

# PACYBER

The Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School

MIDLAND, April 29 - The Fifth Annual Charter School Day on the Hill is set for Tuesday, May 24, at the state Capitol Complex in Harrisburg. Families with students enrolled in the Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School, like those in the nearly 140 other charter schools in the commonwealth, are being urged once again to attend this event in significant numbers to make their voices heard by the state legislature.

“Our families should make an appointment to speak that morning with their state senator and representative to tell them how important educational choice is to them, said Dr. Nick Trombetta, CEO of PA Cyber.

Pennsylvanians can identify their district legislators and contact their offices through the website, [www.legis.state.pa.us](http://www.legis.state.pa.us).

Day on the Hill is sponsored by the [Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools](#), the statewide association of charter and cyber charter schools, of which PA Cyber is a member, and the parent group [PA Families for Public Cyber Schools](#).

As they did last year, PA Cyber families and staff are to meet for pizza at Grace United Methodist Church on State Street beginning at 11:30 a.m., then make their way to the State Museum on North Street for a 12:45 p.m. march on Commonwealth Avenue to the fountain side of the state Capitol Complex, where the rally will take place.

Dr. Trombetta said participation in the day’s activities will allow PA Cyber families to meet other charter school families and educators, teach students about the political process and the right to peaceful assembly, and let them hear directly from legislative leaders about proposed legislation affecting charter schools.

The Senate and the House are poised this session to consider the most sweeping charter school reform legislation since the act that created charter and cyber charter schools in 1997.

The legislation, [S.B. 904](#) and its companion [H.B. 1348](#), aim to improve

accountability and transparency among charter and cyber charter schools, while continuing to support additional educational opportunities for Pennsylvania families.

Under this comprehensive legislation, greater checks and balances would be established on the commonwealth's charter and cyber charter schools. Some of these provisions include mandating additional oversight and accountability on administrators and board members by requiring employees to adhere to the state's Ethics Act and establishing clear prohibitions against any conflicts of interest.

Dr. Trombetta said the legislation is necessary to assure that high-performing charter schools can thrive, and that financial mismanagement and academic problems can be prevented.

“Enrolling their child in a charter or cyber charter school is not a decision taken lightly by parents. It is a decision made out of educational necessity, and every family’s reasons are different and valid. We are asking families to put a human face on charter schools so legislators can see who we are and understand why charter schools are so important,” said Dr. Trombetta.

For more information on Day on the Hill and pending legislation, or to become more involved in political efforts to support charter schools, people may visit the [PA Cyber Action Network](#).

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