



# EAGLE ACADEMY OF BEAUMONT

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## FAX COVER SHEET

209 North 11<sup>th</sup> Street - Beaumont, TX. 77702 - Phone: (409) 835-4303 - Fax: (409) 835-2882

**Executive Staff**

Alan Wimberly  
Superintendent

Mr. Charles Cook  
Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Robert Davison  
Chief Operating Officer

**Director / Principal**

Virginia People

DATE: 2-19/07

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Chuck Cook

FROM: F. Tyb

FAX: 512-476-5909

NUMBER OF PAGES: \_\_\_\_\_ INCLUDING  
COVER

COMMENTS:

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Danny Prewitt  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade

What Eagle Academy has meant to me

My first day attending Eagle Academy a week ago, to be honest, I was amazed how the teachers and staff treated the students. The students were treated with sincerity and kindness, at the same time everyone was kept in order.

Today, I came into this school with problems on my mind, within 30 minutes 3 teachers came to me and asked me if I was alright and if I needed anything, I feel at home in this school. When I fall, I get picked up; when I need help I get it.

All I have to say about this school is it's by far the best and most reliable school I have ever been a part of.

*Danny Prewitt II*

Cherelle Sheppard  
Eagle Academy of  
Beaumont  
10<sup>th</sup> grade

Eagle Academy can be described in many ways of helping students.

The ways Eagle Academy has helped me are as follows. I have been tutored by classmates when I didn't understand what I was doing. We even have smaller classes, I like that because I'm not getting overwhelmed from all the students. They have really contributed with TAKS, out of the three years of attending public school I have never really understood how to really take the test. Now that I am attending Eagle Academy they have taught me about the different objectives of the test.

Eagle Academy has the opportunity, and

Advantage of helping  
a lot of students to  
succeed and to follow  
their dreams.

Dwayne Randle  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
10<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

This school is better for me because it is a smaller environment than the other schools and it also offers scholarships and early graduation. There us one more thing, the teaching is excellent and the teachers are patient and not here for the money. That is one of the many reasons why I like this school.

*Dwayne R. Randle*  
Dwayne Randle

### What Eagle Academy Has meant To Me:

Eagle Academy School has encouraged and made me think much higher and greater about myself.

Thinking back to when I was in public schooling I never felt more comfortable in a school, sometimes I forgot I'm at school, it always feels like a big family gathering, except you have to do work. The smaller amount of students causes less confusion in our learning environment and everyone has a chance to get to know everyone a little bit better.

The teachers show so much love and compassion, it's unreal. We never been to a school where the teachers actually care whether you pass or fail. You can talk to them about anything and they'll listen.

Since I've been here: I've had some bad days, but my teachers and principles have picked me up and encouraged me that I can go on and do better. I think I will be able to accomplish my all-time goals and dreams.

Hannah Baker  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
9<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

Eagle Charter of Beaumont Texas has helped me in many ways. At this School there are less kids, that means we get more one on one help. At public schools you don't necessarily get that opportunity during school hours. I also don't have to try and keep up with classroom lessons. I can do however much work my brain can handle at one time. I don't think I did as well in public schools as I do at here at Eagle. I've learned more than I ever have and I can actually concentrate on my work because there aren't many distractions.

Hannah Baker

Hannah Baker

2/19/07

Hello my name is Treenisha Jones and I wanted to let you know how I like Eagle Academy. There are a lot of reasons why you should keep Eagle Academy. Eagle Academy has done so much for me, the teachers are so great they help me with my work all the time. The people here are great too. In a way Eagle Academy has change my life, so please let Eagle Academy stay.

From Treenisha Jones  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont 8th Grade



Shalene Netterville  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
9<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

My name is Shalene Netterville, for the past two years I have been home schooled and before that I was in public school. In public school I felt as if the teachers truly hated me and wanted me to fail. I was also constantly being made fun of, so my daddy placed me in home school. It was okay at first, no uniforms and a lot of down time, but there was no communication at all and I wasn't learning anything. I got sick of it. Finally after two years of home schooling I had the choice of a real school and I chose Eagle Academy of Beaumont. The teachers are my friends and they help and protect me. I get to learn so much and I get to have communication, which is helpful. I love this school and I believe it is a true blessing to be in this school. I'm so glad that I've had the opportunity to attend such a terrific school.

*Shalene Rochelle Netterville*  
Shalene Netterville

Allen M. Boyce  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
9<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

Eagle Academy is a great charter school. The reason why is because Eagle Academy has helped me a lot while I have been here. When I was in regular school I wasn't doing very well because I was struggling with grades and a whole lot of other things, but at the start of this year at Eagle I have been a lot better and that is from the help from our teachers and our Principle. But that is why a charter school is important to me

*Allen Boyce*  
Allen M. Boyce

Gerald Mays  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
12<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

Eagle is a great place to go to school. I look forward to going to school each and every day. I find it much easier to get my work done at Eagle then at any other school I have been to. The teachers here are nice and give you one on one time. If you have a problem they will show you how to solve it until you fully understand how to do it. I don't have to keep up with homework from seven or eight classes like you would at public school. At Eagle I can work at my own pace. That way I can make sure I understand what I'm doing , and when I have to do it again I'll know how to do it. Eagle is a great place to go to school and I love it.

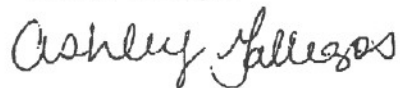
Gerald Mays

Ashley Gallegos  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
12<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

Eagle Academy means so much to me. Since I have been here, I have received so much inspiration. Charter schools are very important for the children of the future. You get more one-on-one help than any public schools can offer. Charter schools are very beneficial for the younger children because they will show them the right way real early.

Ashley Gallegos

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ashley Gallegos". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name.

Ericka Carriveau  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
12<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

Eagle Academy has meant a lot to me over the past three years that I have been here. I have been given the opportunity to have one-on-one teaching that has helped my grades to drastically improve. I also able to work at my own pace and do not feel rushed to complete my work. One of my favorite things about Eagle is how small the school is and how close everyone is. We have group discussions about "real life", where people can open up and give advice or share experiences. This has been helpful to me many times and I know that I have given advice that has been helpful to someone else. The teachers that we have here at Eagle Academy are passionate about their work and it shows. I just wish every student could experience the positive environment at Eagle Academy. It has changed my life forever.

*Ericka Carriveau*

Ericka Carriveau

Angelo Jason  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
11<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

Hello!

My name is Angelo Jason and hey, what can I say? I'm still here. I used to skip school. Eagle Academy has meant a great deal to me. The school allows me to learn at my own pace and doesn't interfere with my work schedule. I will be the first of five in my family to graduate, so this will be a great accomplishment. While my mother and step-dad are sick and unable to work, they look to me to take care of the bills. This is a lot of weight and responsibility on my shoulders. I sometimes want to give up but the staff here pushes and encourages me to keep going. I don't miss much school and my grades have improved a lot. I am glad to be a part of this school.

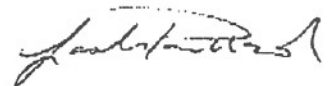
Angelo Jason

Josh Poullard  
Eagle Academy of Beaumont  
11<sup>th</sup>

### What Eagle Academy Has Meant to Me

The very first day I walked through the doors of Eagle Academy, I saw the students at their desk either at work or testing. I knew by the look from these hard workers this would be the school for me. The reason why I came to Eagle was to earn credits, graduate early and enlist in the Marines. I want to receive scholarships from the school to continue my education for a better life and many successful career opportunities. I have received much help from my friends and some of the best teachers in Beaumont. I have learned that I can reach any goal I choose to become a successful person. I enjoy the structure of the school and taking tests daily. My goal is to become a Marine. I am getting the help I need and the ability to work at my own pace is very exciting. I don't feel rushed as I did at my former school. The environment is very friendly and hardly any classroom disruptions take place. Eagle Academy gives me the help, education and credits to be successful. I personally believe that without Eagle Academy, there would be no me.

Joshua Poullard



**Eagle Academies  
of Texas  
P.O. Box 2283  
Trinity, Tx. 75862  
Fax: (936) 594-1395  
Phone: (936) 594-1427**

To Fax# 1512-476-5909

Date: 1/19/07

CIO: Florence Shaperio

Total pages  
Including cover: 32

From: M. Bynum  
Herschel Brannen

Subject: why we need

Eagle Academies of Texas

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February 19, 2007

To: Senator Florence Shapiro  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Austin, TX

Dear Senator Shapiro:

As a teacher at Eagle Academy in rural  
Tinity, Texas, I have observed that many  
students do not get the instruction and guidance  
that they need at other schools. Many of the  
students have not even learned the basics  
in English, Math, Science, and Social  
Studies.

They didn't have any self respect  
respect for others, or value when they  
arrived here. They have learned that we  
care, we are here to help them, and we  
want them to be successful. Many of the  
students have done a 180° turnaround  
in their academic subjects and in their  
way they see life.

Don't make a mistake and try to  
say that one way is the only way for our  
children to learn — in my life I've  
always heard the old saying, "There's more than  
one way to skin a cat." — And there is  
more than one way for our children to learn.  
I'd rather these young men and women  
be at Eagle, than be dropouts, on the

streets, getting into trouble and  
winding up in jail or worse dead.

Visit our campuses, meet our  
teachers and students, see what we  
have accomplished. We are helping so  
many students. Don't make any  
judgements until you hear among the  
people that make it work.

Sincerely,

Frances Wilcox  
English Title I Teacher  
TAKS Coordinator  
Lyle Academy of Trinity  
Trinity, Texas 75862  
936-594-1427

I am a certified teacher with 15 years  
experience. I am also certified in ESL and  
Top Rating.

02/19/07

Dear Senator Shapero,

The truth is that this charter school saved my life. I was going to another school and I kept getting into trouble. I was a good student making good grades, I was just hanging with the wrong crowd. I fell into an ever deepening hole and I could see no visible way out. Then I found Eagle Academy of Trinity. I love what this school has done with my life and my future. I just turned 17 and I am now a senior with only 1.5 credits left. Please don't take my last chance.

This school is everyone's last chance at a real future. Everyone enrolled in our school is here trying to better their lives with a better education.

There's no telling where these people would be everyday if they weren't in school. So please, don't take this school from us, not now, not when so many of us are so close to that better life that we all strive for.

Sincerely,  
Justin McDaniel

Feb 19, 2007

To: Senator Shapiro,  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Austin, TX

Dear Senator Shapiro

The reason I do not WANT  
Eagle Academy of TX Shut  
down is because this school  
is my only hope gettin in to  
the Navy.

When I was in the Public  
I fell behind in my work because  
The teachers would not help Me.  
They helped the regular students.  
So, I came here and I have  
Learned so much from the  
teachers.

Sincerely  
William Melvin  
Trinity, TX

2-19-07

Dear Senator Shapiro,

When I went to the Trinity High School there wasn't one day that didn't go by that I didn't get talked about or picked on all day. Everyone at my school acts along with everyone. I have learned alot from this school. Usually students dont like going to school but I love coming to this school. This school means alot to me. Coming home everyday from High School crying was hard and I have been gone here for a year and half and its changed my life. This school gives us a chance a big chance. It lets us go at our own pace and some kids need that. I need this school its helps so many kids out. THANKS for your time Senator!

Sincerely,

Stacy Merchant  
(Student of Edge Academy)

Florence Shapiro,

Eagle Academies are great schools for most students this is their last chance they allow you to do your work at your own pace they have great teachers and if it wasn't for this school I wouldn't be able to attend any other school in my zip code.

One reason a lot of students fail public schools is because the way they teach you they pressure you to do your work and for a lot of students it's stressful all the time but at Eagle you work at your own pace which allows students to learn the material that they're working on instead of being rushed to finish something they don't understand then they might fail a class because they couldn't keep up with the other students. This is just a few good reasons why the Eagle Academy shouldn't be closed.

Sincerely,

Joshua Kirk

2/19/02

Dear Ms. Florence Shapiro

I'm asking you to please re-evaluate your thoughts on closing our school.

So I can continue to take advantage of the opportunity to get an education at my own pace, which I am because I came to this school at the beginning of the year with 12 credits and now I have 18 credits in just half a school year's time.

Also if you do decide to close the school I will lose those credits going to another school.

Oscar 92466

Dear Senator Shapero,

2/19/07

Hello! My name is Amanda Yeager. I need you to take what you're about to read into consideration. I've had a hard time through school. I've always had to walk behind my siblings shadow in school. And since they always got in trouble all of their teachers that I had automatically thought that I was a bad kid too. So, I kept getting in trouble. But...

When I came to the Eagle Academy, none of my other siblings had come here. I had a clean slate to start with. Coming to this school gave me a chance to shine. It gave me a chance to prove that I wasn't like my older siblings. Please ponder the point I'm trying to make. This school for a lot of people is a last chance to get their education.

Sincerely,

Amanda Y.



2-19-07

To Senator Florence Shapiro  
State Capital Bldg  
Austin, Texas

Dear Mrs. Shapiro

The reason im here at Eagle Academy of Trinity is because I don't like the public schools. I didn't get along with the kids there. Also Eagle Academy helps me with my school work. Also im hoping to graduate from Eagle.

~~David~~ Sincerely

David Melvin  
Eagle Academy  
Trinity, Texas

TO: Senator Florence Shapiro  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Austin, TX

Dear Senator Shapiro

The reason I am at Eagle Academy of Trinity is ~~because~~ because the public schools do not teach you anything and Eagle does the teacher teaches me a lot and the principle is a good principle I think he runs the school but if you was to shut this school down there would be a lot of kids dropping out of school and I would be one of them, I think this is the best school ever.

Sincerely,  
Jason May  
Eagle Academy of Trinity  
Trinity, TX

February 19, 2007  
To: Senator Florence Shapiro  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Austin, Texas

Dear Senator Shapiro,

I know you don't like  
our school. I know you don't  
care about what I wrote you.  
If you just listen, you will  
understand that for most  
kids this school is their last  
opportunity to make a life outside  
of their parents house, because  
they have done some silly stuff  
in their past please don't close  
Eagle Academy.

Sincerely,

Christy Everett

To senator Florence Shapiro  
state capital Bldg Austin, TX

Dear Senator Shapiro

The reason I am at eagle academy  
is because it is my last resort or a couple  
of gone to jail and I have learned alot  
more stuff and it keeps me out of trouble  
and I'm get alot of work done and I'm  
not running the streets and I like going to  
school.

Sincerely: Esteban Martinez

February 19, 07  
Senator Florenca Shapero  
State Capitol Bldg  
Austin, TX

Dear,  
Senator Shapero

I just wanted to take  
a second out of your day  
to say if you close down  
Eagle or any other charter  
school. A lot of kids will  
not have any other school  
to go to. As for me Eagle  
has helped me get in my  
right grade. All I'm doing  
is asking you to give charter  
schools a second chance.  
Thank you.

Sincerely, EAT

Ashley Sharp

Trinity, TX

February 19, 2007

TO: Senator Florence Shapiro

State Capitol Bldg. Austin, Texas

Dear Senator Shapiro,

I am writing you today to inform you of  
where I would be today with out eagle academy.

With out eagle I would be out looking for a job trying  
trying just to survive my living conditions are I am in school  
or gone. I am one of the people that cannot go back  
to the regular school because I messed up & eagle was  
kind enough to give me a 2nd chance.

Sincerely,  
Travis  
O'Neil

eagle academy of Trinity

Trinity TX

February 19, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Austin, Tx.

Dear Senator Shapiro,

I came to Eagle Academy of Trinity from a small private Christian school. There I learned a lot of fascinating subjects. However, I was not able to excel in my grade level. During that time of disappointment in myself, my father became the principal of that small rural charter school.

Eagle gave me an advantage to excel and learn in a quiet and functional setting. This school was a fundamental element in my development. Also, I was able to see one more how people acted in a public setting. Unfortunately, during junior high I associated with people who were well educated, but were not well-rounded.

Eagle Academy was a great learning experience for me. However, Eagle is a poor school and without updated interactive software. Experiments are taken out

would not have an education. Actually I ~~would~~  
would have one but I wouldn't have enough  
to make it in the world. I wouldn't even have  
that much skills to get a good job. This  
school is a big help to everyone here. If  
you shut down this school you will be  
stopping a lot of people from getting an  
education. You will be making the  
teachers lose a job that they love. I don't  
think you should shut down this school  
or any charter schools.

