



January 17, 2021

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

Subject: Letter of Support for 7Cs Academy

Dear Commissioner Morath:

My name is Craig A Owen, Owner of Keller Williams Heritage Realty. I am writing this letter on behalf of the homeowners and business owners of the southwest area of San Antonio which passionately supports the completion of 7Cs Academy public charter school in San Antonio, Texas.

Recently, I was made aware of this initiative by my good friend of 20 plus years and public servant, Rosario Crutchfield who serves as the treasure with the Board of Directors at 7Cs Academy.

Being a proud lifetime citizen and homeowner of San Antonio, my entire business career and lifetime commitment has been to homeownership. I am thoroughly convinced that our city's continued success and future growth hinges on our long-term educational foundation for the lower income communities of San Antonio. The financial investment being made to these communities plays a huge role in the expansion of home ownership and business development for future generations. Typically, we find a higher renter population and less homeownership percentage in school districts with lower income zip codes and financially strapped school districts. It is quite simple, if we invest in our schools it will lead to more home ownership and higher values for school taxation, pride for the local community, and lastly, civic responsibility such as volunteering and financial aid to school programs. Over the years homeownership and the schools surrounding them play a positive symbiotic relationship. We typically find homeownership and better schools co-exist in a community offering residential stability, better housing conditions, better civic engagement and less crime. Experts believe strongly that our children in owner-occupied dwellings achieve better education outcomes, including high school completion and college attendance, than children in rental households with inadequate public schools. As a large and generally valuable household asset, homeownership provides a means to circumvent the capital market imperfections and invest in education. In conclusion, education and homeownership goes hand and hand.

I ask you to sincerely consider the benefits that 7Cs Academy will bring to our southwest San Antonio community. The benefits go well beyond just education for our children. This charter school will provide long-term benefits in the entire community thus making homeownership and business ownership more prevalent in the communities we live.

Respectfully,

Craig Owen

Craig Owen
Operating Partner
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