

MASCD SPEAKS

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A PUBLICATION TO INFORM MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE AND RELATED ACTIONS WHICH ARE IMPORTANT TO THE PURSUIT OF EDUCATION IN MASSACHUSETTS

BAKER TO HELP LAUNCH INFORMATIONAL CAMPAIGN ON CHARTER SCHOOLS

Text from the STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE, February 12, 2016

Gov. Charlie Baker is joining others who favor more charters to launch a "factcheck" campaign. Charter proponents and opponents in Massachusetts have engaged in a bitter debate for years, looking at the same education landscape and drawing vastly different opinions and facts to make their cases for and against additional charters, which operate independently from local school committee oversight.

According to Great Schools Massachusetts, which is leading a ballot question push on the issue, Baker will help launch "Fact Check: Public Charter Schools in Massachusetts," a public information campaign that the organization says will "deliver the wealth of data about Massachusetts' public charter schools to policymakers as they craft legislation related to charter schools." See www.charterfactsma.org.

..."This effort is about setting the record straight about public charter schools in Massachusetts," Beth Anderson, president of the Massachusetts Charter Public School Association, said in a statement. "Charter schools serve high-need kids incredibly well, close the

achievement gap for low-income students of color, and have lower student attrition rates than district schools."

Baker will be joined by representatives from the Massachusetts Charter Public School Association, the Boston Charter Alliance, Race to the Top Coalition, and the Mass High Tech Council. They will discuss the factcheck" campaign....

MASCD members are encouraged to speak with their legislators and members of the groups mentioned above about the ballot question.

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