

## Class Action Media Talking Points

### What is a class action lawsuit?

A class action lawsuit is a lawsuit in which a group of people with the same or similar injuries caused by the same product or action file suit against the defendant as a group.

### Who does this class action lawsuit represent?

This lawsuit now represents all 308 non-classroom-based public charter schools in California.



### What is the significance of this lawsuit?

This is the first class-action lawsuit involving charter schools in California.

### Why is this class action lawsuit necessary?

Leaders from The Classical Academies, Springs Charter Schools, and The Learning Choice Academy began the coalition challenging SB-98 and SB-820 back in September 2020. These new state funding laws did not provide funding for growing public schools. Combined, these three schools in the original lawsuit welcomed over 2,000 unfunded new students, representing \$20.9 million in withheld state funding. In California, a school is considered non-classroom based if more than 20 percent of learning happens off-campus. Such schools provide families with a range of options from entirely virtual to a hybrid of on-campus and at-home learning, all done with the support of teachers.

### What is the impact of this lawsuit if it wins in court?

A win in this class action lawsuit is significant because a victory will entitle all schools to be funded for every student that they have been serving for the last year.

### What is the impact of this lawsuit if it does not win in court?

California is failing to fulfill a basic promise to its students: a fully funded public school education. By funding only some public school options, the state shuts out families from what is best for their child. Underfunding public education is violating students' constitutional rights.

### Why would the state fail to fund successful charter schools?

The Legislature based funding in 2020 on pre-pandemic enrollment, announced days before the budget passed in mid-June. Many charter schools had already conducted lotteries, waiting lists, and processed registrations and were legally bound to serve students that the state announced they would not pay for. This left charter schools blindsided by the news. The move was made to protect traditional school districts from enrollment losses.

### Why did charter schools enroll so many new students?

Days before the budget passed in June, the Legislature announced that it would fund schools in 2020 based on pre-pandemic enrollment. Many charter schools had already conducted enrollment lotteries and processed registrations and were legally bound to serve students that the state announced they would not pay for. The move disregarded the impact on charter schools who serve these new students.

### Where can we learn more?

The class representatives have a website [www.fundallkidsnow.org](http://www.fundallkidsnow.org) where you can learn more.