



MEMORANDUM

To: Forrest Collins, Assistant Director of Strategy, Orleans Parish School Board

From: Elizabeth Marcell, CEO, Center for Resilience & proposed School Leader, The Querencia School / Executive Director, New Orleans Therapeutic Day Program
Rochelle McConico, proposed Director of Finance & Operations, The Querencia School / Director of Finance and Operations, New Orleans Therapeutic Day Program
William Murphy, Board Member, Center for Resilience

CC: Henderson Lewis, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, Orleans Parish School Board
Adam Hawf, Chief of Staff, Orleans Parish School Board
Mary Garton, Chief Portfolio Officer, Orleans Parish School Board
Colleston Morgan, Chief Strategy Officer, Orleans Parish School Board
Sonia C. Park, Evaluator
Iris Palazes, Evaluator
William Miller, Evaluator

Date: November 13, 2017

Re: 2017 Charter School Application Recommendation Report, The Querencia School

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2017 Charter School Application Recommendation Report for the Type 1 Charter Application for The Querencia School. We appreciate the transparency of the application process and the clarity with which the evaluators presented their feedback in the Report. We wanted to take this time to thank the evaluators and also to address the findings of the report.

We agree there were some inconsistencies in our application and we appreciate that the Capacity Interview afforded us the opportunity to address and clarify those inconsistencies.

In addition, we agree there is more work to be done to flesh out a comprehensive family recruitment and retention plan for The Querencia School. We anticipate continuing conversations with operators of diverse by design charter schools, both in New Orleans and farther afield, to develop more robust recruitment strategies. We are committed to evaluating the opportunities the Querencia School will offer to parents and families to engage with, and provide feedback to, the school and its faculty throughout the school year.

Thank you again for your time and thoughtful evaluation. We enjoyed being part of this process.