

["Parent Reactions - Closure of Walter Palmer Charter School"](#)

YouTube

"Overwhelming financial and legal troubles forced Philadelphia's Walter D. Palmer Leadership Learning Partners Charter School to close its high school on 10/27/14, a decision that abruptly displaced over 300 students. That evening, school founder Dr. Walter D. Palmer and school administrators held a meeting with families to discuss the circumstances that led to the closure as well as options for migrating the displaced high school students."

December 19, 2014

Magazine

School Shuts for Good Today"

MCQUADE

Philadelphia

"Philly Charter

by DAN

North Philadelphia's Wakisha Charter School is closing for good today, a rare shuttering of the school in the middle of the year. The school served sixth through eighth grades.

Wakisha opened in 2000 but ran into financial problems in recent years due to dwindling enrollment. The board voted to close last month.

Earlier this year, Wakisha defended itself against formal complaints of irregular bookkeeping. In a letter sent home to parents, the school said it was down to "three administrators, and 10 classroom teachers and support staff" last week.

Another school, Walter D. Palmer Leadership Learning Partners Charter School — a K-8 school with campuses Frankford and Nolibis — had trouble making payroll earlier this month. Palmer said it was a "timing issue." The Palmer school closed its high school about a month ago.

December 28, 2014

Action News

["Philadelphia charter school closing its doors"](#)

6ABC

WPVI-TV, Philadelphia, PA

Walter Palmer announced this weekend that his charter school is closing. The School District of Philadelphia and the courts had already shut down the high school. Palmer had been battling to keep the lower school open. In a letter Friday, Palmer wrote:

"It is with a sad and troubled heart that I notify you of the Walter D. Palmer Leadership Learning Partners Charter School's Board of Trustees decision...to permanently close the school on Wednesday, December 31, 2014."

But a spokesperson with the school district released a statement saying:

"The Walter Palmer organization has not informed the School District of its plans to close the charter school."

But the School District also says it has set up a dedicated website for Walter D. Palmer Leadership Learning Partners Charter School parents to assist them in the transition to public school.

December 30, 2014

Action News

6ABC

WPVI-TV, Philadelphia, PA

["Parents scramble in wake of Walter Palmer Charter School Shutdown"](#)

Parents are scrambling to find classroom spots for their children this week after a charter school in North Philadelphia announced it is closing its doors for good.

The complete collapse of the Walter Palmer Charter School brought Monique Hayes, the mother of 2nd grader Nadirah Williams, to Philadelphia School District Headquarters Tuesday.

She was anxious to get her child placed in another school in time for next Monday. That's when public school students will return from the Christmas break.

Hayes is one of more than 600 parents working to get their children relocated.

The Philadelphia School District is trying to expedite the transition, setting up an office to handle an expected flood of parents desperate to get their children re-enrolled as soon as possible.

The district says the re-enrollment can be done online and at district headquarters in the early part of the day Wednesday, during business hours on Friday and Monday.

Action News was at the school on Monday as teachers were packing up and moving out.

The cash-strapped school finally drowned in a sea of financial red ink, including debt amounting to more than \$13 million.

Formal word of the shutdown came last week weekend via a letter from founder and chairman Walter Palmer who has not been available to reporters.

What was left of the Palmer Charter empire, kindergarten through 8 grade, has struggled for months to balance the books in the midst of court rulings and enrollment disputes with the school district.

The Palmer High School was shut down in October in a sea of red ink and controversy; now the school's assets will be liquidated to pay down the debt.

"The board of directors for the Walter Palmer School has asked me to facilitate liquidation and dissolution of the school," finance counsel Jack Pund said.

Palmer school officials claim they've been undermined by the school district.