- Sincerely -

Brittany Morozuk



2-19-07

Dear Senator Florence Shapero,

I am writing to give my opinion on charter schools. I go to Eagle Academy in Trinity, TX. I have gone here for four years which pretty much all my high school. I think charter schools are a really good way for people to learn. A lot of people here at this school learn better here than at a regular school. In regular school they expect you to learn something right when they teach it. At charter schools they teach you and explain it in a way so you will understand it. For some people a charter school is their last hope for an education. If it wasn't for a school like this there probably would be more people with no education.

I came to this school because I wasn't learning anything in regular school. The teachers weren't teaching like they should. Since I came to this school I have learned more than I would have. The teachers teach you when ever you need help. I actually get good grades instead of failing grades. If it wasn't for this school I

Feb. 19, 2007

Dear Honorable Senator Florence  
Shapiro:

my name is Chris Blackmon when I was in ~~1<sup>st</sup>~~ <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> grade I had an accident I fell 3 feet from the ground I hit head first I was in a comma for 3 months, 4 weeks and 27 days.

before I came to Eagle Academy I could not comprehend any of my work but now I understand pretty much everything except a little bit of math. I have been to two ~~sch~~ schools before Eagle Academy.

Lovehady is where I had my accident and then in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade I went to Groveton but neither of those schools helped me as much as Eagle Academy.

So please do not shut this school down I'm begging you not to shut it down.

sincerely  
Chris Blackmon

2/19/07

Dear Ms. Shapiro My name is Aaron Fisher and  
I'm a student at Eagle Academy. And I heard that  
you wanted to know how the school is doing. OK at one  
time you said the school is doing it  
it was not for this school I would be in the  
Person number two. I can't focus in regular  
school because the students at Eagle Academy  
have problems with me and I can't be around them.  
Eagle Academy is a last chance school my only  
chance to get a diploma. So I was excited  
Appreciate it if you would not close the school  
down

Sincerely

Aaron W. Fisher

Dear Senator Florena Shapiro,

My name is Travis Arman and I used to go to Trinity High School and I wanted to go to the Eagle because I wanted to graduate earlier than I was supposed to. I find out that you shut it down then I can't do that. I really like this school and really need to graduate this year.

Sincerely,

Travis Arman

This is my reason why I don't want you to shut my school down

To Mrs Florence Harpero

My reason why you should not shut my school down. Is the reason why I came to school is cause Humballe High was not working for me my grades going to school always skipping But now I'm in eagle academy, where ~~in~~ I've done my 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade year sense I've been here and I'm passing and coming to school so this is the reason why I think you shouldn't close this school down

Thanks

Florence  
Shapero

2-19-17

Kevin Robert

I think you should keep this school open  
because we can work by the students own speed  
and that we work more.

02-19-07

To: Senator Florence Shapico  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Austin, Tx.

Dear Senator Shapico

If I was not at Eagle I would  
be at Huntsville High School. I would have  
gone to jail if it was not for Eagle then  
I would of had my probation & went to jail.  
This school has a good future for all of its  
students if you just give it a chance. We  
will prove it to you.

Sincerely

Joshua Glenn Schreck @  
Eagle of Frinity in TX

2/19/07

To - Senator Florence Shapiro  
~~State~~ State Capital Building  
Austin, Texas

Dear Senator Shapiro, I came to Eagle Academe of Trinity so I could go through school faster than I could in regular school. I am going to graduate when I'm 16 thanks to this school. I am in 9th grade I'm 14 and suppose to be in 8th grade. I love this school because it gives me a chance to work at my pace instead of at a classroom pace.

Sincerely

Amanda Griffin

Eagle academe, of Trinity, Texas



February 19, 2007

To: senator Florence Shapiro  
State Capital Bldg.  
Austin, Texas

Dear senator Shapiro,

I just moved to Eagle and I  
love it here cause they help me with  
my work. They also teach me better. I  
s why I wish you wouldnt shut down  
types of schools.

Sincerely,

Cody Wilson

Eagle Academy of Trinity  
Trinity Texas

TO Senator Florence Shapiro  
State capitol bldg  
Austin, Texas

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro, The reason  
I dont want this to close is cause when I  
was at regular school I wasnt getting along  
with the people there the student or the  
teacher I came here and I was getting  
along with everybody and I can learn  
better cause there more on on my  
work and I can learn more.

Sincerely,

Hubert P. ...

2/19/07

Dear Senator Sharpiro:

I am just the secretary here, I have been here since 11/06. I was secretary at Trinity High School for 11 years. I did not realize what all Eagle Academy did until I went to work here. We catch the student that fall thru the cracks, we are last chance for a lot of the children, because regular public school has failed them they can't or won't will not help them or they don't know how to help. We have some student that ~~are~~ <sup>have</sup> troubled troubles and some of our students come here just to graduate because they can do it in less time. Eagle Academy of Texas are doing a service to the public school. we help the student and they are not drop outs for a lot of districts. We had 40 student to graduate 2006/2007 and I feel we do a service to all surrounding districts. We are the only rural Eagle school.

Sincerely  
M. D. Murr  
Trinity, Tx.

FEBuary 19, 2007.

To: senator Florence Shapiro  
state Capital Building  
Austin, Texas.

Dear senator Shapiro

If you use to shut charter schools  
Down then Do you know How many  
people ~~would~~<sup>would</sup> not go to school at all  
and that would also make the future  
of Texas very Bad. Because people  
who Don't surced in school  
usually Don't move out of that state  
So when you shut Down the  
Charter schools think of How stupid  
Texas would Be in the future.

and some kids go to charter schools Because  
they Have no were else to go

Sinserly

Tony Rasmusen.

Trinity, Tx.

February 19, 2007

senator Florence Shapiro  
state capital Bldg.  
Austin, Texas

Dear Mrs. Shapiro

My name is Kyle Natto and eagle  
is a part of my life. If it ~~werent~~  
hadn't been for them I would have  
got put back in challenge at Hattsville  
High school. I wouldn't be a Junior  
right now. I probly still be a  
freshman. I hope you Non't  
shut our school Down

Sincerily

Kyle Natto

E.A.T  
Trinity, Texas

Dear Ms. Shapiro,

Eagle Charter Academy has changed my feelings towards school. Last semester I was at Midland High which I disliked because instead of taking time to care about grades and take tests they just pass you by as just another student. I haven't passed my science or math when I took my math in October I was lost ~~stiff~~ and knew that I was gonna fail at Eagle Mrs. Carrasco helped me out alot she gives you one on one helps they care for you as a person and as a student going into the tests this time around I feel more confident than I've ever felt. The problems I would've guessed on I know how to do so I don't have to guess. Not only have they helped me on tests but on the course I've took US. history two years and I was going to have to take it again in Night School I came to eagle and finished in two weeks. I finished my US. history half credit in two weeks ~~and~~ wish I think has helped me. To tell you the truth at Midland High I knew I wasn't going to graduate. Now ~~at~~ Eagle has helped me gain my confidence back and I can look forward to starting a new life. I think Eagle charter is a great school and should be treated like all schools It helps kids that know will fail gain confidence and graduate. Eagle charter should be kept open.

love

Kyrtell Ramirez

Feb 13, 2007

Dear Mr. Craddick,

Upon my arrival at Eagle Academy - Midland, I have found the year very interesting and a great benefit to my future. I arrived here as a senior, lacking only one credit, and only needing the minimum of 22 credits to graduate. Mrs. Jasso, who is the Principal, greatly influenced me to reach beyond my limits and aim for 24 credits.

I believe that Eagle Academy is a major change in my life. It has encouraged me to achieve all my goals in life. It's almost as if I have replaced my own wrongful tracks on a railroad, and aimed them towards a successful future.

Completing and with great closure to this letter I have written you here today, Eagle Academy- Midland has reversed the life I was headed towards, and influenced me to become a more thankful person for myself and my surroundings. A good friend of mine once told me, " A great education is the key to your own future."

This is why I am thankful for you as leaders to allow Eagle Academies to exist.

Sincerely,  
Selena Gaitan

Dear Mr. Craddick,

I am nearing my graduation at Eagle Academy of Midland. Eagle Academy is a self-paced Charter school. I want to thank you for supporting charter schools. After coming to Eagle, my grades and my attitude about school improved a lot.

Had it not been for Eagle, I might not have graduated. The teachers here really care for the students, always taking extra time to help us when we need it. I would like to ask you to continue supporting charter schools. Thousands of students in Texas depend on charter schools to graduate. I think that competition is good for all schools. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Watson



DEAR MRS. SHAPIRO,

FEBRUARY 19, 2007

Eagle Academy of Midland is the best school I've attended. Before I came to Eagle Academy I attended Lee High School, and lets just say, it wasn't going all that great. I was ready to give up and drop out, until I came ~~for~~ Eagle, and thanks to Molly Jasso, and all the staff at Eagle I will be graduating this year. To me that's a huge accomplishment, for me. I will be the 2nd person in my family to graduate, out of eight. I've enjoyed all the people and the experience of Eagle Academy. I'm very grateful for Eagle Academy because of them I am going to receive a diploma and I have plans in my near future to attend Midland College. If it were not for Eagle, I would probably be working full time at Burger King or Sonic, and that is not what I had planned. The staff at Eagle don't treat like I'm just a student. They treat everyone like family and that's what I need the most. I love Eagle Academy alot and I am very grateful for everything.

Sincerely,

Tammy Rodriguez

Dear Mrs. Shapiro,

February 19, 2007

Eagle Academy is one of the best school's I have attended. The teachers here are great! They actually listen and treat us as one of their own children. They don't just tell you how to do something, they sit down and go over everything step by step.

Before I moved to Eagle Academy I skipped school every other day, treated the staff like crap, and fought every chance I got. After I started at Eagle they made me realize that it is better to graduate and do something with my life; I realized that the life I was living was hurting me in the long run. Now this year by December of 2007 I am going to graduate then go to college. These teachers treat us as adults, and give us the respect we show them. Mrs. Carrasco is one of the best teachers at Eagle, she cares a lot about our future and if she wanted to she'd make a great counselor. Eagle Academy has opened many

Dear Mr. Craddick,

Thank you so much for supporting public charter schools such as Eagle Academy in Midland, Texas. I have been attending Eagle now for about three months and I have found it very beneficial. I have done more work in these three short months, than I did when I attended my usual public school. I have also found the teachers to be very helpful and nice as well. It was very easy to learn the way the school works and in my opinion, is a lot more fun. I am the kind of person that does not like to be held back by other students and here at Eagle, I was able to move as fast or slow as I wanted to.

I also appreciated Eagle's four-hour day setup because I have a daughter and can't be away from her all day. As for my "job", I am an Identity Theft Specialist with Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc., and I work from home. Therefore I am able to work the hours I want in the morning, go to my afternoon classes and have the rest of the day to my family and myself. Once again, I would like to thank you for supporting public charter schools, and than you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely,

Tyler W. Kuzmich

February 14, 2007

The Honorable Tom Craddick  
Speaker of the House Texas Representative

Dear Honorable Craddick,

My name is Candice Garcia. I am a senior at Eagle Academy Charter School in Midland, Texas. We are fully aware of you being one of the original proponents for the "charter school" concept in Texas, of which I am grateful.

Eagle Academy is a wonderful school. I came here to complete my credits for graduation, and for encouragement. The faculty here is very versatile, beginning with the principal, and willing to see us make the grade and leave Eagle as good citizens.

Students are taught here to be competent and able to have the ability to survive in this academic age. All the skills are life skills preparing us for outside of school knowledge; therefore, as we study and learn here, many will go on to higher educational levels. We are getting a good foundation at Eagle Academy.

Believe me, sir, Eagle Academy is a worthwhile school. Eagle is contributing to building and restoring that will prove to be beneficial to society. True, not all will go forward, but those of us who do, are well worth the time, energy, hard work and effort put forth. We, as students, are thankful for the one-to-one instruction and the pace that Eagle Academy makes available to us. This is my main reason for coming to Eagle Academy Charter School.

Very truly yours,

Candice Garcia

FEB. 14, 2007.

THE HONORABLE TOM CRADDOCK  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
TEXAS REPRESENTATIVE

DEAR HONORABLE CRADDOCK:

MY NAME IS CANDICE GARCIA. I AM A SENIOR  
AT EAGLE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL IN MIDLAND,  
TEXAS. WE HERE ARE FULLY AWARE OF YOU BEING  
ONE OF THE ORIGINAL PROUDENTS FOR THE "CHARTER  
SCHOOLS" CONCEPT IN TEXAS, OF WHICH I AM GRATEFUL.

EAGLE ACADEMY IS A WONDERFUL SCHOOL. WHEN I  
CAME HERE TO COMPLETE MY CREDITS FOR GRADUATION,  
AND ENCOURAGEMENT. THE FACULTY HERE ARE  
VERY VERSATILE AND WILLING TO SEE US MAKE  
THE GRADE. EACH ONE, BEGINNING WITH THE  
PRINCIPAL IN ORDER TO LEARN, AND LEAVE EAGLE  
ACADEMY AS A GOOD CITIZEN.

STUDENTS ARE TAUGHT HERE TO BE COMPETENT  
AND ABLE TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO SURVIVE IN  
THIS ACADEMIC AGE. ALL THE SKILLS ARE LIFE  
SKILLS PREPARING US FOR OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL  
KNOWLEDGE; THEREFORE, AS WE STUDY AND

LEARN HERE, MANY WILL GO ON TO HIGHER  
EDUCATIONAL LEVELS. WE ARE GETTING A  
GOOD FOUNDATION AT EAGLE ACADEMY.

BELIEVE ME SIR, EAGLE ACADEMY IS A WORTH-  
WHILE SCHOOL. CONTRIBUTING TO BUILDING AND  
RESTORING CITIZENS THAT WILL PROVE TO BE  
BENEFICIAL TO SOCIETY. TRUE, NOT ALL WILL  
GO FORWARD, BUT THOSE OF US WHO DO, ARE  
WELL WORTH THE TIME, ENERGY, HARDWORK, AND  
EFFORT PUT FORTH, WE, AS STUDENTS, ARE  
THANKFUL FOR THE ONE-ON-ONE INSTRUCTION  
AND THE CARE THAT EAGLE ACADEMY MAKES  
AVAILABLE TO US. THIS IS MY MAIN REASON  
FOR COMING TO EAGLE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL.

VERY TRULY YOURS

CANDICE CARRA.

2626 Roosevelt  
Midland Texas

July 13, 2006

Dear Scholarship Committee,

My name is Jessica Jasso and have decided upon attending Midland College this fall semester. It is my great pleasure to have been introduced to various wonderful people at the college, at the time of my registration. In accordance to that, I was given this great opportunity to apply for this particular scholarship. I previously attended Eagle Academy high School which is where I received my diploma. While I attended Eagle Academy, I did encounter an extraordinary circumstance the last two years of my high school education. Since I was able to get ahead with my academic studies, the principal there asked me if I could help in teaching the Special Education population in regards to their academic needs. I did not feel qualified to help them, but took on the task and achieved great results. As the years went by, I was able to look back at the great achievement that these students had made in their academic studies and realized my great potential. Since the need is so great in the field of Special Education, there is great joy and fulfillment in having been a part of this extraordinary experience.

I have a great desire in attaining a degree from Midland college and am very grateful to have many different types of monetary opportunities to reach my goals. Thank you for this scholarship opportunity and hope that I am one of the selected few.

Yours Truly,

Jessica Jasso

To Honorary Senators

Statements follow that were given by Leroy Terrio and John Coffey, two of the board members for Charter School, Jean Massieu Academy of Garland, Texas.

1. JMA – Charter School provides instruction in ASL (American Sign Language) , and an ASL environment, to fulfill the requirements of the students' Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
2. The rating criteria for JMA does not take into account the percentage of Special Education students.
3. Alternative achievement tests and appropriate standards of measurement should be used for the students of JMA who hold a "Special Education" status.
4. Tests should be normed for the Special Education Students. In compliance with the students' IEP tests normed for Deaf / HH and Special Education students must be used to track the progress of such students. Specialized schools, such as JMA, cannot use a "one-size fits all" measurement tool, such as the TAKS for the entire student body. In cases where there are no standardized normed tests for a particular disability, criterion referenced tests must be used to track the progress of such a group.
5. Exemption Status: The Texas School for the Deaf is exempt from using the TAKS, however JMA *does not* have the exemption for their Deaf & Multi-HC Deaf students from taking the TAKS.

Therefore, JMA's board of directors have felt that JMA may have been harmed by having to give the test to also all Deaf & Multi-handicapped Deaf students the TAKS tests so it resulted in having JMA earning the "*Not Acceptable*" rating. JMA has tried to beat the odds by having the students make as big leap as possible, even if they had mostly transferred just within a year ago from local underachieving public schools.

