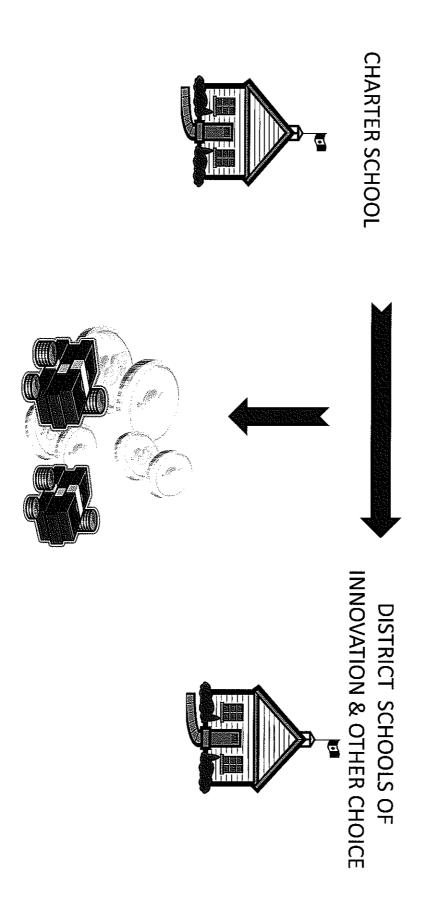
■ Canon City: \$1,256,750



# The unfunded mandate from state charters: \$32 Million/year

The cost of funding the State Charter Institute is \$32 million dollars per year greater in cost than educating those same children in district programs.

# Transitioning from SCI to district schools saves \$32/million/Year



\$32 MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR

# SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION OFFER THE SAME CHOICES AS

### CHARTERS:

- \*Union rules can be waived, changed or eliminated---schedules can be expanded, wages altered, unique school cultures created
- 1. District and charter programs have the same achievement
- 2. District and charter programs have the same flexibility and choice.
- 3. But district programs can do this for \$340 million dollars less per

