

Dear Dr. Keleher:

Greetings.

Every day we receive in our offices inquiries from teachers and parents requesting our assistance after informally learning that their schools will become charter (public alliance) schools under Act 85-2018. To this day, we have not seen an official statement from the Department regarding the ongoing process being carried out. We searched the Department's website and its public alliance school area, finding no information about those entities requesting to operate a charter school, which ones are pending approval or have been approved, and which ones have been rejected.

Parents and teachers haven't been able to find information either. This lack of transparency and access to information contributes to a climate of uncertainty that could later foster the loss of students to the system and an exodus of professional talent. Teachers are blindfolded regarding their future. Parents are in the uncertainty with no participation on the educational processes of their children. Regardless of the regulation that requires entities to make community consultations, such thing has not happened in those schools that are being announced as alliance schools.

We would appreciate all the information related to the process that the Department is carrying out to turn public schools into charters, so there's transparency about such a delicate process.

Thanks, you for the prompt attention to this issue.

Cordially,

Aida Díaz