



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

**FLORIDA CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK**

**WHEREAS, public charter schools provide parents with additional choices for selecting the most effective educational programs for their children; and**

**WHEREAS, public charter schools serve as a catalyst to improve student learning and achievement, increase parental choice, and foster innovative instructional practices; and**

**WHEREAS, public charter schools offer parents and policy makers a viable option for improving education in the state; and**

**WHEREAS, parental demand and support have encouraged the growth of quality public charter schools in Florida from just five in 1996 to 617 in 2014, serving more than 229,000 students in 45 of 67 school districts and two state universities; and**

**WHEREAS, for 18 years, public charter schools have continually raised student achievement and closed achievement gaps for low-income and disadvantaged students; and**

**WHEREAS, public charter school students, teachers, and parents work together to improve student achievement – raising the standard for all public school students statewide; and**

**WHEREAS, the State of Florida joins the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools and the Florida Charter School Alliance in celebrating the contributions of charter schools to public education;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing May 5-9, 2014, as *Florida Charter Schools Week*.**



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year two thousand fourteen.**

  
Governor