

New Mexico Public Education Commission

300 Don Gaspar Ave.
Santa Fe, NM 87501

August 22, 2017

Dear Madam Chair and Commissioners,

In response to the Public Education Department's Charter Schools Division recommendation for approval, the Founding Team of Albuquerque Collegiate would like to reiterate our commitment to establishing a high-expectations, high-supports charter school for the students and families of New Mexico.

Over the last 11 months, our Founding Team Members have closely studied best practices related to charter school curriculum and instruction, operational planning, finance, effective governance and oversight, as well as solidifying a strong network of community supporters. As a result, these efforts were directly reflected in our written application, capacity interview and community input hearing. The written application met all minimum scoring criteria, including receiving more than 95% of the available points possible. At the capacity interview, the Albuquerque Collegiate Founding Team received 100% of the points possible, during which we sufficiently addressed areas of the written application that were scored as "approaches the criteria." Lastly, at the community input hearing, 100% of public input was in support of Albuquerque Collegiate, with no opposition raised by community members or the local school district.

During the community input hearing, local family medicine physician Dr. Stephanie Hubbard McGirt stated, "I am totally in support of any school that's really going to make it their mission to support kids early on to get this really solid foundation of literacy; because literacy isn't the end goal. It's really about offering people opportunity, then, to follow their dreams, to get good jobs, to really take care of their families and their communities." We believe this statement pinpoints exactly what Albuquerque Collegiate can be for our city and state.

We greatly appreciate your time and attention, and thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration as you make final decisions regarding approval. Please feel free to contact Lead Founder, Jade Rivera, with any questions. We look forward to the PEC decision-making meeting on Friday, September 1, 2017.

Sincerely,



Jade Rivera, on behalf of the Albuquerque Collegiate Founding Team