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

The Honorable
Dr. Keven Ellis
Chair of the State Board of Education
1701 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Commissioner Morath and Dr. Ellis:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of support for **7Cs Academy**, a proposed preschool through eighth grade open-enrollment charter school in San Antonio.

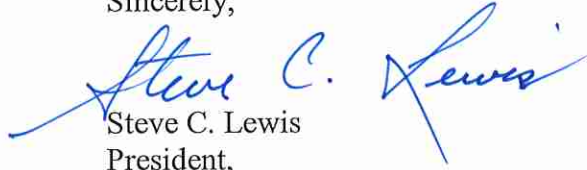
As a long-time resident of San Antonio and a passionate supporter of education initiatives, I would be thrilled to welcome 7Cs Academy to the city. Despite the best efforts of so many dedicated educators to close the achievement gap, San Antonio remains a city divided into those that have access to high-quality schools and those who do not. All too often, those who do not have access are the families who need the most. 7Cs Academy promises to be part of the solution to this problem.

Aimed at serving a diverse set of students, with a plan to operate in an area of high need, 7Cs Academy promises that every student will become an expert in the 7Cs: Character, Competencies, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Creativity, and Citizenship. 7Cs Academy's explicit evidence-based instructional model is grounded in cognitive and neuroscience theories to equip students with both soft skills and advanced STREAMS (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, Mathematics, and Social Studies) knowledge. We need more schools that commit to taking a scientific approach to curriculum building, and I would be proud to support a school like this in my city.

I believe that authorizing 7Cs Academy will provide San Antonio students and their families another high-quality educational opportunity.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 210.736.7797 or slewis@jeffersonbank.com.

Sincerely,



Steve C. Lewis
President,
Choose to Succeed