

Where do all the students go and why? (11)

The Bethlehem Gadfly Charter Schools, Education, Gadfly's posts, Serious Issues February 7, 2019
(11th in a series on Education)

Gadfly still wrapping his wings around charter schools.

Approximately 2100 BASD students attend charter schools, about 13% of the total student population. Charter schools cost Bethlehem taxpayers 29 million in charter tuition this year, which is roughly 10% of the budget.

Where do they go? And then the next question is why do they go?

They go to the following 12 charter schools, only 3 of which have Bethlehem addresses. 5 have Allentown addresses, and 1 each to Catasauqua, Fogelsville, Emmaus, and Easton.

Charter schools are about choice.

So why do they go? Gadfly wonders if there are any surveys that shed light on this question.

(Another interesting statistic would be what is the percentage of BASD students to the total enrollment in each of the charter schools.)

We have profiled in previous posts 2 of the 3 charter schools with Bethlehem addresses. Gadfly who has two granddaughter “performers” who went to a public school in Massachusetts that excelled in the Arts can understand the attraction of our Charter Arts. And to Gadfly the appeal of the Dual Language school is also quite understandable.

Here are the 12 charter schools in descending order of the 2100 BASD students attending. Let’s spend some time browsing through – especially the “top” schools – to try to sense what the draw is.

Almost 50% go to one school — what’s up with that?

1038

Lehigh Valley Academy Charter School

1560 Valley Center Pkwy #200, Bethlehem, PA 18017

<http://www.lvacademy.org/>

246

Executive Education Academy Charter School

555 Union Blvd, Allentown, PA 18109

<https://www.ee-schools.org/>

183

Lehigh Valley Dual Language Charter School

675 E Broad St, Bethlehem, PA 18018

<https://www.lvdlcs.org/>

165

Lincoln Leadership Academy Charter School

1414 E Cedar St, Allentown, PA 18109

<https://www.llacslv.org/>

94

The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts

321 E 3rd St, Bethlehem, PA 18015

<https://www.charterarts.org/>

55

The Arts Academy Charter School

1610 E Emmaus Avenue, Allentown, PA 18103

<http://www.arts-cs.org/>

25

Innovative Arts Academy Charter School

330 Howertown Rd, Catasauqua, PA 18032

<https://iaacslv.net/>

23

Arts Academy Elementary Charter School

601 Union St, Allentown, PA 18101

<https://www.artsacademyelementary.com/>

19

Easton Arts Academy Elementary Charter School

30 N 4th St, Easton, PA 18042

<https://www.easton-arts-charter-school.com/>

17

Seven Generations Charter School

154 Minor St, Emmaus, PA 18049

<https://sevengenerationsschool.org/>

15

Circle of Seasons Charter School

8380 Mohr Ln, Fogelsville, PA 18051

<https://www.circleofseasons.org/>

2 Roberto Clemente CS

136 S 4th St # 1, Allentown, PA 18102

<http://www.myrcs.com/en/>

Like Gadfly, this is probably the first time realizing the local “universe” of charter schools. What are you thinking?