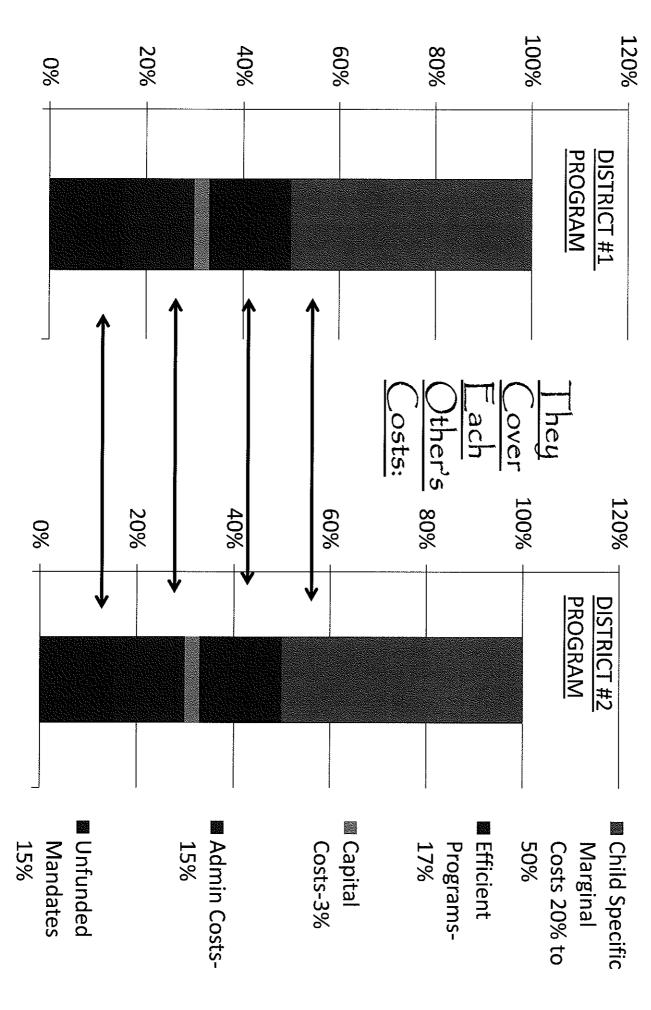


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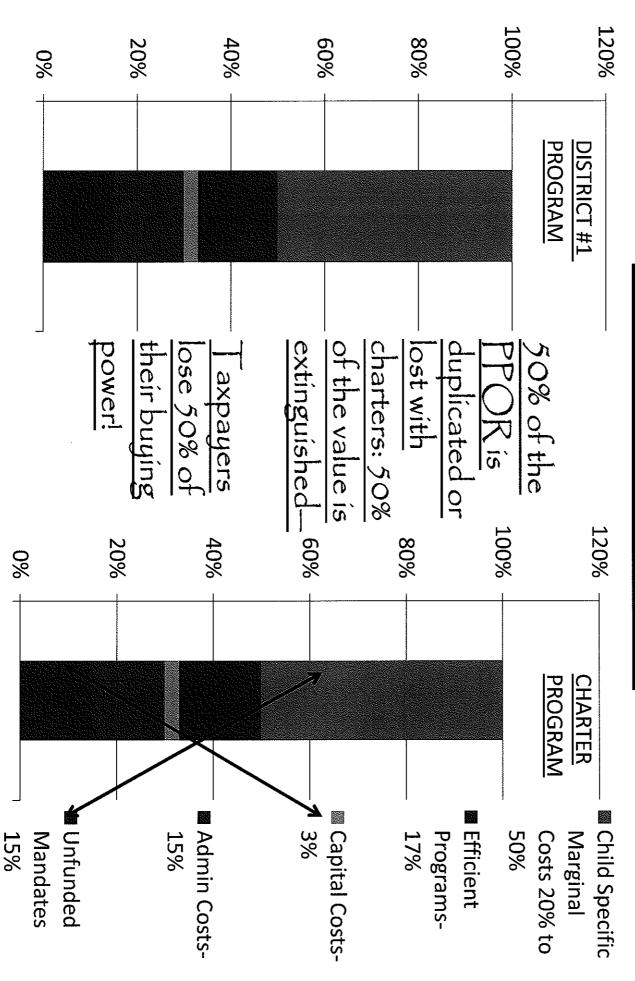


Let's now use the business model—the cost-benefit analysis used by all of Western and Eastern Civilization—including compare district-to-district choice and district-to-charter the CDE School Districts, to analyze charter costs: let's choice: what's the difference?

## STUDENTS SUPPORT PROGRAMS & MANDATES WHERE THEY ATTEND PUBLIC-DISTRICT TO PUBLIC-DISTRICT CHOICE IS A FINANCIAL-WASH:

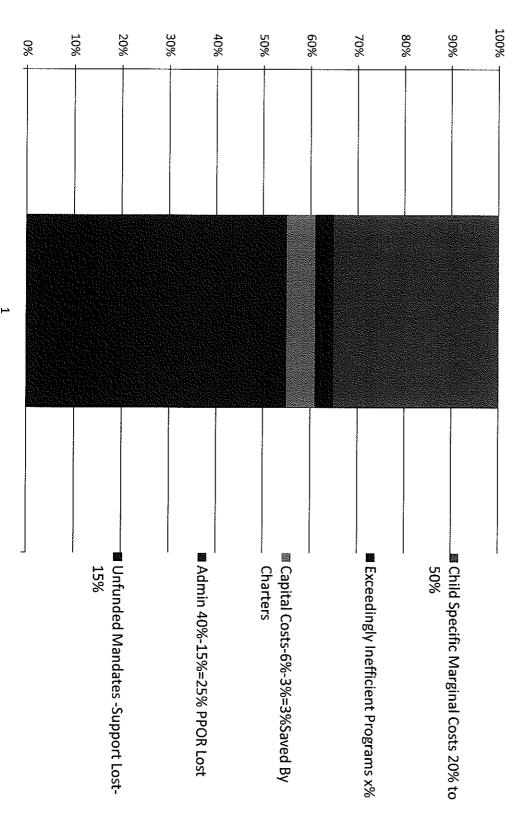


### PUBLIC-DISTRICT TO CHARTER SCHOOL CHOICE IS NOT A FINANCIAL-WASH:



IN FACILITY COSTS, SAYS THE LEAGUE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS. (Sources: CDE & COSTS, 10% IN INEFFICIENT PROGRAMS, BUT CHARTERS PAY 3% MORE IN UNFUNDED MANDATE SUPPORT, 25% IN CHARTER EXCESS ADMIN CHARTER SCHOOLS LOSE ABOUT 50% OF THE VALUE OF THE PPOR: 15%

Charter League: "\$480/pp is capital cost" @ 6%/pp)