JMA's board of directors pray that a unique charter school like JMA be considered while the Senate votes on the bill that may promptly kill this school, even though JMA provided better education for the Deaf & Multi-handicapped Deaf than the public schools had, where the Deaf were mainstreamed with the normal students.



To Honorary Senators

Statements follow that were given by Allan Bubeck, Jr., a board member for Charter School, Jean Massieu Academy of Garland, Texas.

Please support Jean Massieu Academy , a charter school for the Deaf in Arlington, Texas founded in 1999

It is a known fact that the Deaf are visual people and American Sign Language (ASL) is an important part of their lives

At Jean Massieu Academy (JMA), the students are instructed in ASL with reading and writing in English so JMA is essentially a bilingual school

Only 25 percent of human speech are visible on lips As one who had oral education, it was rough on me and misunderstandings were common ASL is like a beacon in Deaf communication

It is common knowledge some Deaf students can pass TAKS; some others would need the alternative SDAA and those who take life-skills training would need to be exempt JMA has all those students and all are to be educated to the best of their ability

Also we need to coordinate the whole Deaf Education program under the leadership of Texas School for the Deaf in Austin --some states have this arrangement

February 20, 2007

Good Morning Senator Shapiro and members of the Senate Education Committee. My name is Dr. David Lee and I am the principal of the Eagle Academy of Fort Worth. When I came to Eagle Academy four years ago, I was like most people. I did not know very much about charter schools and I did not understand some of their unique needs. Although I had sixteen years of experience in public education as a teacher and principal, that did not prepare me for a school in which 93% of the students were At-Risk of dropping out of high school.

Grace Atherton is one of the students I met on the first day of school, my first year at Eagle. Grace got on the city bus at 6:00 in the morning to be at school at 8:00. She rode the city bus two hours each way because our school had something she could not find at her local high school. You see Grace came to our school because she did not feel like she belonged at her previous school. She had skipped school so much that she had very few credits and was considering dropping out of school. Grace's parents did not graduate high school and actively tried to get her to drop out. They would punish her by not letting her go to school. When it came time for Grace to graduate, two years later, she did not want to participate in the graduation ceremony because she did not feel like her clothes were nice enough. One of our teachers decided to buy her a dress for graduation. Another teacher paid to have her hair cut and styled. Still another teacher helped Grace fill out her federal financial aid application and enrollment application to get into college. Grace did walk the stage to accept her high school diploma and did enroll in college the next semester. She comes back to the school periodically and lets us know how her life is going. I am very proud of Grace and the many students who choose to come to our school. Each of our students has their own story to tell about why they chose to come to our school.

If Senate Bill 4 were in place two years ago, I would not be able to tell you about Grace Atherton and her success story. I would not be able to tell you this because we did not have a 25% passing rate on the Math TAKS test.

In the past few years, there have been a select group of charter schools who have received the label of being a "good charter school." One of these schools is the North Hills School in Irving, Texas. I have been in that school and it is a wonderful school. As I walked through the halls of the North Hills School and learned about the International Baccalaureate curriculum that is taught in the school, I have to admit I was envious. As I stood in the guest room that overlooked the indoor equestrian arena, I wished that my school had facilities like that.

But my students do not belong to the equestrian club. They are generally not concerned about which prestigious college they will attend. My students are generally concerned about **if** they are going to finish high school, how many hours do they need to work to help support the family income or who is going to baby-sit their baby while they are in school.

I feel that Senate Bill 4, in its present form, does not address the unique needs of schools that have a high population of students who are At Risk of dropping out of high school. I do look forward to working with you to find a way to support the diverse needs of all charter schools.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Lee, PhD  
Principal  
Eagle Academy of Fort Worth

February 20, 2007

Good Morning Senator Shapiro and members of the Senate Education Committee. My name is Dr. David Lee and I am the principal of the Eagle Academy of Fort Worth. When I came to Eagle Academy four years ago, I was like most people. I did not know very much about charter schools and I did not understand some of their unique needs. Although I had sixteen years of experience in public education as a teacher and principal, that did not prepare me for a school in which 93% of the students were At-Risk of dropping out of high school.

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

David Lee, PhD  
Principal  
Eagle Academy of Fort Worth

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro,

If it were not for Eagle Academy of Del Rio I would probably be homeless by now. My family had almost given up on me before they accepted me here. I had dropped out of the high school earlier. I waited all summer to find a school I could go to. I was even homeless for a week last summer because I left home to go to my uncles' house in Albuquerque, N.M. I never made it, so I headed back home. Now, I am almost done with school because they are patient with me. My parents are proud. And I am happy with my progress. All I need is a few more math packets and Math Taks.

Thank you  
Adrian Quintela

2/16/2007

**Senator Shapiro,**

***Eagle Academies of Texas gave me a second chance. If I wasn't here, right now I would have to be working, cooking brisket and ribs. I need a job to pay for the things I have, but I hate cooking. I don't want to cook for the rest of my life. At first I thought because I am young and can fix cars I wouldn't need high school. I could get a job doing what I like to do. I was wrong. I couldn't find a job in my field. I got tired of, work so I came back to school, thanks to Mr. Soletto. He helped me come back to school and now I know that after I finish high school I will go to college or Auto tech school.***

***Thank you,  
Ricardo Ramos, Jr***

January 14, 2011

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro:

Eagle Academy has given me the chance to believe in myself by supplying very supportive teachers. They encourage me to do the best I can and by helping me believe that no goal in life is too high to set and reach, especially, with the right steps and the right people. Honestly when I first started going here I was pretty close to giving up everything I had become a workaholic and not making something out of my self. Also when I first started attending this school I thought it would be the same as the school I somewhat attended, but not I beg to differ. I came in and people respected me and accepted me, this has not really happened very often. This school has been one of the greatest things that happened to me, I would just like to say I've never found a greater school. So thank you very much.

Sincerely  
B. Blumenthal



02/10/2007 10:27 0001100100

LEONEL DOMINGUEZ

February 15, 2007

**Senator Florence Shapiro,**

**Eagle Academy of Del Rio has helped me in many ways. It's so hard to explain. It has helped me to earn credits and be around teachers that explain things to us individually. It also gave me a lot of opportunities when I was pregnant. Now that I have my baby, I know I can give her a better life. If Eagle Academy hadn't been there for me, I know I wouldn't be half the person I am now. I would probably be a high school drop-out. I wouldn't be able to spend time with my daughter because I would have to work a full-time job. I thank Eagle Academy for making me a better person and that's why I try to do my best at everything I do. I try to be the best person I can be.**

**Thank You,  
Leonela Dominguez**

February 15, 2007

Dear Senator Shapiro,

If it weren't for Eagle Academy, I would be at Del Rio High School graduating with the class of 2008. Here, at Eagle Academy, I will be graduating before May. I tried so hard to catch up at the high school but they weren't trying to help me. The counselors would tell me that there was nothing I could do to graduate with my class of 2007. They actually told me that I had no other choice, but I did. I had attended Eagle Academy before and had recovered almost 8 credits in a 4-month period. So I returned in late November. All have left are 8 packs to graduate in May. Eagle Academy gave me the chance that no other school would give me. If it weren't for Eagle Academy I probably would have dropped out by now. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Denisse Overland

02/10/2007 10:27 0001100100

LEVEL NUMBER 000000

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro,

Eagle Academy of Del Rio has changed my life for the better. When it was impossible for me to attend the public school, Eagle Academy helped make it possible for me to succeed. At Eagle Academy, I have learned subjects with more ease than at the public school. With the help of one-to-one tutoring I have been able to comprehend the subjects more quickly. Hopefully I will be graduating this year, and soon applying for college. Since coming to Eagle Academy, my plans have changed and so has my point of view. When I thought all was lost and the only way out was me getting my G.E.D., Eagle Academy gave me, as well as others, a second opportunity at an education. It has made me realize that sometimes it is better to attend a small school rather than a large school where students don't receive the special help they need.

Sincerely,  
Isai Prieto

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro,

Attending Eagle Academy has affected my life in several ways. This charter school didn't just allow me to graduate, but also provided a stepping-stone in my pursuit of happiness in life. All my life I have wanted to be involved in the medical field. When I withdrew from Del Rio High School I thought I would never be capable to reach this life long dream. Mr. Sotelo accepted me as a student in this school, and I am very grateful to have this second chance in school and in life. Now, my dream is already in sight. I am studying medical terms so when the time is right I can test out and become a Pharmaceutical Technician.

I can honestly say that being a part of this charter school has made me realize the importance of education and the independence I found within myself that will be needed in my future. Without a second chance I wouldn't be graduating early, learning responsibility, nor would I be the leader that I am today. I will become a Pharmacist and I have Eagle Academy and the staff to thank for my future success. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Patricia Rednour

February 19, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro

When I was twelve, I started attending Eagle Academy in Del Rio, Texas. My first day was on August 15, 1999. I was nervous on my first day. I did not know any of the teachers or have any friends that attended this school. The principal at that time was Mr. Buretta. He was a lot of fun. The thing I really had to get used to was the star chart that we kept at our desk. After a while I saw this as a challenge and really came to like this project. In the sixth grade my teacher was Mrs. Brooks. Having her as a teacher my first year was great. She really made me feel like I was where I needed to be. In the seventh and eighth grades my teacher was Mr. Maldonado. He was a very cool teacher. In the ninth grade Mr. Vela was my teacher. In the tenth grade Mrs. Guerrero became my teacher; she was terrific. Mr. Guerrero helped out at the school as well. He is a great man who took interest in me as well. In eleventh grade my teacher was Ms. Navejar. She was a very pleasant, easy to talk to teacher. This year, my teacher is Mrs. Chavarria. She is great! All of my teachers have helped me get to where I am now, graduation.

The principal at Eagle Academy now is Mr. Sotelo. He is someone who always finds the good in others. He has made me feel very special. This will be my last year at Eagle Academy. The one person I cannot leave out is the person that has helped me all this way. She has kept me focused on which direction to go. She is a wonderful person, someone to talk to and someone who I know will always be there for me. I think she is not only excellent, but also fantastic, and that is Ms. Buretta. I have made many friends in the past seven years at Eagle Academy. I know that if I had attended another school, I would not be as fortunate as I am today. In closing this letter I must say thank you to each and every teacher, principal, and friend that have crossed my path during the last seven years at Eagle Academy. I look forward to a wonderful future thanks to my time at this school.

Sincerely,

Raul Hernandez  
Senior, Eagle Academy of Del Rio

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro.

A new world of life is what I entered when I enrolled to Eagle Academy. All the doors were shut on me but at Eagle Academy there was always one open with helping opportunities. I had fallen behind and was told that I wouldn't graduate early but I proved them wrong. Here at Eagle Academy, along with everyone's help and support, I finished early. They have amazing teachers who care about their students. If I needed help with a problem, they were there until I learned how to solve it. They taught me material that I could actually understand through their methods of teaching. Thanks to our amazing principal, with his care and discipline, I realized not to take education for granted and to strive for the best future.

Sincerely,

Lisa Valdez

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro.

Eagle Academy has opened up a lot of opportunities for me. When the high school had basically given up on me and was not helping me reach my goals for graduation I came to Eagle Academy, my last hope. Eagle Academy has helped me a lot with getting my credits. If I just do my goals everyday I will graduate soon. I don't have a lot of paks to finish before I am done with all of my work. I also see the way this school has helped other people. There are a lot of girls my age or younger who had children and have come back to school because it's a faster way for them to get their diplomas.

Thank you,  
Nicole Molini

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro,

*I am very lucky to have found Eagle Academy in Del Rio. They have helped me so much with my education. I am very happy that Mr. Sotelo approved of me to attend this school. He is the best principal I have had in school. He does so much for this school that most principals probably wouldn't do. He is an amazing person. As for the teachers they are outstanding. My teacher is the best. She really helps me in everything. I am very honored to be her student. The teacher that helped me in my TAKS is Mr. Guajardo. He helped me pass it after five or six tries at the high school. I was ready to give up but none of them gave up on me. If it weren't for Eagle Academy and the staff I would probably be a drop out. I really don't think I would have an education for my son. I appreciate everything that Mr. Sotelo and the teachers do for me and the other students.*

*Sincerely,  
Adrienne Hernandez*



February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro,

*My name is Vanessa Dominguez and I am attending Eagle Academy in Del Rio. My only regret in my high school years was not graduating from Del Rio High School. I thought my only alternative was to get my G.E.D., and move on with my life, but I started thinking and I said to myself "I don't want people thinking I'm a good for nothing drop-out," so I decided to try Eagle Academy. This school was my key to success. It helped me realize that I wasn't a quitter. I am a winner! Now, I'm happy to say that I'm a high school graduate!*

*Thank You,  
Vanessa Dominguez*

02/15/2007 10:27 0001100100

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro,

I want to let you know how Eagle Academy has helped me accomplish many goals. I am grateful for this school because without it I do not know where I would be. I will not try to sound like an innocent person because I'm not; or let me rephrase, that I was bad before but now I'm a whole new person. I always thought that people couldn't change, but I was wrong. I was able to change into someone who cares about making something out of herself. I am thankful for this opportunity that Mr. Sotelo has given me. He believed that I could actually make it and he gave me a chance. At the regular school no one would have actually believed that I, Julizma Aguilera, could graduate or be someone in life. I know that I can do it. I'm trying my best to do what I can to graduate soon. This school has helped me in many ways. One way the school has helped me is that I've been able to earn twenty credits. I even managed to make some new friends while I'm here in school. I want to give a big "thank you" to all of those people who have helped me get through school. One person that I would have to thank the most and congratulate him for his great job at doing what he does best, is the principal at Eagle Academy, Mr. Sotelo. Thank you for believing in me and giving me an opportunity to start over.

Sincerely yours,  
Julizma Aguilera

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro,

This is my first year attending Eagle Academy in Del Rio, Texas. We never really took the time to get information about the school until this past summer. My parents visited the school and talked to Mr. Sotelo, our principal, and they really liked the way he was running the school. He explained all the rules and the necessary discipline you need at Eagle Academy. This school has done many things to help me. I now realize how important and close I am to graduating. When I first got here I had 14.5 credits and now I have 18. In a few days, hopefully, I will have 18.5. I also need my Taks tests but I know that I can pass those because I think that I am very well prepared thanks to the teachers we have here in our school. I'm not trying to put the High School down, but I believe that the high school is meant for some students, not all. I personally feel better in a smaller environment. It helps me concentrate better and focus on what's really suppose to be getting done when you attend school, which is schoolwork. In the high school you have so much freedom that you can skip out all 3 lunch periods and nobody would even notice. If you didn't want to go to a class you would just go and stay in the restroom for that class period. It was as simple as that. Here in our school, we have certain times to go to the restroom. We have breaks at certain times, also. Something that took me a little while to get used to was the lunchtime. In the high school we would get 1 hour of lunch and here we have 20 minutes, which if you think about it, is perfectly understandable because that's enough time for you to eat your lunch. I'm very glad that I had the opportunity to come to Eagle Academy. I now see graduating and getting my diploma really close to coming true. I would like to work in U.S Customs. I think that would be an interesting job. I'm pretty sure that all of us here in the school agree on one thing, Eagle Academy is a great place for those students who really want to graduate and move on with their lives. I want to thank you very much for taking time out of your busy schedule to read our letters.

Sincerely,

Marcela Vasquez

02/15/2007 10:47 000100100

SENATOR FLORENCE SHAPIRO

LEVEL ROBERT BERNARD

FORM 10

Feb.15, 2007

Thanks for keeping Eagle Academy open. This school has helped me a lot. This school is better than the high school because you receive one-on-one help from the teachers. They do help when you ask for help. At the high school when you ask for help, it is hard for the teachers because they have so many students. That's why so many students have dropped out. Some students need more help then others and they still don't get any help at all. At this school the teachers don't have as many students and they can help us at anytime. This allows more learning and less people dropping out. With out this school I would have been like the rest of and dropped out a long time ago. or I would have been in jail. This school has kept me from going there and I would like to say thank you for your support.

Thanks for everything.  
Hector Guerrero

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro.

