



Gonzalo Garza Independence High School

January 11, 2005

21st CCLC Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Garza High School, I would like to express my support for the Pip Start Youth Leadership Program's application to the Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant program. The students in our neighborhood are from lower-income families with an ethnicity currently underrepresented in universities today. The Austin Independent School District currently utilizes the services of Pip Start for after school activities and is pleased with the excitement generated in students by their staff members. Pip Start successfully exposes students to math, science and character using teamwork projects that include interactive graphing calculator laboratories, engineering videos, and math and science based TAKS prep activities.

Pip Start is known for providing excellent services to the underserved populations within our community and I believe that they have the capacity, knowledge base and community support to successfully launch a 21st CCLC Program. Pip Start chose the Austin Police Department as a partner in this grant application, which is an excellent choice as APD officers will provide invaluable assistance in implementing drug and violence prevention programs and APD victim services counselors can provide direction with the counseling and character education component.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Sam Watson
Assistant Principal