



**For Immediate Release**

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**New Report Finds Many Denver Children Lack Access to Performing School**

*Need for Seats in High-Quality Schools Concentrated in Largely Hispanic Communities*

A new study has found that more than half of Denver's children today cannot access a performing school in the Denver public school system. The report also found that these children without access to a high-quality education are concentrated in several largely Hispanic communities within the city.

According to the report, *Locating Quality and Access: The Keys to Denver's Plan for Educational Excellence*, in order for every child in Denver to have access to a high-quality education regardless of where they live, 37,000 new seats in performing schools need to be created by Denver Public Schools (DPS).

"The Denver Public Schools system is engaged in some of the most meaningful reform work in the country, opening exciting new schools and holding all schools accountable for results," said Greg Richmond, President of the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA), the study's sponsor. "But this report shows that DPS is only half-way to meeting the needs of their students and they can't let up. They should keep creating new schools and continue to set high standards for all."

"DPS is striving to improve education for all Denver families," said William Haft, NACSA's Vice President for Authorizer Development. "By showing where performing public schools are most urgently needed, this report offers a road map for getting DPS to where it wants to be in terms of quality and access."

*Locating Quality and Access: The Keys to Denver's Plan for Educational Excellence*, was commissioned by NACSA and conducted by IFF, an independent non-profit investment and research organization, in collaboration with DPS. The report will be released at a community briefing and question and answer session open to the public and media on Tuesday, February 23rd, beginning at 6:00 PM at Bruce Randolph School, 3995 Steele Street, Denver.

[A TELECONFERENCE BRIEFING FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, BEGINNING AT 3:00 PM MST. PLEASE CONTACT CATHY COHEN, AT [cathyc@qualitycharters.org](mailto:cathyc@qualitycharters.org), TO RSVP FOR THIS CALL OR TO RECEIVE AN ADVANCED COPY OF THE REPORT.]

***NACSA ([www.QualityCharters.org](http://www.QualityCharters.org)) is the trusted resource and innovative leader working with educators and public officials to increase the number of high-quality charter schools in cities and states across the nation. NACSA provides training, consulting, and policy guidance to authorizers and education leaders interested in increasing the number of high-quality schools and improving student outcomes.***

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