



OKLAHOMA CHARTER SCHOOL HALL OF FAME

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Nomination deadline: September 15, 2026

Questions: Shelly Hickman: shelly.hickman@scsb.ok.gov

Nominations should include all information requested in Sections 1-7 below. Nominators should complete Sections 1 and 2 as a form and Sections 3-7 in short answer/essay format. Email nominations as one PDF attachment to Shelly Hickman, shelly.hickman@scsb.ok.gov, and they will be acknowledged as received. While the Hall of Fame is coordinated by the Oklahoma Statewide Charter School Board, inductees are chosen by an independent selection committee of Oklahoma charter school stakeholders.

2026 Hall of Fame inductees and their nominators will be notified the first week of October, and inductees will be formally announced at the annual Oklahoma Charter Schools Conference on November 5, 2026.

SECTION 1 — NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nominee's full name:

Name as it should appear publicly:

Current or former title/position:

Current or former organization, school or public office:

City and state:

Email address, if living and known:

Telephone number, if living and known:

Nominee status:

- ☐ Living
- ☐ Deceased — Year of death: _____
- ☐ Unknown

Primary nomination category — select one:

- ☐ Charter School Founder or Pioneer
- ☐ Charter Educator or School Leader
- ☐ Charter Governing-Board or Authorizing Leader
- ☐ Elected Official, Public Official or Policymaker
- ☐ Legal, Legislative or Advocacy Contributor
- ☐ Philanthropic, Business or Community Contributor
- ☐ Research, Communications or Public-Engagement Contributor
- ☐ Other: _____

Additional categories that describe the nominee, if applicable:

SECTION 2 — NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Nominator's full name:

Title and organization:

Mailing address:

Email address:

Telephone number:

Relationship to the nominee:

Approximately how long have you known the nominee or been familiar with the nominee's work?

Are you related to the nominee?

☐ No

☐ Yes — Please explain: _____

May the selection committee contact you for clarification or additional information?

☐ Yes

☐ No

SECTION 3 — NOMINATION SUMMARY

1. Proposed Hall of Fame Citation

In no more than **150 words**, summarize why this individual should be inducted. Write this as a concise public explanation that could accompany the announcement of the nominee's selection.

2. Case for Induction

In no more than **750 words**, present the case for the nominee's induction into the Oklahoma Charter School Hall of Fame.

The narrative should address:

- The nominee's most significant charter-related contributions;
- What the nominee personally did, decided, created, led or made possible;

- Why those contributions were exceptional rather than routine;
 - The obstacles, opposition, risks or unmet needs the nominee confronted;
 - The effect of the nominee’s work on students, families, schools, educators, public policy or the broader Oklahoma charter-school community; and
 - Why the nominee’s contributions remain historically or professionally significant.
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SECTION 4 — HISTORICAL AND POLICY CONTRIBUTIONS

3. Role in Establishing or Protecting Oklahoma Charter Schools

Share in 300 words or less how the nominee made significant contributions by engaging in one or more of the following acts:

- Developed or advanced the original concept of charter schools in Oklahoma
 - Helped to draft, shape or defend the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act or other significant charter school legislation and/or built legislative or public support for passage of legislation
 - Established, opened or supported one or more Oklahoma charter schools
 - Protected charter schools from repeal, restriction or ineffective implementation
 - Strengthened charter-school accountability, autonomy or equitable treatment
 - Expanded charter-school access or opportunity for Oklahoma students
 - Other historical or meaningful contributions to the establishment, strength and growth of the charter schools movement in Oklahoma
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SECTION 5 — KEY CONTRIBUTIONS AND IMPACT

4. Significant Contributions

List up to five of the nominee’s most important contributions to the charter school movement in Oklahoma. Include dates, if appropriate, the tangible contribution or accomplishment and the result or accomplishment of the contribution.

5. Scope and Depth of Impact

In no more than **300 words**, explain the scope and depth of the nominee’s impact.

Impact may be demonstrated through:

- Students or families served;
- Schools founded, strengthened or protected;
- Educational opportunities created;
- Policies enacted, implemented or defended;
- Institutions, programs or organizations built;
- Educators, leaders or advocates mentored;
- Practices or innovations adopted by others;
- Increased public understanding or support;
- Improvements in quality, accountability or access; or
- Other significant and verifiable outcomes.

Statewide reach is not required. A contribution affecting a particular school, community or student population may qualify when its depth, originality or historical importance is exceptional.

6. Leadership, Courage and Innovation

In no more than **250 words**, describe how the nominee demonstrated leadership, courage, innovation or principled public service.

Consider whether the nominee:

- Acted when charter schools were new, uncertain or unpopular;
- Took a principled stand despite political or professional risk;
- Built agreement among individuals with differing views;
- Solved a significant problem or created a new model;
- Challenged entrenched assumptions constructively;
- Placed the interests of students and families above personal recognition; or
- Inspired others to participate in or strengthen the charter-school community.

7. Enduring Legacy

In no more than **300 words**, explain what remains because of the nominee's work.

Describe the policies, schools, organizations, educational models, opportunities, relationships, leaders or principles that continue to reflect the nominee's influence.

Explain how Oklahoma charter education would be materially different had this individual not contributed.

8. Character and Public Trust

In no more than **200 words**, describe the nominee's integrity, professionalism, stewardship and treatment of others. Hall of Fame recognition should reflect both significant accomplishment and conduct consistent with service to students, families and the public.

SECTION 6 — REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS

9. Independent References

Provide at least **one** and no more than **three** individuals who can independently verify the nominee's contributions. References should include the individuals:

- Name
 - Title/organization if appropriate
 - Relationship to the nominee
 - Contact information (email and telephone number)
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10. Supporting Documentation

While not required, supporting materials and/or links to supporting materials are encouraged when they help verify the nominee's contributions. Please limit any submissions to the most relevant materials. Examples of supporting materials include but are not limited to:

- Résumés or professional biographies
- Letters of support
- Legislative or policy documentation
- Court decisions, legal filings or administrative records
- News articles or historical publications
- School, organizational or governmental records

- Awards or recognition documentation
 - Photographs
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SECTION 7 — CERTIFICATION

In your nomination submission, include a statement of certification that:

- The information provided is accurate to the best of your knowledge and you have made a good-faith effort to distinguish the nominee's personal contributions from those of organizations or other individuals;
 - You understand that nomination does not guarantee selection and you authorize the Hall of Fame to use information from your nomination for evaluation and, if the nominee is selected, for recognition and promotional purposes.
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