

January 7, 2021

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 we write this letter of support for 7Cs Academy, a proposed preschool through eighth grade high-quality, open-enrollment charter school in San Antonio.

A.I.M. provides special education to students across the state of Texas. We work in urban and rural settings, large and small districts and charter schools. In our experience we have seen many different types of education models used.

The educational philosophy of 7Cs Academy is that every student will become an expert in the 7Cs: Character, Competencies, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Creativity, and Citizenship. 7Cs Academy's child-centered, hands-on approach to learning will complement an explicit evidence-based instructional model 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. In addition, the explicit instruction to reading and 90 minutes built into the daily schedule will provide extensive support for struggling learners in their formative years of school.

We recommend 7Cs Academy without reservation and truly believe that authorizing this school will provide San Antonio students and their families another pivotal high-quality educational opportunity.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at 210.838.5351 or zach@aimeducate.com.

Sincerely,

Zachary Salesman CEO of AIM

Susan Houser Chief Knowledge Officer

Bea A. Fallis Executive Director of Special Programs