### SUMMARY:

- typical district average of 15% \*Charters typically spend 40-50% on administration compared to the
- unfunded mandates spent by all district children. \*Charters spend almost nothing supporting the 15% per pupil in
- fewer students than district programs adding 5-10% in waste \*All charter programs are inefficient since they spread fixed costs over
- schools \*Charter schools pay about 3% more in facility costs than district

### WITH NO MORE CHOICE OR FLEXIBILITY WITH NO ADDED ACHIEVEMENT GAIN AND TOTAL: CHARTERS COST TWICE AS MUCH

## WHICH HELPS KIDS MORE

## WITH \$340 MILLION DOLLARS TO SPEND?

DISTRICT SPENDING

### CHARTER SPENDING

- \*CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION
- \*MATH/READING COACHES
- \*STUDENT INTERVENTIONS
- **\*EXPERIENCED TEACHERS**
- \*LOW-COST, EFFICIENT ART & MUSIC
- \*SUPPORTING THEIR SHARE OF UNFUNDED MANDATES

- \*PAYING CHARTER OPERATORS
- \*PAYING CHARTER OWNERS
- \*PAYING DUPLICATE CURRICULUM COSTS
- \*PAYING LAWYERS, LOBBYISTS
- \*PAYING RENT TO RELIGIOUS, ETHNIC & other ORGANIZATIONS
- \*PAYING MARKETING FIRMS/AD COSTS
- \*PAYING CHARTER SCHOOL LEAGUE

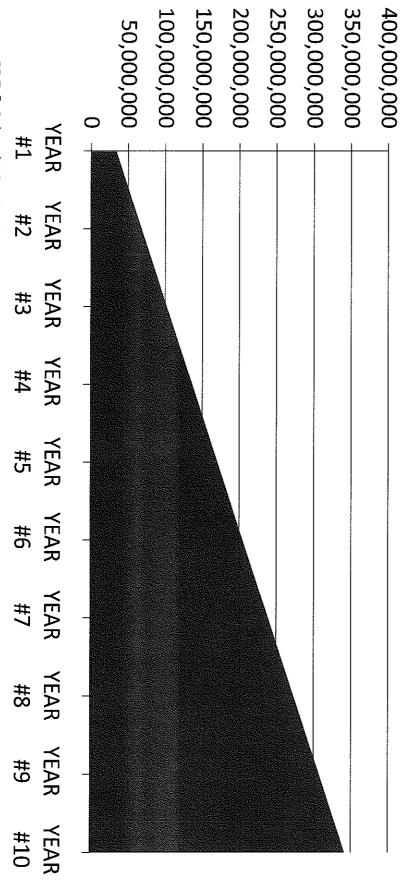


# TOTAL LOST INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMMING: WE LOSE

\$3,418,592,640 OVER TEN YEARS:

### RESTORE THESE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN PROGRAMMING **MERELY BY LETTING CHARTERS EXPIRE:**

Instructional Programming Dollars Restored By Closing 10% of Colorado's Charters Per Year



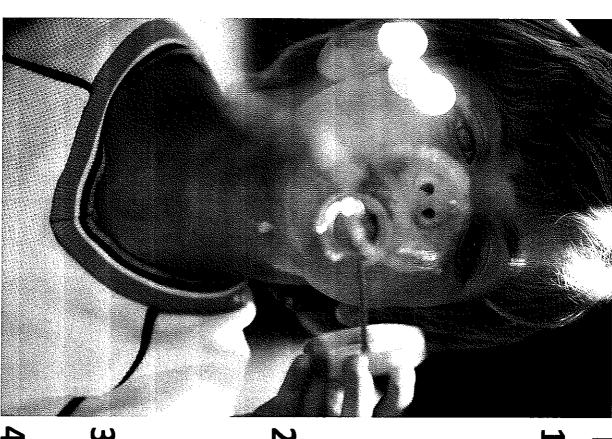
Sources: CDE & School District Data

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### HELPING THE STATE: SPLIT THE SAVINGS BETWEEN THE DISTRICTS AND THE GENERAL STATE BUDGET:

general fund gets a 20% credit of the PPR for three years and the district gets more funds and more control over its budget. For each child transferred from charters to district schools, the state

### \$5,000 SAVINGS PER PUPIL--\$1,250,000 x \$7K x 20%). \$70 for the state: Million/per year (50K **FUND AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS-up to** <u>per 250-pupil charter school---SPLIT</u> CHARTER SCHOOL THIS SAVINGS BETWEEN THE GENERAL DISTRICT SCHOOL STATE **BUDGE** DISTRICT BUDGET



## **Transition Process:**

- 1. Grandfather-in teachers of charters which transition during an existing contract through the contract & encourage licensure. Admin could stay 1 yr or part time.
- Close the State Institute & transfer admin of contracts to districts which can also negotiate with the charters.
   Develop several templates for
- 3. Develop several templates for Schools of Innovation.
- Lease, sell or re-utilize bonded charter facilities.

