

Another charter school fraud uncovered. How many more fraudulent charter operations have not been exposed to the public?

The Dohn Community High School (i.e.) charter high school is under investigation for fraud and corruption. This is not an isolated incident for the charter school industry. Since day one of charter schooling in Ohio, scores of cases of fraudulent operations have been revealed. The Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT) is the most well-known corrupt operation in Ohio and possibly in the nation. ECOT founder and operator, Bill Lager stole hundreds of millions from Ohio taxpayers. The state documented \$60 million stolen in one year of the 15-plus years ECOT was in business. However, ECOT is just a tip of the iceberg in the Ohio charter school world. Crime and corruption in Charterland should not be surprising. Lack of regulations, transparency and accountability in the charter industry opens the door to fraud and corruption. Charter operations in Ohio are typically more about profits than education.

Public school districts have been highly regulated and held accountable, and rightly so. They are funded by taxpayers. Beginning in 1825, state government began to regulate the public common school system. Over the years laws have been enacted, and state agency regulations adopted to respond to issues that arose and as misdeeds needed to be addressed.

When the charter school laws were adopted beginning in the late 1990's, state officials threw rational schooling regulations to the wind. They discarded the wisdom of school governance regulations developed over 18 decades and essentially gave anyone who wanted to go into the school business a blank check. State officials seemed to have no clue as to the outcome of the largely unregulated industry they were creating. Now, the charter school lobby has become so powerful that state officials are afraid to appropriately regulate it.

Click [here](#) to read: Dohn Community High School contractors emerge as focus of state investigation.