



The Texas Legislature is in session for the next five months. The Texas Charter School Association is working diligently to track the many anti-charter bills being filed before the filing deadline.

Be assured that your voice, as parents, is valuable and impactful during this legislative process that happens every two years. ***Your voice matters in the work for equitable and sustainable funding for charter schools.***

We encourage you to become involved in legislative advocacy to help shape these important decisions in the following ways:

- Sign up for parent advocacy updates through the Texas Public Charter School Association at the following link: <https://txcharterschools.org/join-tpcsas-team-of-advocates/>
- Identify your state representative and state senator and send them a personalized email to let them know about your family and why you chose Great Hearts for your children. The following link will help you identify your state representative and state senator as well as the email addresses for each office: <https://wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home>.

Help Dispel Charter Myths Published in San Antonio Express-News

State Rep. Mary Gonzalez (D-El Paso) co-authored a misleading editorial, “The Steep Price of Charter Schools,” published in the San Antonio Express-News on Jan. 21. Most shockingly, Gonzalez says that Texas doesn’t need charter schools because “traditional school districts already do the same job as charter schools.”

Consider writing a letter to the editor at the Express-News to explain how charter schools are **NOT** doing the same thing as traditional ISDs based on your family’s personal experience. Follow this [link](#) for a sample draft to write a letter to the editor, and personalize it as best you can.

Parent Councils

Great Hearts is in the process of establishing parent councils at each Texas campus. These councils will serve as advocates for our families to elected officials. If you are interested in learning more about these volunteer opportunities, email bridie.chaudoir@greatheartstx.org

Campus Advocacy Events

We are in the process of planning community/parent advocacy events at each Great Hearts Texas campus this spring. All events will be socially distanced and follow the appropriate protocols. If you have feedback on what you would like to learn, please email bridie.chaudoir@greatheartstx.org