



The Partnership hosts State of Charter Schools for a discussion on innovative programs and partnerships

The Partnership hosted the State of Charter Schools event on Thursday, April 2 at the Omni Hotel. The event focused on community partnerships and educational programs of leading area charter schools. Microsoft Chief Technology Officer Cameron Evans also spoke on innovation and the future of education. “We need to ensure that when we get into the 2060's, our students are well-prepared,” he said.

In his opening remarks, Partnership President and CEO Bob Harvey said, “One of our key priorities is transforming our K-12 public education system to produce college and career-ready graduates.” The Partnership has been a long-standing supporter of charter schools as an integral part of our public education system.

The event also featured presentations from representatives from four Houston area Charter Schools: KIPP Houston Schools, Harmony Public Schools, Southwest Schools, and YES College Prep Schools.

According to KIPP Co-Founder Mike Feinberg, Charter schools represent the largest public school system in Texas. “Charter schools are choice public schools,” he added. Feinberg also acknowledged the Partnership for its leadership in the *Early Matters* Coalition. “If we wait to teach until kids are five or six, we are missing the boat,” he said.