Graduating a year late from high school wasn't part of my life plan. but neither was getting married at the age of 17 and having a baby months later. With all the difficulties I faced at Del Rio High School, I decided to drop out. I tried restarting school my senior year. After moving to Wisconsin, I found it difficult to find a good job without a high school diploma. My husband was in the same position as myself, and we both restarted school. After three months, we found that the school wasn't helping us and we weren't getting any closer to our diplomas. Once again we dropped out. We moved back to Del Rio, Tx. on February 2006. Almost by coincidence, we came across Eagle Academy. We didn't know what kind of school it was, but we went inside and explained our situation. That's where we met Mr. Sotelo, and without hesitation, enrolled into Eagle Academy. The promise of finishing school and receiving a high school diploma put us back in school. This was it, the second chance we needed to better ourselves. No matter how many times I wanted to give up, Mr. Sotelo wouldn't let me. If only I had at least one teacher at the high school like Mr. Sotelo I wouldn't be struggling a year later to receive my high school diploma. The staff at the Del Rio High School was not interested in helping me, if anything, they had lost all hope in me. Each and every day the staff at Eagle Academy inspires and encourages me to keep going. Coming to Eagle Academy was one of the best choices I have ever made. The difference between this school and all the other schools I attended is that I am accomplishing so much. I'm on my way to receiving my high school diploma! Being married and having two children makes it difficult for me to keep coming to school but Eagle Academy has helped me so much, that I can't turn back now. No matter how long it takes, I will be in my seat until the day I walk out with a high school diploma. I honestly do not know what my life would be like if Eagle Academy hadn't given me the second chance I needed. Now I know I can give my family a better life.

Sincerely,  
Maria Balderas

February 15, 2007

Senator Shapiro,

My name is Eduardo Reyes and I attend Eagle Academy of Del Rio. My plans for life are pretty exciting. I want to join the National Guard and work in the medical field. I would like to be an X-ray technician and then, hopefully, move up to cat scans and MRI's. Unfortunately, my score on the ASVAB test was not high enough to enter the medical field. One of the recruiters suggested that I go back to school to refresh my memory. I thought it was a good idea and visited Eagle Academy. I spoke to Mr. Sotelo and he took me seriously since I had previously received my GED. Presently, all my subjects have been completed except for Algebra 2. I am on the third pack and need seven more to graduate. Eagle Academy has really turned my life around. I have learned many things while being here. My self-confidence has sky rocketed. Since my arrival, I have refreshed my memory on old subjects and learned new things.

Sincerely,  
Eduardo Reyes

February 15, 2007

Dear Senator Shapiro,

My name is Ashley Ibarra and I'm a senior at Eagle Academy. This school has helped me accomplish so many things. Without this school I would probably never get close to getting my diploma. The staff from Eagle Academy is great. They have always been pushing me to accomplish my goals. Right now, they're helping me study for my Science Taks Test and also on the two credits I need to graduate. When finishing, I'm going to be really grateful because I will be able to take my diploma and go out and become somebody in this world. Without this school I would be nothing. And with the help from this school I will graduate and start my career as a Border Patrol Agent.

Thank you,  
Ashley Ibarra

February 19, 2007

Representative Pete Gallego,

When I was twelve, I started attending Eagle Academy in Del Rio, Texas. My first day was on August 15, 1999. I was nervous on my first day. I did not know any of the teachers or have any friends that attended this school. The principal at that time was Mr. Buretta. He was a lot of fun. The thing I really had to get used to was the star chart that we kept at our desk. After a while I saw this as a challenge and really came to like this project. In the sixth grade my teacher was Mrs. Brooks. Having her as a teacher my first year was great. She really made me feel like I was where I needed to be. In the seventh and eighth grades my teacher was Mr. Maldonado. He was a very cool teacher. In the ninth grade Mr. Vela was my teacher. In the tenth grade Mrs. Guerrero became my teacher; she was terrific. Mr. Guerrero helped out at the school as well. He is a great man who took interest in me as well. In eleventh grade my teacher was Ms. Navejar. She was a very pleasant, easy to talk to teacher. This year, my teacher is Mrs. Chavarria. She is great! All of my teachers have helped me get to where I am now, graduation.

The principal at Eagle Academy now is Mr. Sotelo. He is someone who always finds the good in others. He has made me feel very special. This will be my last year at Eagle Academy. The one person I cannot leave out is the person that has helped me all this way. She has kept me focused on which direction to go. She is a wonderful person, someone to talk to and someone who I know will always be there for me. I think she is not only excellent, but also fantastic, and that is Ms. Buretta. I have made many friends in the past seven years at Eagle Academy. I know that if I had attended another school, I would not be as fortunate as I am today. In closing this letter I must say thank you to each and every teacher, principal, and friend that have crossed my path during the last seven years at Eagle Academy. I look forward to a wonderful future thanks to my time at this school.

Sincerely,

Raul Hernandez  
Senior, Eagle Academy of Del Rio



February 15, 2007

Dear Representative Gallego,

A new world of life is what I entered when I enrolled to Eagle Academy. All the doors were shut on me but at Eagle Academy there was always one open with helping opportunities. I had fallen behind and was told that I wouldn't graduate early but I proved them wrong. Here at Eagle Academy, along with everyone's help and support, I finished early. They have amazing teachers who care about their students. If I needed help with a problem, they were there until I learned how to solve it. They taught me material that I could actually understand through their methods of teaching. Thanks to our amazing principal, with his care and discipline, I realized not to take education for granted and to strive for the best future.

Sincerely,

Lisa Valdez

February 15, 2007

Senator Florence Shapiro.

Eagle Academy has opened up a lot of opportunities for me. When the high school had basically given up on me and was not helping me reach my goals for graduation I came to Eagle Academy, my last hope. Eagle Academy has helped me a lot with getting my credits. If I just do my goals everyday I will graduate soon. I don't have a lot of paks to finish before I am done with all of my work. I also see the way this school has helped other people. There are a lot of girls my age or younger who had children and have come back to school because it's a faster way for them to get their diplomas.

Thank you,  
Nicole Molini

Feb. 1901

11<sup>th</sup> grade

Dear, Senator Shapiro

My name is Cindy Vasquez and I attend to Eagle Academy. I to this school so I could advance because I was absent a lot and I missed a lot when I would go to regular school. This school has givin me an opportunity to graduate. It has helped me to be ready for the TAKS when other schools didn't help very much. The teachers help us understand when we have a question and need an explanation. I like this school better because the teachers care about us and they will help us in any way necessary so we can graduate. If it wasn't for this school, I would probably be a dropout or would not have made as much progress.

Sincerely, *Cindy Vasquez*

Matthew James  
Sincerely

My name is Matthew James. I am a sophomore at Eagle Academy of Brownsville Texas. This school is a lot for me. I am being told up B.S.D. before I see you and they will give you the what you want for dress of look that you are a person who is not going to listen. Here is Eagle Academy location. It is located nearby, but one is better than others. B.S.D. people get studied lists and and the school picks favorite students and pick the students that they like. Another person Eagle Academy has helped me in the past. I failed eighth grade with a 5.0. So I came to Eagle and I am going to graduate in 2007 the year I am surprised so. I don't know where I would be if Eagle didn't exist.

Dear Senator Shapiro,

My name is Jose ElSerrano and I am currently attending the Eagle Academy of Brownsville. I have a strong opinion on why you should not close these magnificent schools down. If only <sup>you</sup> would be here to see how many students these schools saved from droppin out. There are many other students that want a second chance and other schools just don't give out that second chance. Schools like Eagle Academy not only give students a second chance but help you out a lot too. Teachers like Mrs. Croner (from Eagle Academy of Brownsville) are willing to give their ~~time~~ spare time to help us out. She tells me to stay after school for help. ~~Professional~~ ~~and~~ ~~all~~ ~~the~~ ~~other~~ ~~teachers~~ ~~too~~ ~~they~~ ~~are~~ ~~willing~~ ~~to~~ ~~help~~ ~~out~~ ~~students~~ ~~in~~ ~~whatever~~ ~~they~~ ~~need~~. All the other ~~teachers~~ ~~too~~ ~~they~~ ~~are~~ ~~willing~~ ~~to~~ ~~help~~ ~~out~~ ~~students~~ ~~in~~ ~~whatever~~ ~~they~~ ~~need~~. I think that Eagle Academy has helped me out a lot ever since I got here. My teachers are there for me when I need them. Mr. Navarro is my math teacher, we have these things called pullouts. Every time that I go to his pullouts, it's like I learn more everyday. He has been the best math teacher I've ever had. So it's like, these teachers do make a big difference whether you believe it or not. Eagle Academy is a difference!

Sincerely,

Jose ElSerrano

2/14/07

Dear Senator Flamingo

My name is Francisco Garcia and I just want you to know what this school has done for me. Eagle reading has helped me get an education. Without Eagle reading I would be a dropout, but now this way I still have a chance to graduate. To tell you the truth I wasn't going to do anything after I got dropped from my other two high schools. Eagle reading has really given me an opportunity, an opportunity to turn my life around and become someone important in this world. Thank you.

Francisco Garcia  
 1234 5678

The teachers that they have in this school help you a lot more than what the teachers in the I.S.D schools. Because there are less students and you get to know the teachers better. Also, the teachers they tell you what are you doing wrong and they help you and they make you understand and know what you're doing. When I on the other school I was going to get out because they never help me with what I need help with they would just teach you the same thing over and over again. I was going to get out of school because I got tired of being because I did know what was I doing wrong until I came here and I found out that Math was my

biggest problem. An  
because of Mr. Navaro  
now I understand more  
my math and I could  
do my math without  
a problem. I had to do  
pullouts and some tutoring  
to get good grades on math.



To: Ms. Florence Shapiro

Jose Martinez  
Feb 19, 2007

9th grade

Hi, Ms. Shapiro I am from Brownsville Tx. I attend a charter school that's now considered an ISD. I first came to Eagle Academy because I've wanted to catch up on my credits and get out of middle school and be in my normal grade. My first weeks here I notice all of our work were in packets I thought to myself this is going to be easy like my second weeks here they were getting harder and harder until this teacher of mine talked to me and told me if I wanted to stay after school for some help I advanced alot in my packets after getting tutored by my teachers. Now its been a year 1/2 and I find myself doing well and already in the 9th grade. Right Mrs. Traver, a wonderful experience for me its helped me alot and I'm looking forward to be here next year also but in the 10th grade hopefully.

Dear Mr Shapiro,

My name is Steven Adrian Martinez. I am a student attending Brownsville Eagle Academy. I chose to come to this school because I thought this school would help me get "thru high school". My older brother graduated from this school 8 years ago. Since I've been here, I've been more focused, I pay more attention, and I'm getting more work done. It would be a shame if this school would be shut down. Coming to this school was probably one of the best things I've done in high school.

TO: MS. Florence Shapiro  
FROM: Ryan Rentrop

Ryan Rentrop  
Feb. 19, 2007

During my first semester of high school I was a fool, and fools being fools me and my friends messed around. Well as I found out they would my antics landed me in hot water, before I knew it I was kicked out of high school and in danger of losing a great ~~opportunity~~ opportunity. Eagle charter Academy has helped me catch up, and even accelerate in certain subjects. I am not lying when I say eagle has given me a second chance.

To: Ms Florence Shapiro  
From: Guando Sosa Jr  
Date: 2/19/07

Dear, Ms. Florence Shapiro

My name is Guando Sosa Jr. I started to attend Eagle Academy this past school year. The reason I chose to attend this particular Charter School was because if I would've stayed in a regular school I would be in the same grade. I decided to come here to gain my credits and actually get my diploma. So that I can be someone in the world. I came into this school with just one thing "my future" and nothing was gonna stop ~~it~~ me. ~~My~~ My teachers, & one prin. made sure that I kept that goal. When I came in I was a repeating sophomore, at the end of the semester I successfully a junior prep work for the exit level TAHS

2-19-07  
Eagle Academy of  
Chicago  
Chicago

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,  
I would like to tell you  
how Eagle Academy has helped  
me in the past few months.  
At Porter High School I was  
failing all my classes and I  
wouldn't go to school. Here I'm  
passing and I have been coming  
everyday since I started. It was  
easier at Porter but also easier  
to get distracted and fail.

Yours Sincerely,  
Cesar Diaz

Em  
2/19/07  
Cable Academy  
Cable Academy  
Cable Academy

Dear Mr. [Name]

The reason I am at Cable Academy is because I had to skip some classes, I did it due to the fact that I lost credit for some of my classes. At that time my brother was at Cable Academy and told me that I should go. When I came to Cable Academy I was not familiar with the system but after a few weeks I was able to get my feet under me. If Cable Academy was not there I would have already given up on life.

JAMIE  
POTTER

12 B. 11/20  
10TH GRADE  
EAGLE

DEAR SENATOR FLORENCE SHAPIRO

EAGLE ACADEMY HAS HELPED ME  
EXCEL. I'M SUPPOSED TO BE IN 9TH GRADE  
AND I'M NOW IN 10TH. I CAME HERE  
BECAUSE OF THE PEOPLE IN BIED. MS.  
ADAMS, MR. GARCIA, AND MRS. SAROCH HAVE  
ENGUREGED ME TO DO MY WORK. LAST  
YEAR I CAME HERE AND THEY OPENED  
THEIR DOORS TO ME AND MANY OTHERS.  
THEY CHANGE THE ROOTEN ALL THE TIME  
AND ARE TEACHING ME FLEXABLITY. I  
WAS NOT BEHIND, I CAME HERE TO EXCEL  
AND SO FAR I HAVE. THESE SCHOOL ARE  
NOT JUST FOR DROPOUTS. ~~---~~

FROM,  
JAMIE POTTER

*Jamie Potter*

My name is Alberto Villarreal. I am a student at Eagle Academy in Brownsville TX. I came from Pace High School. I had been in Eagle Academy for five months. I used to skip alot in my other school but not here. Here the students are not motivated, and they are not encouraging. At this school I feel I got more chances to graduate. The teachers help us alot and fill us the responsibility of our work. Since I got to this school I don't argue with them. I have hopes of finishing high school now.

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro  
 Alberto Villarreal  
 Feb 19 2007

Sincerely,  
 Alberto Villarreal



Ch... ..  
Monday February 20

Dear ... ..

The best thing of being a  
... ..  
we have a 2nd chance going  
back to school. I never had class  
and ... .. And I'm not a  
best ... .. and I am  
in 9th grade. The reason I came to  
Eagle Academy was because I think  
they help you more and pay more  
attention to you ... ..  
school. I also came here because  
I want to ... ..  
years. So I can attend collage.  
Because I want to be some  
... .. I also see many  
childrens that had drop out and  
came back to school because they  
do want to go to collage.  
And at this Regular School  
don't want to come back. But I  
thing we have good people  
at Eagle Academy. And great  
teachers that love us and they  
come for us and get their  
jobs because they want the best  
for us and because we are there

Dear: Honorable Florence Shapiro

I heard your trying to vote against  
Charter schools in the State of Texas.  
Well let me give you a brief summary  
of what this wonderful charter school that  
I'm at has done for me. I did wonderful when  
I entered high school My Freshman year.  
Until I came back the following year, for my  
sophomore year. I started having discipline problems  
at my Regular high school, my grades were  
dropping. I was in and out of Alternative Education  
Center. I finally decided I needed to do something  
with my life, because I wasn't getting anywhere.  
Then when I heard about Eagle Academy  
of Brownsville, I heard it was a good  
ampus for people having problems in the  
Regular schools, so I decided to Enroll in  
Eagle Academy. So I got accepted, and  
I've been at this school for 2 1/2 years.  
And I have to say that I've made it  
far better. And I'm doing great here. The  
Work Modules are challenging, but we  
have some of the best teachers in  
the city working at this school. The  
Teachers are very helpful and understanding.  
The facility is great.

To: Ms. Florence Shapiro

From: Hector Ortiz

Date: Feb 19, 2007

Eagle Academy has gave me a great opportunity to get out of school early. I know it not enough 2 credits but I was a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and it 2 in a half years I will have at least 8-12 credits. Eagle Academy is a great school. The teacher that most caring teacher I had, if it wasnt for his motivata I wouldnt ~~not~~ gotten those credits.

TO: MS. FLORENCE SHAPIRO.

I came to this academy  
in hopes to find a home.  
Because in my eyes this  
was the only way out. I  
came from Fort Worth High School  
where I believe is hell. Because  
their students get harassed  
by other students. Trapped  
those were my emotions  
I couldn't tell because that  
just makes matters worse.  
But that does not seem  
to happen here. Every body  
here seems to have a  
positive attitude. I am  
very grateful to Mrs. Norma  
Sorola for giving me the  
chance to attend this  
wonderful school.

FROM 9th Rita Lozano  
Feb 19-07

sent by Ricky Aloniz

Hello my name is Ricardo Aloniz but you can  
 call me Ricky. I am in currently in 10th grade,  
 Eagle Academy has open many opportunity & I'll get  
 to finish school faster, sky focus on my studies,  
 I don't get in trouble any more. here Eagle Academy  
 I use to go thru high school. I had many trouble  
 like being absent, bad behavior and I  
 was gonna drop out of high school.  
 Someone told me about Eagle Academy so far  
 I love excellent job Eagle Academy.

