



Pooyie!

Written by The Independent Staff
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C'EST BON

The Public Affairs Research Council, a Baton Rouge-based good government group, has the reputation and resources to weigh in on education in Louisiana. So when PAR last week released a detailed research report identifying best practices among charter schools that can also be applied to the traditional public school system, we listened. PAR's recommendations fall into five broad categories: clearly defined expectations; data-centric instruction; student enrichment including extended school days; teacher support and development; and school boards that are focused on policy. PAR acknowledges that public school systems are frequently suspicious of and even hostile to charter schools, and also offers recommendations to help the state Department of Education build a bridge between charter schools and traditional public schools. Each has something to bring to the table. Hopefully the DOE is reading this report.