



Parents chose to attend those schools, and they – and their children -- were rightfully indignant at the Hillsborough board's readiness to close schools that provide a better learning option than a geographically assigned school.



"I do not understand why some grownups are trying to close my school," said Zoe Sanchez, a nine-year-old who attends SouthShore Charter Academy in Hillsborough County. "I cannot say enough how much I love my school."

The Palm Beach Post

I joined the *"litigation against the Palm Beach County School Board.* As a working mother of two young sons, this is not a battle I wanted to fight.

But I have little choice. The school board is mistreating charter school students, including my younger son.

"In fighting charter schools," says Marleny Olivo, "the board is taking education decisions out of the hands of parents." "I remain and will remain a supporter of public education for any number of reasons. I think a strong education system for all is vital for our collective future.

But, thanks to those who responded and shared their stories. Now I better understand those who make a different decision, who believe their first duty is not to "the system," or the broader community — but to their own kids."

- Gil Smart, TCPalm columnist and Editorial Board member

Florida parents are already empowered by Choice.

Provide parents guidance and support in:

- exercising their power as education partners
- exercising their collective voice to influence policies.
- exercising the electoral power of their vote to ensure that those in positions of authority reflect the priorities of parents.

parentpowerinEd.org

NEWS / THE EDUCATION GRADEBOOK

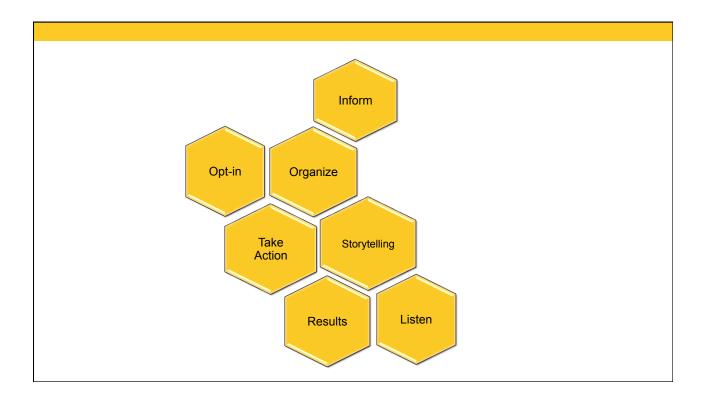
Hillsborough School Board explains charter school votes in letter to state

Charter supporters urged the board to change its position. Others urged the board to stand its ground



Kids Community College fifth grader Thaddeus Jackson, middle, railles with his more, guidance counselor and dozens of other charter school supporters outside the Hillsborrugh County School Baurd's June 29 special meeting. The board was scheduled to discuss its recent vote to closs several charter school. JEFFFK'S SOUCHEK (Time J

How do you engage... parents who are willing to share their story – and their school's successes -- with legislators, media, elected officials, school board members, and community leaders?



TURNING PARENTS INTO BOLD CHARTER SCHOOL ADVOCATES!

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