

Ma. Del Carmen Esper, Ph. D.
Whole Person Education and Human Development

January 13th, 2021.

To: Commissioner Mike Morath
Texas Education Agency
1701 N. Congress
Avenue Austin, TX 78701

Subject: Letter of Support for **7Cs Academy**

Dear Commissioner, Morath:

It is with great joy that I write this letter to support the Generation 26 charter application of **7Cs Academy** in San Antonio, Texas. My area of expertise is whole child education. I authored the book in Spanish “How to Educate in Ethical Values” (*Educación en Valores*) and this book was acquired by the *Ministry of Education of Mexico* for all the teacher education centers in the country in 2012. I have worked for three decades researching, writing, and training teachers, parents, and school leaders about character development, social-emotional learning, and culturally relevant education in English and Spanish.

Recently, I finished my Ph. D. in Educational Leadership at the *University of Texas at San Antonio*. The topic of my dissertation was “Leading Schools: Cultivating Flourishing Communities” and it summarizes my research on schools applying the whole-child education approach. Research has shown that integrating **whole child education** in PreK-12 schools brings outcomes of better school culture and climate, improved academic results, and a decrease in discipline referrals. Moreover, this educational approach generates a culture of a caring community that goes a long way to improve society.

The mission of **7Cs Academy** to develop socially responsible citizens by integrating its core values as graciousness, resilience, accountability, curiosity, and excellence for school culture brings great hope to the city of San Antonio. Integrating this content by creating time for social emotional learning and character development in the schedule will contribute to developing virtuous character not only in the students who will have the opportunity to attend there but also instill these virtues in staff, faculty, families and all the community interacting with the school.

Thank you so much for your kind consideration of this letter. I highly recommend **7Cs Academy** for the good of the greater San Antonio community. I believe, having the opportunity of receiving this education can be a determinant element in the life story of each person attending this school. Please, do not hesitate to contact me if you need more information.

Kind regards,

Ma. Del Carmen Esper, Ph. D.

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