To: Ms. Shapiro  
 From: Ricardo Aloniz

marc 12  
Eagle Academy  
4th

monica vela  
2/19/07

to Ms. Florence Shapiro  
from Monica Vela

Eagle Academy really helped me because when I was in a B.I.S.D. school I ~~wanted~~ would skip classes all the time, never did any work, and would misbehave all the time but it all changed when I came to this school. Before I came to Eagle Academy I was set on dropping out and not getting an education because I thought I was "dumb". In Eagle Academy they keep track of their students to get our work done. I never thought I would even get close to a passing grade but this school has really helped with that.

To: Ms. Fl...  
From: Hugo Montes  
Date: Feb 19, 07

Eagle Academy has giving me a great opportunity to get out of school earlier. In Eagle Academy I can get out of school more early than any other high school. Staff and students from Eagle Academy gives a lot of effort to success towards academic courses. Teachers from Eagle Academy get me motivated to continue with my studies.

To: Ms. Florence Shapiro  
From: Yesica Limas  
date: 2/19/2007

Why are you here at Eagle Academy?

Me, yesica limas I am here because I, in the past year had let my studies aside and decide to hang-out with friends that really don't care anything and there not work it, Now after all the things I have done I really that I ~~not~~ need an education and be someone in life. I have cried already and asked God a second change, I know I am not perfect but I am trying to be a better person to make my parents proud of me and finish my career and I know I am giving my 100% to school and finishing my packs to graduate, because it is hard to really see your growing up and your nothing in life. I am so thank ful with ms. Sorola I really admire her because she is my rolemode



Date: February 19, 2007.  
To: Ms. Shapiro  
From: Ciara Gonzalez.

~~Dear~~ I attend Eagle Academy in Brownsville Texas. Eagle Academy has helped me out alot and it has given me alot of effort to do things. The reason I attend Eagle Academy is because I am behind a year and I would like to be moved up to my grade by showing my progress on my tests and trying my best in school I may get moved up and become a freshman by August. Eagle Academy is just like a regular public school but I feel that in eagle we get more undivided attention. I love coming to this school. It's a great school for kids that need help to achieve or want to achieve faster. This is the reason why I attend eagle academy and hope to stay here for a while.

To: Ms. Florence Shapiro  
From: Juan J. Alonso  
Date: Feb. 19, 2008

Hi my name is Juan Alonso and I want to share some of my story that happened since I came to Eagle Academy. Well, when I first got here it was kind of hard adjusting to new environment. Also, I didn't know what to do with the pack system but I got used to it. So, now I think it's easier and that's actually the reason I got here so I can graduate faster, get a diploma, and get a job so I can be working and studying at the same time. I think that I think this is a good system. That is why they shouldn't close charter schools.

195...  
Brownsville, TX 78521

Thank you!

Dear:

Ms. Florence Shapiro

I really dont think you'll get to see this letter, but I really hope you get to see the other letter being sent along with this one. I have seen how this charter school has changed the lives of even the most troubled students. I myself am on my way to a much better life that I could ever hope for in a normal high school. Charter has given me a better outlook not only in life, but about school all round. Theres not much more to say but to please take this note under consideration in fact not just this letter, but every letter, because I am one of many.

Sincerely:

Gilberto A. Mejia

To: Ms. Florence Shapiro  
From: Lynn Garcia 9th Grade  
Feb. 19, 2007

The reason why I came to Eagle Academy was because I would hear good comments for example wonderful teachers, a great principal that had everything under control, one good reason that made me come here was that teachers pay more attention to us and help us better with our school work than in B.I.S.D. school that have more than 300 students. I really like this school because not only the work is easy but we learn many more things as individuals. Eagle Academy has really changed my mind of dropping out of school because of our wonderful principal, she gives us good advice and so do teachers. I also like the fact that I am more advanced on my work and the fact that there is no fighting in this school or doing drugs because they are also under control thanks to Mrs. Sorola our wonderful principal.

Dear Senator Shapiro,

My name is Sylvia Lopez and I currently attend the Eagle Academy of Brownsville. I am in the twelve th grade. Eagle Academy, in my opinion, is the best school I have ever attended. This school is way different from Hanna High School. Hanna is the school that I attended last year. The Eagle Academy is way different from Hanna in that the Eagle Academy has a fewer amount of students, the teachers are much more helpful, and there are less distractions. The reason I came to Eagle Academy was because I couldn't really interact with other people, including the teachers. Another reason I came to Eagle Academy was because my grades weren't good and I would skip a lot. Ever since I came to this school, I've been doing really well. My grades have improved a lot and I don't skip or miss any days at all. This school has really helped me out a lot with my grades and my self-esteem.

yours Truly,  
Sylvia Lopez

LETTER  
PC17

19/04/17

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,  
I'm writing this letter because  
I want to tell you how Eagle Academy  
of Texas in Brownsville has helped  
me. If it wouldn't have accepted me  
I would probably be another person  
doing nothing. I thank them because  
I'm about to graduate this year  
and I also thank my teacher Mrs Castro  
for helping me a lot and being after  
me to finish my projects.

Sincerely

Jehin Lee

u

Dear Senator Shapiro

I am Sandra Rivera, a Junior at Eagle Academy. I enrolled on October 25, 2005 as a freshman. Since I started attending Eagle Academy, I have had a great experience. The teachers here are very dedicated and are able to teach effectively since there is a smaller student population. The school here provides a better learning environment here at Eagle Academy compared to any other public school. I came from Morris High School and was very behind when I started all the disciplines. At Eagle Academy, I am very motivated and it is a lot easier to concentrate on your goals.

Sincerely,

Sandra Rivera  
2/19/07

Ans: [unclear]  
10/10/07

Dear Senator Lawrence Shapiro,  
I'm writing this letter to let  
you know that Eagle Academy  
of Brownsville TX have been  
of great help to me because  
I'm about to graduate this  
year. I thank Eagle Academy  
and special my teacher Mrs. Cisneros  
she has been helping me through  
all these years by getting  
after me so I can finish  
my credits and graduate faster.  
As for some feedback I give  
them because if it wouldn't be  
for this school I would probably  
be in another school or  
a just another dropout

Sincerely

[Signature]  
m. [unclear]



Dear, Senator Shapiro,

My name is Stacey Gomez and I'm a senior currently attending the best charter school in Brownsville, Eagle Academy. It has come to my attention that they're discussing about charter schools and what they have done for us. In my case I got kicked out of my public school which was Lopez High school because of my absences and grades. Then my friends spoke to me about Eagle Academy on how great of a school it is, so I decided to enroll to this school and it turned out to be awesome. The teachers are great and the principal is the best I am grateful she allowed me to attend Eagle Academy. It helped me catch up with my credits, all thanks to the teachers for always helping me get back on track.

Sincerely,  
Stacey Gomez

2/19/17

409 MorningSide #9  
Brownsville, Texas 78521

William Miller

Dear, Florence Shapiro

My name is William Keith Miller and I am  
 18, a Junior at Eagle Academy of Pennsylvania.  
 Ever since I came to Eagle Academy I have  
 been going to graduate and receive my  
 diploma. I have been a member of the  
 school in January and had a lot of  
 problems not passing my classes and wasn't able to  
 complete the football season for the falling  
 season. I was in a bad mood and the  
 things just went down the drain.  
 In December I started thinking about  
 I was never going to graduate because  
 it was so hard. I just needed  
 and already for me. I just I just  
 about dropping out. When I heard about the  
 school, it made me smile. When it was my  
 first day at school, the teachers here  
 felt comfortable. The Rollout TAKS exit test  
 teachers really from you and build  
 up your confidence. The teachers are  
 This school has saved my life and  
 on my own. I am now walking  
 across that stage receiving my diploma  
 a college.

Ed  
2/19/07  
EAGLE  
OF  
WISCONSIN

Dear [Name],

The reason I am not able to account  
to skip some classes, I did not have to the point  
that I lost credit for some of my classes.  
At that time my brother was attending  
EAGLE ACADEMY AND TOLD ME THAT I SHOULD  
GO. WHEN I CAME TO [Name] I WAS  
NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE SYSTEM BUT I HAD  
A FEW [Name] KNOW [Name] THAT I  
DECIDED TO GO TO [Name] IF EAGLE ACADEMY WAS  
NOT THERE I WOULD HAVE ALREADY LEFT  
ON [Name].

02/19/07  
am/10m

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,  
I Sandra attend Eagle Academy  
in Brownsville Texas. I came  
here because I needed to regain  
my credits, and I heard that  
Eagle Academy also known as Charter  
was a great school to finish  
quicker and get credits. I love  
this school because you take  
your own pace. You can take  
your time. And work on which  
ever subject you feel comfortable  
on. My teacher really tries to

---

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

I like this school because the teachers here teach better than in other schools. Here in Eagle Academy I learned more than the other school I was in. I'm more productive and do all my work here. This is the best school I've been to in all my life. In the other school I was in the teachers didn't teach me anything, and they didn't care. Here in this school all the teachers help me when I ask them for help. This is all I can say about the best school in Brownsville. Yours sincerely Armando Colorado from Eagle Academy 9th grade.

Dear Senator Filomeno Shapiro,

2/19/07  
Eagle Academy  
of Brownsville,  
6th Grade

Charter has helped me by catching up  
a year of school and to me the teachers  
are nice, but I know when they get mad  
because they just want to help you catch  
up and for you to graduate and they really  
do help you and also the work is easy  
but some is not like math and that  
kind of stuff. But back to the point the  
school is very helpful and they are very  
much discipline and the school

---

3161 South 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Suite 4  
Abilene, Texas 79605  
February 19, 2007

Dear Senator Shapiro;

Eagle Academy of Abilene means so much to me for various reasons. When I went to Cooper High School anytime I would ask for help they would tell me to read pages and pages of the material. This didn't make sense since if I couldn't understand the material why read it to many students in a classroom meant less time for individual help.

Before I came to Eagle Charter I really didn't understand math now it's my second best subject thanks to the teachers taking time and explaining it to me over and over.

When I took the 10<sup>th</sup> grade TAKS here at Eagle I passed all and even got recommended in the history portion of the test it felt fantastic to pass the TAKS for the first time.

If there was no Eagle Academies of Abilene I would of dropped out of school two and half years ago no question. Now I will be finally graduating from high school in around 3 weeks from today. It is very exciting since it was my mom's dying wish for me to graduate high school I will be finally be able to do my mother proud.

This wouldn't have been possible for me to succeed in if Eagle Charter wasn't around not to mention the staff that helps you with any of the subjects you may ask.

Sincerely yours,



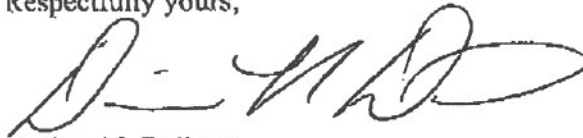
Adam Torres

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator Shapiro

Let me take the time to tell you what Eagle Academy means to me. When coming to Eagle Academy it was really awkward to see everyone in their own cubicles isolated from their peers, however, it helped me concentrate more on my schoolwork than being distracted by other people. Eagle Academy has made a major impact with my working abilities with school. To be quite honest, it doesn't take a long time to finish an assignment especially when you're trying to graduate. It means a tremendous deal to me, to come to Eagle Academy. The teachers are very polite and respectful to everyone that comes through Eagle Academy's doors. If it weren't for Eagle Academy I probably would be struggling in high school right now with schoolwork, not finishing work, or not turning in assignments on time. The way Eagle Charter prepares us for the TAKS is what teachers call pull outs from the class to study and learn the importance of the TAKS prep of Math, English, Science, and Social Studies. It also prepares many students to graduate a new beginning to succeed in later years. Thank you for your support of Abilene's Eagle Academy.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Dalbert", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Desiree N. Dalbert




Dear Senator Shapiro,

When I started going to Eagle Academy of Abilene I had every intention of going back to a "normal" public school. I had only started going to Eagle because I had just moved here to live with my mom, and my brother was attending this school. After being here for a few weeks, however, I decided to stay because I was getting much more work done here than I was able to accomplish at my previous school. I also felt more comfortable in the surroundings here. The teachers not only treat you like a student, they treat you like a friend. They're tough on you when it comes to your school work but when you're having problem they're also there to help you through it.

Working at your own pace is something I think every student should be allowed to do. Here at Eagle they give you that opportunity. You're still given goals that need to be met, but you have much more freedom over how and when you complete your work. Some things such as TAKS aren't your decision but they make it that way so that you can graduate once you're finished with all of your courses. TAKS practice is very important at Eagle. There are set pullout classes for math, science, and English to prepare you. I personally have already taken and passed the exit level TAKS test at Eagle Academies of Texas. I know that without the practice tests and helpful lessons I wouldn't have been able to pass it as well as I did.

During the years that I have gone to Eagle Academies of Texas I have had a couple of unfortunatc, lengthy hospital visits, both of which have put me behind in my school work. I've not quite gotten caught up on my work, but I will be graduating on time thanks to Eagle. I, of course, have plans to enjoy the summer just like any graduate would, but once the summer is over I plan to attend college. If it weren't for Eagle Academies of Texas, and its wonderful staff, I wouldn't be where I am today.

Sincerely,



Lisa Kemp

Dear Senator Shapiro,

Hi, my name is Ashley Willyard. I am writing this letter to explain to you how Eagle Academy of Abilene has helped me with my academics. Let me start off by saying that without Eagle Academy my life would be upside down. I probably would not be in school or looking forward to graduation. There are so many teachers here that care about our studies and want us to succeed. I have passed all of the exit level TAKS tests and that is due to the extra help I received at Eagle. We have pull-outs and study guides, as well as a guarantee that when we need questions answered we will get that and more. The guidance and direction we receive is priceless to us because for a lot of us these are the only people we can relate to. This school has done so much for so many others, as well as myself. I have something that no one can ever take and that is an education.

Respectfully yours,



Ashley Willyard

02/13/2007 09:40 020000020

Dear Senator Shapiro,

Eagle Academy of Abilene has done a world of good for me. I actually learned the things that I needed to know for the TAKS Test. I was actually confident in what I knew when I took the TAKS Test at Eagle, unlike before when I would be lost and unsure on the test because I didn't really learn how to do the work properly in the classroom. What's more I believe that Eagle has been good for me because if it didn't exist I would have been forced to become a high school drop out by the school that I was attending. My mom and I felt that the school didn't care about what happened to half of the students in it, including me. Coming to Eagle was the best thing that ever could have happened to me.

Sincerely,

*Jora Jordan*

Jora Jordan

02/19/2007 04:48 020030020

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator Shapiro,

Eagle Academy of Abilene means to me that there is a school that students can go to if they have problems socializing with others or, like me, work faster and feel like a traditional classroom setting is holding them back. I have been to Eagle Academy before and received more help than I expected; I returned to this school because I felt that at my other school I didn't get the help that the teachers here give. The teachers at Eagle Academy are great; they helped me feel confident about passing the TAKS by watching my weaknesses and working with me to improve them. I would like to thank you for having this school program and giving students the opportunity to come to a school like this one.

Sincerely,

*Brittany Langford*

Brittany Langford

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator Shapiro,

Eagle Academy throughout Abilene is known as an alternative school. Which everyone makes it sound as if it is a bad school, for bad kids. The reality of it is, this school isn't for bad kids its is just another place for education. If there was no Eagle Academy I know I would either be on a roof, jail or doing something I no suppose to. A lot of friends ask me how come you don't just comeback to regular school? The reason I don't is that in regular school. I will never learn anything because when I was in school I would always copy my friends work or cheat. I never cared about school until I came to came here to Eagle, because here you have to learn otherwise you aren't going to get your diploma. Here at Eagle we teach ourselves, we do all the work the only time the teacher comes to you is when you need help or when you need to grade other than that your on your own. I feel that the opportunity that was given to me was a blessing because no other school wanted to accept me because I had never went to school at my pervious high school. That is one of the reasons I failed TAKS, was that there were to many students for one teacher to teach, never any one on one time. If it wasn't for Mr. Kilton I don't think I would have ever passed my TAKS. He would take me out of class and he taught me math and science in a week and a half. I was even surprised myself because I thought to myself, this guy isn't going to expect me to be able to learn all of that in just a week and a half. It would take months but I don't know what he did that helped me learn it but I passed my exit level. Not only did he help me pass but, all the teachers are just like him they are very caring about us makes me want to come to school because I don't feel pressured as I did in regular school. That is something I have never felt at any other school except this one.

