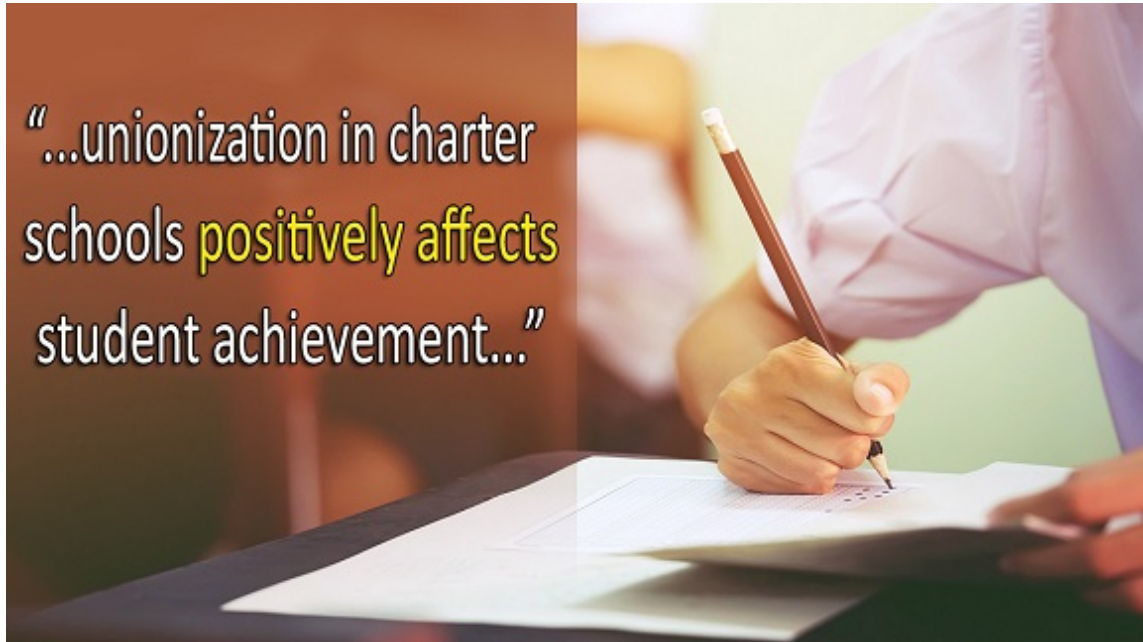


New study: Charter schools that unionize hold real benefit for students

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by **Brian Washington**

“It just makes sense.” That’s what Lynn Kameny said when Education Votes told her about a new study that concludes unionization in charter schools “positively impacts student achievement”.

Kameny, an English teacher at the Alameda Community Learning Center, a California charter school covering grades six through twelve, suggests it’s because educators who teach at charter schools with a union have a strong collective voice.

“As a member of a charter school with a union, because my union protects my right to have a voice in the classroom, I feel I can advocate for my students without fear of job reprisal,” said Kameny. “That’s a pretty big factor.”

The study looked at several charter schools in California. The authors of the study, entitled [Teachers’ Unions and School Performance Evidence from California Charter Schools](#), concluded the following:

The main results of our analyses are thus that unionization in charter schools positively affects student achievement in math, but has a smaller and statistically insignificant impact on English achievement.

The study also found that “unionization benefits the learning of students with low levels of achievement the most.”

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