

THE HAASS GROUP
STRATEGY CONSULTANTS

January 16, 2020

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 high-quality, open-enrollment charter school in San Antonio.

As a former high school teacher and administrator I have observed and experienced schools in a number of Texas cities each with different socio economic realities. Because of these experiences I am committed to choice for all young people since I recognize that a one size fits all education will not be successful for a majority of young people. In this context 7C's Academy has impressed me since they offer a unique curriculum in an area sorely needing high performing, choice curriculum.

I have been impressed by the school's leader, Dr. Nathan Balasubramanian, and the thoughtfulness of the educational program that his team has proposed for **7Cs Academy**. Our students in San Antonio will be served well by learning the core principles of the school, which focuses on the "why" with the 7Cs: Character, Competencies, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Creativity, and Citizenship; the guided inquiry learning with a STEM focus; and the evidence-based instructional design model with explicit instruction that shows "how" Designing Learning will help all students grow and thrive.

I recommend **7Cs Academy** without reservation and truly believe that authorizing this school will provide San Antonio students and their families another needed high-quality educational option. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (210) 535-6011 or ChipHaass@me.com

Sincerely,

Chip Haass