Sincerely,

David Anderson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Anderson", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

02/19/2007 04:40 0200000000 LABEL ROBERT HILLEN PAGE 03  
Christopher Delcon

2/19/07

Dear Senator Shapiro,

For the past three years I had been attending a regular paced school with all of the high school things you expect cliques and what not. But I never got the point of any of that I could have sworn that the reason for school is for an education. And at eagle that's all it is about it is all about getting your education and getting out into the real world with your diploma.

The teachers at my old school were the run of the mill teachers with no zest for life, I take that back there are always a few exceptions and I had both of them, but I look back and see that there are more kids than these teachers could ever see within a year. At eagle every single teacher is like those two exceptions except here it looks like the rule that holds the school together. The kids help fund the school but the teachers are its lifeblood.

Lastly I would be in a high school were everything seems a waste of time to somewhere where that's entirely untrue because it is at my own pace and goals and I set pretty high goal I should be done within two weeks and I am loving every bit of this school.

Thank you for your Attention

Chris Delcon

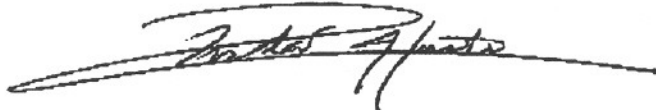
Christopher Delcon

02/13/2007 04:40 0200000000  
EAGLE ACADEMY HOTEL  
PAGE 00

Dear Senator Shapiro,

Eagle Academics of Texas has meant a great deal to me because I feel that if I didn't get the second chance that this school has given me then I would probably be dropped out of High School and be another statistic for you to frown upon. But as I write this letter I'm also getting ready to graduate within the next couple of days. That is so amazing to me because I never thought that I would ever have the chance to speak those words.

- Richard Thomas Huerta

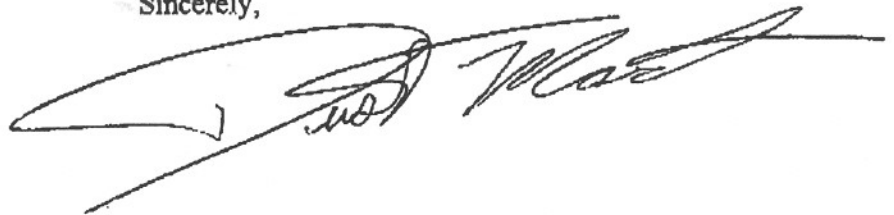
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Thomas Huerta", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

2-19-2007

Dear Senator Shapiro,

I, Dusty Martin, Would like to share with you how I feel about Eagle Academies of Texas. If Eagle Academy was not around I know for a fact that most of my friend wouldn't have a high school diploma. Once I found out they had graduated in a short amount of time, I was interested. I never gave it a thought till my father had a few heart attacks. With each attack I knew he wouldn't last too much longer. Knowing he wasn't going to be around I started to blow off school. But, something happened and he pulled through and told me that he would leave me till I could live on my own. Because of his love I decided to work harder at school. Another problem came around; I was now 3 years behind in school. Cooper was way to long for me to get the credits I needed to graduate. Then I remembered that a friend of mine went to Eagle and graduated in a really short time. So I looked into the school and I wanted to give it a try. I made some good friends and they weren't all just students. The teachers have helped me with more than education. I have gained a lot of discipline for the work place and schoolwork. I have managed to obtain 3 years of schooling in just 1 year here at Eagle. This has meant more to me than anything. To meet teachers who really care about the students and not the money. To have a teacher stand next to you until you get the concept is amazing. If I could find a way to help this school grow I will. It has helped me and can help others just as well. I know for a fact I will be sending my future children to an Eagle Academy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dusty Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a long horizontal line extending to the right.



Dear Senator Shapiro,

Hello, my name is Randy Cass and I am a Senior at Eagle Charter. I only need four more credits till I get my diploma and I can't wait. If it wasn't for Eagle Charter I certainly wouldn't be do very well in life. I dropped out of Wylie High School at the end of my Junior year because I couldn't bring myself to do the work. My mom suggested that I go to Eagle Charter and the only reason I agreed in the first place was to get her off my back. Now that I am here and nearly graduated I have a new perception of myself and a higher self esteem. Eagle Charter gave me a second chance to get my life in order and I am very thankful for that chance.

Sincerely,

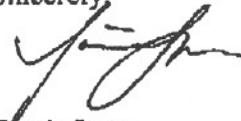


02/13/2007 04:40 0200000000  
EMAIL ROBERT SHAPIRO  
PAGE 02

Dear Senator Shapiro,

My name is Travis Lane and I am currently attending Eagle Academies of Texas in Abilene, Texas. I have passed my TAKS test and I am here because I need to graduate. Eagle Charter has been a blessing in my life because if it weren't for the opportunity to finish my high school education I would end up working a dead end job for the rest of my life. I have made the choice to come back and luckily, they accepted me. I plan on going to college when I finish here at Eagle Charter and with the help of the excellent staff I think that it will be a great possibility.

Sincerely,



Travis Lane

02/17/2007 09:40 020033020 LABEL FORMER ABILEN PAGE 11

Dear Senator Shapiro,

My name is Samantha Martinez and started attending Eagle Academy of Abilene during my junior year because I didn't like the violence at my previous high school. At Eagle Academy I don't have to worry about students fighting or random people walking around the school trying to start trouble. Also, since starting at Eagle Academy my grades have greatly improved and I have a better understanding of the schoolwork I am doing. Also, I started as an early junior and am now looking to graduate by May, after only two semesters. The teachers have helped to prepare me for the TAKS by paying attention to my weaknesses in my work and giving me the help I need to pass the TAKS without having to worry about failing. I am glad that I found Eagle Academy because if I wasn't here I would probably be struggling with my classes and not getting the grades I need to apply to colleges.

Respectfully,

*Samantha Martinez*

Samantha Martinez

Dear Senator Shapiro,

Eagle Academies of Texas has helped out so many students. Look at me, for instance; when I first came to this school I was in the ninth grade for the second time and no longer cared for school or wanted to continue going to school. I enrolled here in 2003-2004; granted I'm still here, but I've come a long way. I am now a senior and I only need three-and-a-half credits in order to graduate. If it was not for an Eagle Academies of Texas school I believe that I would be out in a gang, or working fast food, and I have now found that there is a whole lot more to life. Education is the strongest tool that you could possibly have and you will never stop learning. I'm hoping that all Eagle Academies of Texas schools stay open to help more kids learn and stay away from drugs, sex, and, violence. Without this school I would definitely have been in trouble and possibly already been dead.

For the TAKS tests the school has helped out tremendously. Without the one-on-one time for math I don't think that I would feel as confident or prepared for the TAKS tests this year. I'm a hands on learner and without someone working with me through everything, I have a hard time learning. Fortunately for me, this school has given me the opportunity to direct my attention to my schoolwork and get the undivided attention that I need. I feel really confident that I am going to pass all of the TAKS tests this time.

Sincerely,



Ashley Cowart

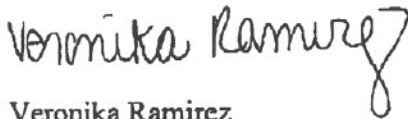
Dear Senator Shapiro,

Eagle Academy of Abilene means a lot to me. I have been here for about two years and I have progressed so much. The faculty here is terrific and makes it a great place to come to school. I never have to worry about what negative things will happen today or the next. I always know that no matter what I am in a safe, educational place. Not only do I know that the teachers are here for our education but I also know that they are here for us students when we are having problems outside of school. The teachers here always help us accomplish our goals and help us have a positive attitude in everything that we do. As you can see, there are many reasons why Eagle Academy means a lot to me.

If Eagle Academy did not exist I honestly think I would not be where I am today. I most likely would be the type of student who would be skipping class and just not doing my work. More than likely I would have already given up. I think that I would not be interested in school at all and would not even be looking forward to going to college.

Eagle Academy has helped me so much to prepare for the TAKS test. I have been in several different pullouts preparing me for my math and science TAKS. I am so thankful for the teachers who are taking the time out to help us prepare for these tests. I know so much more than I did the first time that I took these tests. I now can say that I have a more positive attitude about these tests than I did before. I can also say that I am so much more confident that I will be graduating with my class of 2007.

Sincerely,



Veronika Ramirez

Dear Senator Shapiro,

I am writing this letter as a thank you to Eagle Academy of Abilene. I work better in this type of atmosphere and I enjoy doing my subjects in the PAKs. This was my last chance to graduate. I was 19 and in tenth grade when I came here. They helped me complete and pass my exit level TAKS tests the first time. I thought that I would have to get my GED, but I came to this school and they gave me chance. I am graduating this year because an Eagle Academy was near me.

Respectfully,

*Charity Ray*

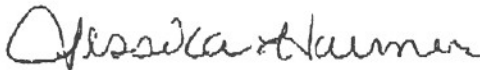
Charity Ray

02/13/2007 04:40 0200000000 PAGE 10

Dear Senator Shapiro,

Eagle Academy of Abilene means a lot to me. I don't know what I would do without this school. I believe that this school is a very secure and positive environment for me and I think that it is very important that students have a school like this to go to. To me, it was the best alternative school I could have chosen and I feel like I'm learning many new and interesting things here. It has made me feel more prepared for my graduation and for college. Eagle Academy of Abilene will make it possible for me to graduate this year because of the hours that the school has to offer and it is also close to my home. Thank you so much for allowing Eagle Academies of Texas to exist.

Sincerely,

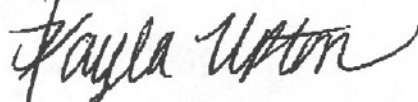
  
Jessica Harmer

02/17/2007 09:40 020000020

Dear Senator Shapiro,

I am a junior at Eagle Academy in Abilene, Texas. Many people do not know much about the type of school that I attend, so here are a few of the many things that I benefit from Eagle Academy. Although we may not have sports and social groups, we have a huge family. I find that among many of the people here that feel the same way, I have an easier time completing my work and understanding the material that is presented to me. I have been to many "normal" high schools and from day to day I was faced with cliques, drama, distractions, and many more difficulties of any high school student. I never thought that when I started at this school that I would be so rewarded for every accomplishment I achieve. I love the fact that there is no one holding me back or distracting me while I work and everything I do is at my own pace. If I were not at this school right now, I would not be graduating a whole year early and giving myself the opportunity to open up new possibilities to my future even sooner than I had originally planned. The staff is so caring and helpful here and I will never look at a regular teacher the same way. Eagle Academy has made me realize that you should not dread having to come to school every day because just coming for one day can give you the chance to get something done, unlike other schools. It even prepares me for graduation in the sense that I will have experience in fending for myself and pushing myself to achieve the things I know can happen and making impossible realities become possible.

Sincerely,



Kayla Upton



Dear Senator Shapiro,

I am a senior at Eagle Academy and this school has become important to me. Eagle Academy of Abilene has helped me and has given me the option of graduating a little early. The teachers are more helpful to me with my schoolwork because it is one-on-one help from them. I would mostly likely not be in school right now, if there was no Eagle in Abilene. When I heard about Eagle Academy I knew that it was right for me because of the ways they teach us. Eagle Academy has helped me prepare for TAKS tremendously with the extra help that they give you. The teachers actually care about you passing and do what they have to do in order to get you ready for the TAKS. Thank you for allowing Eagle Academies of Texas to be here.

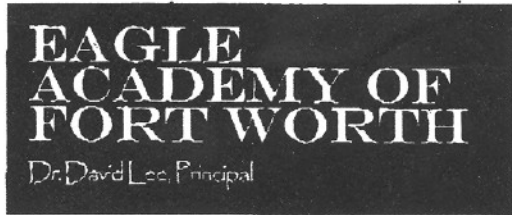
Respectfully yours,

  
Amber Johnson





6411 Camp Bowie  
Fort Worth, TX 76011  
Phone: (817) 731-2028  
Fax: (817) 731-2129



# FAX:

<b>To:</b>	<b>Chuck Cook</b>	<b>From:</b>	Eagle Academy of Fort Worth
<b>Fax:</b>	(512) 476-5909	<b>Date:</b>	February 19, 2007
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Pages:</b>	11
<b>Re:</b>	<b>Letters to Senator F. Shapiro</b>	<b>CC:</b>	

Urgent     For Review     Please Comment     Please Reply     Please Recycle

Dear Chuck:

These letters were written, by a varied group of our student-body, in appreciation for their educational experience here at Eagle Academy of Fort Worth.

*Felecia Long-Russell*

Lead Teacher,  
Eagle Academy of Fort Worth  
(817) 731-2028 office

*"Praying: God's Best for you, always..."*  
Remember: "T.E.A.R. tolerated is T.A.T.T. (continued)"

Jan 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro:

My name is La'Crice "Nia" Freeman and I've attended Eagle Academy for about four months now and they have helped me in such an enormous way. I was struggling at my other high school and I needed to go somewhere that could give me a little extra help in a smaller less stressful environment and this was the right place to go, the teachers are very understanding and very helpful and they also help you work at a steady pace to get what needs to be done - done! As a senior I needed that. Ms. Russell who is one of my favorite teachers is very supportive and she's giving me the extra push I need to get my remaining credits to graduate with my class this year. And thanks to Eagle Academy I'm a little closer to achieving that everyday - I don't have long now!!

Thank you for taking time out of your day to read my letter.

Sincerely,

La'Crice Freeman

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

I transferred from Western Hills High School to Eagle Academy of Fort Worth last year because I knew I wouldn't have enough credits that I needed to graduate. If I would've stayed at Western Hills, Eagle Academy has helped me get all the credits I need to graduate, possibly more. I really enjoyed all the support from the staff and teachers. The curriculum at Eagle fits my educational needs and enables me to learn more than Western Hills ever could. I appreciated all the support I got whenever I needed it. I will always thank them for everything they have done for me.

Sincerely,  
Masha Price

February 19<sup>th</sup> 2007

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

Hello, my name is Adam Blancs. I live here in Fort Worth and go to have gone to Eagle Academy of Fort Worth since 2004. I started off my freshman year at Southwest High School and from the start of that school year I just got into loads of trouble. I started getting into gangs and getting in trouble with the law, which eventually brought me here to Eagle. When I first got here, my hopes were to graduate a year early. Although I had messed up most of my freshman year, I was happy to see Ms. Russell (my main teacher) was very supportive of all her students. When I got here I was one of the quiet students that always kept to themselves because I had no friends at the school and I was just getting out of trouble from my home school. From the get-go Ms. Russell showed me how everything works (grading, testing, etc.) and got me working more than I had ever hoped. During my entire first year at eagle, I think I only gained 2.5 credits. Just thinking about it, that's better than what I would have done at Southwest. So I guess eagle helped prevent me from eventually dropping out. I have been going to eagle for about 3 years total. During that time period, things have changed. Teachers leave, teachers come, additions are made to the school, that sort of thing. My 2nd year here I believe I gained enough credits to officially make me a sophomore. My year that year was a lot better because I got to be part of a student leadership committee, which basically set up fundraisers for money for prom and other things for the school. I made friends that year and got to know Dr. Lee a little better. I helped clean the school with Dr. Lee every time he needed help since I was staying until 5:30pm waiting for my ride from school to pick me up. I know this school like the back of my hand and wouldn't charge any of it for the world. This is my 3<sup>rd</sup> year here and so far I've gained about 1-2.5 credits and am coming close to becoming a junior. I have had so much

help in my high school life from Eagle Academy of Fort Worth. They helped me get back on track with my schoolwork and kept me from dropping out. Every day I actually want to go to school to learn. That's how much I care / love this school.

Sincerely,

Adam Blanes

Student of

Eagle Academy  
of  
Fort Worth!

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

My name is Meesha Tanner and i've been at Eagle Academy since the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year and i believe Eagle Academy has helped me accomplish many goals. Since Eagle Academy is smaller than regular school i am able to focus better on my studies. I like that the teachers are very supportive and understanding. When i first started going here i wasn't able to focus and now im doing really well. Thanks to Mrs. Russell's help and support im going to graduate this May.

Thank-you, Senator Florence Shapiro for taking time out your day to read my letter.

Sincerely,  
Meesha Tanner.



Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

I've come to this school to be able to graduate early. It has helped me because it has a quiet environment and the teachers are very helpful and are there when I need them. The way this school is has made it so where I didn't have to take a whole year to finish one school year. It has made me actually want to work harder because I know that I will be getting done with high school. The only person that I would be hurting, if I don't do anything, is myself so that's why I've been working harder.

