



**NORTH CAROLINA  
COALITION FOR  
CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Eight Charter Schools Make List of Top 25 High Schools in North Carolina**

*Public charter schools are a free, public alternative to zoned schools and are available to all*

*Although public charter schools comprise about 10% of all public schools in NC, they account for 30% of top-ranked high schools*

**Shelby, N.C.** – U.S. News and World Reports included eight public charter schools in its [list of the top 25 high schools](#) in North Carolina.

Public charter schools are a free, public alternative to traditional zoned schools and are available to all. There are 205 public charter schools in North Carolina serving about 130,000 students.

Lindalyn Kakadelis, Executive Director of the N.C. Coalition for Charter Schools, said, **"Public charter schools are part of the public school family. I'm so proud, but not surprised, that public charter schools hold a disproportionately large share of the top-ranked high schools in North Carolina."**

The eight charter schools to make the top-25 list on the U.S. News and World Reports rankings are:

- Raleigh Charter High School (Raleigh), #3
- Woods Charter School (Chapel Hill), #4
- Gray Stone Day (Misenheimer), #9
- Research Triangle High Schools (Durham), #12
- Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy (Mooresboro), #14

- Pine Lake Preparatory (Mooresville), #16
- Lake Norman Charter (Huntersville), #22
- Community School of Davidson (Davidson), #23

Seven more charter schools ranked in the top 50:

- Henderson Collegiate (Henderson), #26
- The Hawbridge School (Saxapahaw), #28
- Triangle Math and Science Academy (Cary), #35
- The North Carolina Leadership Academy (Kernersville), #38
- KIPP Gaston College Preparatory (Gaston), #41
- Franklin Academy (Wake Forest), #45
- Oxford Preparatory (Oxford), #47

Students do not need to live in a particular zone, or even the same county, to attend a public charter school. Public charter schools cannot pick and choose students in an applicant pool.

If a public charter school has a waiting list, students are chosen at random in a lottery. An increasing number of public charter schools weight their lotteries to favor economically disadvantaged students.

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