

711 NAVARRO - SUITE 737 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78205 EWINGHALSELL.ORG | 210-223-2649

January 20, 2020

Commissioner Mike Morath Texas Education Agency 1701 N. Congress Ave Austin, TX 78701

Re: Letter of Support for 7C's Academy

Dear Commissioner Morath,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Ewing Halsell Foundation, in regard to 7Cs Academy, a proposed open-enrollment public charter school for students and families in San Antonio, Texas as presented by Dr. Nathan Balasubramanian and the founding board.

The Ewing Halsell Foundation, since 1957, has long been a supporter of high-quality education options. The Foundation has been focused on improving K-12 educational opportunities for students, families and educators in San Antonio over the past several years. The Foundation has made substantial commitments to grow and scale a portfolio of unique, high performing public charter schools across the city. Demand for quality public school options is increasing across the region.

We see a clear market for the kind of opportunity 7Cs Academy aims to provide through their elementary school model. The founder's educational background is extensive, the governing board includes local leaders committed to educational excellence and their advisory board includes national educational experts. The leadership is keenly focused on individual student development in the 7Cs – character, competencies, communication, critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and citizenship through a sound curriculum of STREAM, applied design learning and social/emotional development.

The Foundation is pleased to recommend 7Cs Academy for approval. We sincerely hope you see the benefit this school will bring to the families in San Antonio. San Antonio students, and the many more across Texas, deserve more quality public education options.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>jackie@ewinghalsell.org</u> or call our office at (210) 223-2649.

Sincerely,

Jackie J. Mockygemb Executive Director