Sincerely,

Jessica Lopez

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

Hello, I am writing you in reference of Eagle Academy. My name is De'Enna Addison; I am a 16-year-old senior at Eagle Academy of Fort Worth, Texas. In the years that I have attended Eagle Academy, I have learned and gained many things such as independence, responsibility, and perseverance. Eagle Academy is a great school, especially for students who want to succeed in goals and in life. I feel that the reason I have gained so much is because I was in a self-paced environment surrounded by teachers who care and want to help me in the time of needs.

I thank you for your time and consideration for reading this letter. I appreciate all that you have done. Thank you and God Bless.

Sincerely,  
De'Enna Addison

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

My name is Amy Garcia & I am 16 years old. I've been a student at Eagle Charter for 2 years now. Before coming to Eagle I had more than a handful of problems. My freshman year began at Southwest High School. I started hanging out with a different crowd & started getting in trouble. I was already skipping classes by the second day of school. I was smoking cigarettes & weed & also taking pills. Soon after, I was cutting school altogether. Things kept escalating until mid-January when I was suspended because my then boyfriend stole my mom's gun & took it to school. I had withdrawn a month later. My mom tried home schooling me but I ran away to Dallas for 2 1/2 weeks. When I came back I started at Eagle.

After realizing I was capable of actually achieving something I quit drugs. Since then I've worked harder & just this past semester I gained almost 5 credits. I now have a 1 month old son & Eagle's set up as a charter school has allowed me to complete so much more.

Sincerely,

Amy Garcia

February 19, 2007

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

Hello my name is Sara Cuske and I attend Eagle Academy of Fort Worth. I have been here for almost a year and am almost through. I am on my last pack. Eagle helped me get the last few credits I needed to graduate and made it a little easier than regular school. I greatly appreciate all that the teachers and staff have done for me, to help me graduate and make something of myself. Well all is well now and I hope you have a great day!

Sincerely,  
Sara Cuske

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro

Eagle Academy has made it possible for me to graduate this year. It has given me a chance to broaden my future. And I would never have been able to graduate on time if this school had not been here. I appreciate everything this school has to offer me.

Sincerely Katie

Dear Senator Shapiro

2/19/07

Eagle academy is another word for motivation to succeed, I could say. This school has helped me so much that now I could say that I am proud to be an eagle. The Eagle Charter Schools provide a lot of help for us. When I was on my other school I was not doing good at all, I was flunking all of my classes, the reason for that was distraction, it's the distraction that was killing me. Here in this schools you are by your self and getting the help you need. My dad is very proud of me now that I show him my report cards because now he sees very good grades. The other thing that has helped me a lot is that this school works a very good schedule, only four hours and you have the rest of the day to your self, for example me that I work. I really like going to this school and I plan on graduating from this school.

Sincerely Carlos Lopez

Dear Senator Shapiro,  
out of all the many things Eagle Academy has done for me, I think the greatest is it gave me a second chance. I am a junior originally, but thanks to Eagle Academy I'm a senior. At my old high school, I kept getting distracted by the constant peer pressure large schools have and would ditch class a lot. Losing credits I hadn't realized what or in a better term how it affected me. When I finally did, Eagle Academy welcomed me with open arms at helping me come to school and get my credits back. While many have murmured how charter schools are a flunkers school it saddens me. How could a school that helps students get their lives back, be so horrible? A lot of times people make mistakes, such as getting pregnant too young or not showing up to class. When all regular schools shut the door on them, it gives us no hope. No encouragement. Eagle Academy though helps us, they go on a one to one learning technique with us that lets us go at our own pace. The teachers here like Mrs. Santos encourage us to finish, and we succeed. Mrs. Santos is an English teacher and she has motivated me to pass my TAKS. So tomorrow, I not only know I'm going to ~~pass~~, but I know I'm going to <sup>pass</sup> ~~my~~ ~~test~~. Eliminating charter schools is like saying nobody can make a mistake. Without Eagle Academy I wouldn't be a senior graduating a year early and starting college in the fall. Hopefully you realize what damage one can do if they eliminate charter schools. So I ask of you only what you would desire if you made a mistake, to continue giving everyone a second chance, to make this state a better place. With all of my upmost respect I leave you with this letter.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Guerra

Feb. 19, 2004

Dear Honorable Shapiro,

To my understanding, I know that you don't agree to have charter schools. I might not understand your reasons, but I'll tell you that Eagle Academy changed my life. I was a student of Edinburg Highschool with accumulated credits that had been passed on since eighth grade, being a Hispanic with a dream of graduating one day, I decided to be moved to the Senior class, but that day my goal was rejected even though if I had good grades and enough grades to at least be a Sophomore. That day I didn't even know how to tell my parents that what we had put as a goal had just been dumped and rejected. Later as days passed I received a Student Plenary Society letter that expressed that my grades and credits were good enough to reach the Senior class. My dad met a district staff who recommended me to Eagle.



Dear Senator Shapiro

My name is Enrique Arriaga and I am attending Eagle Academy in Pharr. This school has helped me get myself back on track. For a while I was thinking about dropping out until I found this school. I was behind about 2 yrs and a half, now I've caught up to the point to where I can graduate the year I was supposed to. The teachers here are very helpful in tutoring us and preparing us for TAKS. They pull us out for a good 45 minutes and go over the objectives that might be on the test. They also pull us out for "1 on 1" little sessions so that they explain or help us on what we need help in the most. In a regular school I wouldn't get this kind of attention, I feel I have a chance to pass the TAKS without a problem and get enough ~~pack~~ credit to graduate this year so that I can reach my goal and get to college.

Sincerely,  
Enrique Arriaga

July 17, 2007

Dear Honorable Shapiro,

I know that charter schools may not seem as important or necessary as the public I.S.D.s, but for me as well as for hundreds more they have opened new ways of thinking. Their individualized curriculum helps me go at my own pace and not be held back by my peers as the regular public schools do. The books explain in a more detailed yet brief form compared to the oral presentations in other I.S.D.s, which at times are blocked by the loud chatter of the whole classroom. The small number of students lets me concentrate on my work and doesn't cause the teachers to raise their voices. My desk provides me with privacy and peace which makes me feel more comfortable thus increasing my capacity of work done. The hours are also a great benefit for most if not all of us. My mom has her break at the time of our dismissal so she doesn't have to stress out at 3:00 p.m. when it is her busiest hour. Also it helps the students with jobs to arrive at their workplace on time and take home their booklets to finish them once they're out.

Please take to heart that this school has helped me in more ways than written and that I can actually see myself graduating in this school with a high G.P.A. I want to graduate in the same school where my older brothers and sister graduated from and has led them to great success. I am truly proud to say that I attend a charter school when asked and that I would love for other future generations to attend it too.

Sincerely,

Feb/19/07

Dear, Honorable  
Florence Shapiro

My name is Mark Garcia. I'm 20 years old and I attend Eagle Academy in Pharr Tx. I am a father of two little girls. I had stopped going to school when I was 18. I just stopped going because I constantly had to be at work. I know it's no reason to stop going, but it was really hard to go back to public school after I dropped out. So this year I was talking to one my friends, his name is Arthur Magness, he told me Eagle Academy helped him graduate at 19. So I decided to give it a try. I came this year with hopes that I'm going to graduate. Hopefully I will be done by April. Cause that's when I turn 21. So where would I be if Eagle Academy wasn't here. I probably be working as a server for the rest of my life. Now if I graduate I will attend Pan Am University in the summer. And do something with my life. instead of

Jeffrey Johnson, Eagle Charter  
Pharr, TX

Eagle Charter Academy means alot  
to me. If it wasn't for Eagle  
Charter I would be in an  
Alternative School. I came to  
Eagle Academy because I was  
very miserable in a school in which  
I didn't belong. I tried going  
back out to public school  
but they didn't accept me,  
so I came to Eagle Academy  
and met this wonderful lady  
who goes by the name of  
Principal Hinojosa. She gave me  
a second chance, she told me  
everyone deserves a fresh start!  
and plus I'm TAKS complete!  
If it wasn't for Eagle Academy  
I would not currently be existed  
in the Army, and I would not  
be graduating this year with  
my class. Eagle Academy has  
given me the chance to pick up  
my pieces and get ahead. I'm  
really happy that there are schools  
like this for people like me  
and especially principals like Mrs. Hinojosa.

Dear  
Senator Shapiro

2/19/07

February 17, 2021

Dear Honorable Florence Shapiro,

Eagle Academy of Pharr is a wonderful learning environment for students. Since I have started attending school here I've seen that the Teachers put in as much effort as the students to try and get them to graduate especially, the ones who want to finish, and who aren't taking complete. I am grateful to Mrs. Hinojosa for accepting me onto this campus. I have received most of my credits but am lacking math and science TAKS. The tutorial sessions I have attended are very helpful. Mrs. Alvarado, who is currently my math tutor, is very helpful in helping me prepare to pass the math TAKS. So I am very confident that I have a good chance in passing the TAKS this week. I am also very thankful to all Eagle Academy staff members for their hard work and effort in helping us prepare for our future.

Thank you  
Sincerely,  
Trisha Torres

Dear Honorable Florence Shapiro, Eagle Academy  
 has helped me in many ways: in passing  
 my tests, in graduating, in passing  
 it weren't for Eagle, I wouldn't be here.  
 My elementary was helped me mainly by passing  
 my tests exams when I got here. Ms. Santos  
 got me to pass every day for good of course  
 she was on me every day from turning in  
 Benchmarks. She helped me with the  
 other forms of testing in order to pass and  
 I nailed it the first time. Mrs. Flores was also  
 one who helped me very much on Math,  
 before I got here I was almost and  
 I am to take the end of the school tests  
 and I passed them. If I wasn't here I  
 would probably drop out or haven't passed any tests  
 yet because in a regular IED they don't pay much  
 attention to you and there is a one to one  
 situation. Also that I've passed my tests  
 I'm going faster in order to graduate. I  
 am in a class where Mrs. Lopez is going  
 two hundred miles an hour to get us to succeed.  
 She helps me with our work and helps  
 us in order to go faster and then hopefully  
 going to graduate this year, thanks to Eagle  
 Academy of Pharr!

3-19-07

Alfonso Acosta

From: Kellishia  
Ybarra

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

Feb 19, 06

I would like to address to you how Eagle Charter has helped me improve my education. As you know in public schools there is about 200-300 student that teachers have to teach. Aside from the number of students have to be taught there are also fights and gangs and is just a hassle to go through a day.

Eagle Charter has helped me in so many ways because for starters they help me individually. My English & math teachers take the time to help me in struggles on a one-on-one base. This helps me know what I need to improve on. When I was at a public school, my teachers would teach me at their speed ~~unmatters~~ whether I got the idea of how to solve a problem or write a paper they moved to the next level. Ms. Santos my English teacher had so much patience with me and with her help, I am confident I will pass my ELA TAKS on Feb 20, '07. Ms. Alvarado, my math teacher has even more patience with me and helps me so much with my math problems.

Eagle Charter Academy has helped me in so many ways & helped me improve on my education and in life. It has helped me move faster on my credits I am thankful for Eagle Charter

Dear, Honorable Shapiro

Eagle Academy of Texas has helped me a lot. I think if I wouldn't have known about this Academy, probably I would've been at my old high-school, that I didn't like. Here the teachers help you a lot more, for me they explain slower and way better. I think that it's the fact that the school is smaller and quieter that I feel more comfortable. In this Academy I even learned how to write an essay better with the help of one of my teachers Mrs. Santos. I feel that I have learned a lot of new things here. I concentrate better, since there's not that many students. It's a really good school, plus you get your credits faster but it depends on your pace. Another positive thing about this school is that it's just 4 hours, compared to other schools who have 8 hours of school. This is a really good school, that is recommendable.

Sincerely,

Maritza Mata



Dear Honorable Florence Shapiro,

Eagle Academy is a great school  
I actually look forward to coming to school.  
It's great that we get to work at our own  
pace and when we do get stuck and struggle  
a little bit we have an awesome teacher named  
Mrs. Saks who helps us out. I love our principal  
Mrs. Hirojosa. The way all the teachers from  
this campus make you feel is that you can do  
whatever you want in life, you just need to set your  
mind to it. If I was still back at my old  
school I know I wouldn't be there cause in  
that environment you don't get the individual  
help as you do here at Eagle Academy  
at all. I am extremely grateful for  
getting accepted.

Sincerely  
Carissa Garcia

Dear Honorable Shapiro,

Eagle Charter has changed my life; I've succeed in so many ways. Ever since I was at P.S. 114 high school I was a freshman for two years. The reason why I wouldn't be going to that school is because there was a lot of violence and my mom would be scared of me going there. My friend told me about Eagle Charter. I told my parents about it and decided to check the school out. My parents like it and I got accepted and now I'm here. Everyone in my family is proud of me and I'm also proud of myself. I'm in 10<sup>th</sup> grade soon to be an 11<sup>th</sup> grader. Besides that, we only come here for four hours; it's safe. I wouldn't go back to P.S. 114. I would like for you Honorable Shapiro to support us.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Lopez

2/19/07

Dear, senator Shapiro,

Eagle Academy of Pharr is a great school, it has been like a miracle to me, because this school is like my second chance of being a successful person in life. I used to be in Donna Highschool there I would only attend not to learn anything, my teachers over at Donna would only hand out the work and not even give us a lesson, about the topic. Here at Eagle academy of Pharr, we get tutored, we get to retrieve our credits, and get a better education, one of my teachers who's name is Mrs. Santos is one of the hardest teaching teachers, there is here at Eagle Academy, she is the one that made me feel confident that I was going to pass my TAKS test. at the beginning of school I wasn't confident, But Ms. Santos showed and proved to me that I could pass my TAKS Test, and I really appreciate that. This school is the best thing that ever happened to me.

Sincerely Victor

2/19/07

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,

I am an eighteen year old student who just transferred to Eagle Academy of Pharr from the P.S.J.A ISD. The reason for my transfer was that ~~due~~ because certain situations over the past few years have put me a little behind on the required credits that I need to graduate with. I am supposed to be a senior this year but because of my loss of credits I am still considered a junior. Eagle Academy has given me the opportunity to graduate this year by catching up on my credits with the self paced system of working. Before hearing about this school I was just about ready to give up because I thought it was hopeless for me to graduate but now, I see that I am able to do it thanks to Eagle Academy.

Sincerely,  
Cristy Rodriguez

Dear Senator Shapiro,

I think that if any you should reward Mrs. Santos for being very helpful. Mrs. Santos has really helped me on my Taks. At first I was very mean by not wanting to go to my Taks Tutorials, but now I want to go again. Last year I passed my Taks Test. I felt so happy because I had never passed a test before. This year I'm going to pay Mrs. Santos back by passing The Taks and scoring very highly on it.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Jaime Jr.

Dear Senator Shapiro,

AS for me Eagle Academy has helped  
me out alot. Unfortunately in my other  
school, I did not get the help I  
needed as I do here. Here in Eagle  
Academy I understand things better because  
the teachers actually make time for you  
and teach you one on one. For example,  
Mrs. Santos spends all her time teaching  
us and preparing us for the lessons.  
Eagle Academy has made me realize  
how much school is so important to  
our lives and future. I am really  
thankful for this chance that not everyone  
gets.

Sincerely,  
Anacris  
Lemus

Shirley Long Trujillo

The best thing that changed my life is Eagle, and I mean that in a good way. The only way I could get the help I needed was to come here, and it was very hard for me to concentrate at my I.S.D. I came along way from where I was at. I was at the bottom of the pit with no education. Finally I made up my mind to come and see how it goes, sure enough I started coming here and I am a new person again with school. I found out that it's all opportunities here and we can actually ask for any help we need and we will get the attention in no time. They help me out with my credits but not only that I am more confident more in myself and to others. I went from skipping and not attending school didn't really care about education. Until I came here and it changed my life that you would imagine, no more skipping, doing my work, and enjoying to come to school. All my friends and family are shocked on what I have accomplished and more I am still do like spending time with my family. I think he ever made these charter schools, because I would be stuck in school until I was not of age and I definitely don't want that. I am proud of myself for accomplishing so much, and very grateful to all the teachers who have helped me, and especially my principal.

Dear Senator Snodgrass

Shirley Long Trujillo  
Feb 19 - 2006

Academy, that day I felt like my dreams were not just dreams or hopes they were reality accomplishments of all I had put into my education. Mrs. Gonzalez and Mrs. Plinojosa were my motivation to go on in my education, and as a promise I will never let them down if with your help you can support our campus.

Sincerely,  
Fatima Ghaidy



Thank's a lot for helping me!