# PER PUPIL TAXPAYER LOSS FROM CHOOSING CHARTER PROGRAMS INSTEAD OF

BASELINE DISTRICT PROGRAMS-TWO FORMS (Sources: empirical district & CDE data) (Form #1) DUPLICATE SPENDING (Form #2) DUPLICATE FUNDING: TOTAL TAXPAYER LOSS

Institute Weighted average PER CHARTER PUPIL LOSS, STATE-WIDE: this is the average lost educational dollar per child from choosing a charter program instead of a <u>Schools</u> STATE Charter LEVEL DISTRICT <u>Schools</u> district programs form the baseline: District programs LEVEL Charter lose \$0 Per Pupil. they lose @50% of PPOR, \$4,633/pupil, per data. duplicate spending: All charter programs i.e., TAXPAYERS lose -\$4,633 \$4,633 Per Pupil Loss: Declining Dist Per Pupil Loss: Average/Pupil **Stable Dist** Declining Dist Stable Dist Average Loss/Pupil lose an added \$1,200 to \$1,700 district programs: Taxpayers on average per charter pupil. districts receive unequal funding of charter versus Declining enrollment -\$4,864 -\$1,200 OŞ -\$0 **CHARTERS VIS A VIS** LOSS FROM \$6,359 ON AVERAGE, \$5,881 **\$5,833 PROGRAMS** DISTRICT PER PUPIL.

School of Innovation or other district program:

# TOTAL TAXPAYER LOSS FROM CHOOSING CHRTER SCHOOLS INSTEAD OF DISTRICT

SCHOOLS-TWO FORMS. (Source: empirical district & CDE data)

<u>LEVEL</u> 5,156 53,025 <u>Students</u> <u>Charter</u> STATE district programs District programs Weighted average TOTAL TAXPAYER LOSS PER YEAR, STATE-WIDE: This is X \$5,833 Students **LEVEL** X \$6,359 form the baseline: BASELINE <u>Charter</u> lose \$0 Per Pupil DISTRICT the total taxpayer educational dollar lost from choosing charter programs (Form # 1) DUPLICATE SPENDING charter student numbers. study x state & district PPOR: \$4,633 per the duplicate spending: All charter programs they lose @50% of \$4,633 -\$4,633 Per Pupil Loss: Declining Dist Per Pupil Loss: Declining Dist Average/Pupil **Stable Dist** Stable Dist Average/Pupil (Form #2) DUPLICATE FUNDING: district programs: Taxpayers lose an added \$1,200 to \$1,700 districts receive unequal on average per charter pupil. funding of charter versus Declining enrollment -\$5,121 -\$4,864 LOSS FROM CHARTERS TOTAL TAXPAYER LOSS PROGRAMS, BOTH BY STATE AND DISTRICT VIS A VIS DISTRICT **BUDGETS AND BY** \$309,294,825 \$32,787,004 TOTAL LOSS

instead of Schools of Innovation or other district programs, all else equal.

### DISTRICTS AND THE GENERAL STATE BUDGET: HELPING THE STATE: SPLIT THE SAVINGS BETWEEN THE

general fund gets a 20% credit of the PPR for three years. These savings presume that only 80% of charters are transitioned For each child transferred from charters to district schools, the state

Projected ANNUAL savings against the baseline of the efficient scale of

school districts exceeding 5,000 in enrollment:

State Budget Savings:

Closing State Institute: \$32,787,004

Credit 20% 41,389 PPRs

\$57,944,600

\$90,731,604/yr . saved

STATE

BUDGET

Total State Savings:

@\$7K:3 years

\$90,731,604

\$183,305,363

**District Budget Savings:** 





**BUDGETS** DISTRICT

\$183,305,363/yr. saved

Total Overall Savings is 81%

of Estimate 342K Loss:

\$274,036,968