

Kamren Taravati  
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RE: Letter of Support for Restart S.M.A.R.T

To Who It May Concern:

I am Kamren Taravati, the current principal of Charles Hollinger K-8 in the Tucson Unified School District. I write this letter to demonstrate support of Restart S.M.A.R.T., the strategic plan for restarting local, state, and federal social services, in a way that is meaningful, intentional, and responsive to the social and emotional needs of school age children and adolescents.

This plan, developed by Higher Ground and Partners, demonstrates effective responsiveness post COVID-19, to communities across the nation; specifically, those communities that have higher rates of poverty and/or trauma. This plan effectively demonstrates that the community school model will be an integral part of addressing the needs of students who are in an elevated crisis as a result of social isolation, economic hardship, or a fusion of both.

The Restart S.M.A.R.T. program systemizes and aligns resources to effectively ensure that student and family needs (social, emotional, physical, psychological, economic) will be met. At the heart of this system is the Community School, which leverages community assets to streamline services to stakeholders, using schools as the conduit. This is essential, as meeting these needs has to take priority before true academic learning can begin. I implore this agency to consider a Community School model and the Restart S.M.A.R.T. program as a means to help communities normalize, and recreate the new normal.

In Service,

Kamren Taravati  
Principal