Humberto Roman

also  
This school add to the staff  
I am really grateful to  
my education.

and I couldn't continue with  
in a job with no future  
I would probably be working  
part time that part wasn't for it  
the Eagle Academy of Pharr  
to show my appreciation for  
of my English. also, I need  
my studies and the development  
Academy has helped me a lot with  
I just want to say that Eagle

Honorable Florence Shapiro:

10/03/07



# **Eagle Academy of Brownsville**

955 Paredes Line, Brownsville, Texas 78521 Office: (956) 550-0084 Fax: (956) 554-0890

**To: Senator Florence Shapiro** **From: Norma Sorola**

**Fax: (512) 476-5909** **Pages: 129**

**Phone:** **Date: 02-19-07**

**Re: Student's Letters** **CC:**

**Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle**

**Senator Shapiro,**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your efforts in assuring that students in the State of Texas receive a quality education. As principal of the Eagle Academy in Brownsville, I have experienced first hand how much the

... All of the students that choose



From: Joseph Hamby

2/19/07

What has Eagle Academy done for me? 1. What Eagle Academy has provided for me is a chance. A chance to prove I am not just another dropout. When I came to Eagle it seemed OK. Soon after I was settled in the school became better than I thought. The teachers I got to meet were very nice and social. I was a good student ~~and~~ and had the privilege to meet and greet new people. My experience in highschool was good its first year, but soon headed downhill. I became involved in a wrong crowd and avoided school most of the time. I soon found myself in a jam and couldn't get out of it. That's when I heard about Eagle Academy. Attending this school has helped me gain much character and has shown me alot. For my sake I'm very glad to have been introduced to Eagle Academy. It has made my schooling much easier and my life better.

Feb 19, 2007

Dear Senator Shapiro,

My name is April Potter and I currently attend Eagle Academy of Brownsville. It has come to my attention that you will be discussing Charter Schools and ~~collages~~ their possible end; this is why I'm writing to you. While I do not enjoy coming to this school every day, I do believe it should continue to function. Most of the other students came to this school because they're out of other options, I however, am a different case.

In about two weeks I'm going to graduate at the age of 16. In spite of being smart, I did poorly in public school. I became bored easily by the pre-established curriculum and my grades began to suffer for it. But when I moved to Eagle Academy they let me work at my own pace and worked with me one on one to help me finish quickly. Now I'm applying to top colleges and have a chance at a successful future. Knowing this, I hope <sup>you</sup> vote to continue Charter Schools.

Sincerely,  
April Potter

Grade - 4th

REVINUNU  
Dragostinovic

2-14-07

Dear Mrs. Senator Florence Shapiro  
we don't want you to close the  
eagle Academy of Bronsville. If you  
close the school you will be closing  
hundreds of dreams. Students that  
went to graduate. I have just be  
in this school a month. But in that  
month I realized that this is the  
only school that will help me  
with my problems. If you  
close the school you will have  
not of kids that will not be  
able to go to another schools.  
Like me BISO does't want me  
any more that's why I went  
to this school this is a  
perfect school ~~the~~ the time  
that I have been here my  
grades went alot high so  
please, do it for the kids  
students

1503 Palomino Ct.  
Brownsville TX.  
February 19, 2007

Dear Mr. Florence,

My name is Anni Orozco, I live in Brownsville TX. and currently attend Eagle Academy of Brownsville. My letter is to respectfully ask you to reconsider the matter in question about closing our school. I am sure there are a lot of important reasons why you are considering doing this, but I honestly think that Charter schools are essential to my community; one of the most important reasons is that us, the people who attend this school sometimes do not have the opportunity or time to attend a BISP schools. It could be because; we have to work, our kids need to be taken care of, or in my case: I need to finish school in a shorter length of time and Eagle Academy is giving me that opportunity. About my teachers, I can tell you that they are hard working people and that they really care about seeing us "walk that stage" (as they say) with our diploma. I'm very proud of them and appreciate all the effort they put into our graduation.

Thank you for your time, and I hope you will make the right decision.

Sincerely,  
Anni Orozco.  
Anni Orozco.

February 19, 2021

M

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Dear Ms. Shapiro,

You might not know what Eagle Academy has done for many teenagers, but with Eagle Academy in Brownsville, it has been an advantage to many.

I attended Valley Christian High School in the years 2005-2006, and they didn't offer the classes I needed to complete my freshmen year. When I came to Eagle Academy I was still in the 9th grade. At the same time the principal allowed me to start on my tenth grade semester.

Eagle helps people go at their own pace. With Eagle Academy, students in Brownsville have a second chance to get their life together.



There are a lot of bright teenagers here who really try hard and want to graduate. By closing down the Charter schools it would be a disappointment to many students, who are given a great chance in furthering their education. Eagle Academy is making a big difference in my life. The people are very supporting<sup>ing</sup>, and the amount of people is great. There is more time to study after school, to be prepared for the next day. My goal after graduation is to attend Baylor University, and then transfer out to Harvard University. Closing down the Eagle Academies my dreams ~~can~~ may be demolished. I really do hope this

letter and all the other letters inspire you in keeping them open for students who want another chance in completing their education.

Thank you for the time in reading this letter, I really do appreciate it.

Yours Truly,  
Minerva Marie  
Castillo

Minerva Marie Castillo  
10th grade

To: Ms. Florence Shapiro

From: Ernesto Stuart Owen 11th

Date: February 19, 2007

I have been attending Eagle Academy for about three months now. I came here because of the fact that I was a grade behind. This school gave me the opportunity to catch up. This school has a great education program, and allows other to succeed in life. I entered this school with nine credits I know hold 15. I am proud to be attending Eagle and I will be here until the day I graduate. The staff here has done great things. If it wasn't for them I wouldn't be as successful. This school offers so much help to those who need it. Many friends that I have made here would of dropped out of ~~school~~ <sup>school</sup> if it weren't for Eagle. Our principle Ms. Sonke is also great. She has made a difference in many of the students lives. I think that this school is the most preparing for college. I have learned how to become a better studier. This school has taught me how concentrate on my work without getting distracted. I feel that I am a better person ever since I began to attend this school. I appreciate everything that Eagle has done for me and I thank them with everything.

To: Ms. Florence Shopino

From: Mario Saldana Jr

Date Feb 19, 2007

I am in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. I am at Eagle Academy in Brownsville, TX because I got into a fight on Dec 2006 in Gracia Middle School. I was going to serve a 30 days in IAP. But Eagle Academy accepted me, giving me a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance. If I messed up I would have to go back so, I got to work. And now for my efforts I am in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. I can't thank them for accepting me.

Dear Honorable Florence Shapiro

I heard your trying to vote against charter schools in the state of Texas. well let me give you a brief summary of what this wonderful charter school that I'm at has done for me. I did wonderful when I entered high school my Freshman year. Until I came back the following year, for my sophomore year. I started having discipline problems at my regular high school, my grades were dropping. I was in and out of Alternative Education Center. I finally decided I needed to do something with my life, because I wasn't getting anywhere. Then when I heard about Eagle Academy of Brownsville, I heard it was a good campus for people having problems in the regular schools, so I decided to enroll at Eagle Academy. So I got accepted, and I've been at this school for 2 1/2 years. And I have to say that I've made it far here, and I'm doing great here. The work modules are challenging, but we have some of the best teachers in the city working at this school. The teachers are very helpful and understanding. The facility is great.

To: ms. Florence Shapiro

From: Belinda E. mtz.

Feb 19, 2007

Dear, ms. Florence Shapiro

I attend Eazel Academy. My name is Belinda Elaine Martinez. My reasons why I attend Eazel Academy is, because I was feeling like there was not hope for me I was starting to give up on every thing.

Then when I found out that I could catch up in my school work and help get me up to the grade I need to be. I felt this was the school for me.

My brother and I attend the same school together.

I know that if my brother and I go back to regular school we both wouldn't make it out there I really want to get high school diploma.

Please think twice before you make up your mind

Thank you

Belinda - E. Martinez.

Ms. Florence Shapiro,

Many people think that the reason why students decide to come to Eagle Academy is because they see it as an easy way out. If that is it they're absolutely wrong. I believe that attending Eagle Academy of Brownsville gives us the ability to have more opportunities and advantages. As for myself I decided to withdraw from my original public school to enroll in Eagle Academy because I believe that teachers in a public school don't pay as much attention to each individual as our teachers do. Here everyone knows everytime you can walk around campus without worrying whether if you're going to get bullied or offered drugs. Most importantly in these 16 years of attending several public schools, I had never had a principal that cared about her students as much as Mrs. Sorola does. There isn't a day that we live school without hearing Mrs. Sorola saying "be careful". Hearing that from someone rather than your parents, friends makes us realize that there is someone else in this world that cares.

Sincerely

Marilyn Cervoni

1884 McCall Dr.  
Brownsville, TX  
78521

Sincerely,  
Melissa Ann Sells

My name is Melissa Ann Sells I am  
an 11th grader at Eagle Academy of  
Brownsville. This school has done many  
things for me. When I first attended this  
school, I was a really trouble maker.  
I wouldn't respect the teachers, but  
I thank Ms. Sorok, our principal for  
not giving up on me. If it wouldn't be  
for this school, I would of been a  
dropout. This school has shown me  
how to be responsible for myself.  
Today is February 19, 2007 and I know  
that I am an 11th grader not being  
in this school it is going to help  
me graduate with my class  
Class of 2007!

Dear Director Florence Shapiro:



Eagle Academy of  
Brunsville, TN Grade

Senator Florence Shapiro Mario Calvillo 9th  
what Eagle Academy has done for  
me. Eagle Academy has done many  
things for me in the time I have  
been here. IF I ~~to~~ didn't come  
here I would still be in 8th  
grade. The teachers here are very  
helpful because when I got here I  
did not know much math. Mr. Navarro  
our math teacher helped me understand  
some math now I know things I  
didn't know when I came here.  
Also some teachers here encourage  
you to keep on trying and to  
stay after school so they can  
help you even more. It's also the  
most disciplined school because you  
can't do anything that will get  
you in trouble because you will get  
kicked out. You also have to have  
pass because if you don't do your  
work or have too much absents that  
will also get you out of this school.  
If eagle academy wasn't here  
I would still be in a middle  
school the oldest kid there.  
I know I just need 3 more years to  
graduate.

Feb 19, 2007.

Eloa Yveth Guzman  
Brownsville, TX  
2133 Barnard Apt 2A  
78520.

I'm a student in Eagle Academy of Brownsville. I'm a 17 years old, and I'm a 12 grader about to graduate this coming May. I have been in this school for the past 2 1/2 years. This school has given me the opportunity to keep studying and to be able to graduate with the class of 2007 like I'm supposed to. If I would of stayed in B.I.S.D I would probably be a 10th grade dropout. When I came to this school, I came with only 1/2 a credit. Now I only need 2 1/2 credits and master my TAKS tests to graduate. I'm sure with all ~~more~~ the learning I have gained from Mr. Garcia, Mrs. Rodriguez and Mr. Navarro I'll pass my TAKS. I think that this school could help many other students that need help like I did once. This school makes graduation a fact not just a dream.

TO: Senator  
Florence Shapiro.

Alice [unclear]  
9th grader  
Monday, February 10, 2014

Dear Senator Florence Sharpino I am  
a 9th grader at Eagle Academy  
I was writing this letter so you  
could know how much this charter  
school has helped me a whole  
lot. I left regular school for alot  
of reasons. I needed to go somewhere  
that was calm where they didnt  
have a whole bunch of drama and I knew  
there wasnt that much here because my  
classmate comes here also and she would  
tell that in ~~the~~ ~~state~~ Eagle Academy  
Burdick wouldnt tolerate drama. She would  
also tell me that here in Eagle Academy  
everybody was pretty much ~~more~~ mature  
and that I needed to get mature. So I am  
behind and know in 9th need 1 more credit  
well lose 1/2 to be in 10th. Last year I was  
an 8th grader. It's because everything is up  
to you if you really want to graduate it's  
good to come here but, if your still  
be fighting and everything its better if you  
stay in BIRD. I dont know about other  
people but this school has help me so much  
I can also <sup>get a part</sup> ~~get a~~ <sup>time</sup> ~~job~~ at the same time. That's  
a whole bunch of more reasons for the school not to  
be shut down it has helped alot of people and still is.

Yours Sincerely,  
Cristina

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,  
I would like to tell you how Eagle Academy has helped me in the last few months. At Porter High School I was failing all my classes and I wouldn't go to school. Here I'm passing and I have been coming everyday since I started. It was easier at Porter but also easier to get distracted and fail.

2-19-07  
Eagle Academy  
Cristina

JAMIE  
POTTER

1215.1 y...  
10TH GRADE  
EAGLE

DEAR SENATOR FLORENCE SHAPIRO

EAGLE ACADEMY HAS HELPED ME  
EXCEL. I'M SUPPOSED TO BE IN 9TH GRADE  
AND I'M NOW IN 10TH. I CAME HERE  
BECAUSE OF THE PEOPLE IN BIED. MS.  
ADAMS, MR. GARCIA, AND MRS. SAROCH HAVE  
ENGAGED ME TO DO MY WORK. LAST  
YEAR I CAME HERE AND THEY OPENED  
THEIR DOORS TO ME AND MANY OTHERS.  
THEY CHANGE THE ROUTEN ALL THE TIME  
AND ARE TEACHING ME FLEXABILITY. I  
WAS NOT BEHIND, I CAME HERE TO EXCEL  
AND SO FAR I HAVE. THESE SCHOOL ARE  
NOT JUST FOR DROPOUTS. ~~THE~~

FROM,  
JAMIE POTTER

*Jamie Potter*

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro  
 Gilberto Villalaz  
 Feb 19 2007

My name is Gilberto Villalaz, I am a student at Eagle Academy in Brownsville TX. I

came from Pace High School. I had been in Eagle Academy for five months. I used to

skip a lot in my other school but not here. Here the students are motivated, and they are not encouraging. At

me to go skipping. At this school I feel I got more chances to graduate. The teachers help us a lot and fill us the responsibility

of our work. Since I got to this school I have changed what I respect my teachers

now. I don't argue with them. I have hopes of finishing high school now.

Sincerely,  
 Gilberto Villalaz

6/10/10  
Monday February 10

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Florence Harper

The real thing of having  
a second chance is that  
we have a 2nd chance for a  
week to school. I never had a  
chance to go to school. And I was not a  
bad kid. I was in 1st and 2nd  
in 9th grade. The reason I came to  
Eagle Academy was because I think  
they help you more and pay more  
attention to you than a regular  
school. I also came here because  
I want to finish school in 2  
years. So I can attend college.  
Because I want to be some  
one in life. I also see many  
childrens that had drop out and  
came back to school because they  
do want to go to college.  
And at their regular school  
don't want them back. But I  
think we have good people  
at Eagle Academy. And great  
teachers that love us and they  
come for us and get their  
jobs because they want the best  
for us and because we are there

To: Ms. Florence Shapiro

From: Hector Ortiz

Date: Feb 19, 2007

Eagle Academy has gave me a great opportunity to get out of school early. I know it not enough 2 credits but I was a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and in 2 in a half years I will have at least 8-12 credits. Eagle Academy is a great school. The teacher that most caring teacher I had, if it wasnt for his motivation I would not gotten those credits.



subject has Eagle Academy of Brownsville. I am a student  
Name: [unclear] Address: [unclear]

Hi my name is Adrian [unclear] and I am a junior at Eagle Academy  
in Brownsville, TX. My dream has always been to get a diploma and go to college.  
I have always been a student who is always looking for a way to get a diploma.  
Eagle Academy has given me a chance to finish my school and try to make something of  
myself. I think we would be proud to say that this is a place that gave  
me a chance when no one else would. Mrs. Swola is a wonderful person who  
has helped me in many ways and I have been able to have my diploma to have  
Eagle Academy give me what I needed. I think we can get the chance to get a diploma.

Sincerely,

[unclear]

Dear Senator Florence Shapiro,  
Eagle Academy has done alot for me. This is my second year at this school and I plan on graduating next year and joining the army.

Before I had joined Eagle Academy I was failing at Harris highschool and had lost hope of my dream to join the army. Eagle Academy has helped me alot and has made me try harder at reaching my goal next year.

sincerely

Jason Ely

Dear ~~Mr~~ Mrs. Florence Shapiro,

Eagle Academy got me in their school even though they knew I was a trouble maker. If Eagle was not here for me, I would have been in jail or a drop out. In fact Eagle Academy has helped me a lot, I improve in math, science, and English. Eagle Academy ~~gave~~ gave me a chance to do something in my future. Now in my future. Now I'm looking to my future to be a fire fighter.

Sincerely  
Francisco Eguia Jr.  
1513 McKenly St.  
78520.