



# TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

1701 North Congress Ave. ★ Austin, Texas 78701-1494 ★ 512/463-9734 ★ FAX: 512/463-9838 ★ <http://www.tea.state.tx.us>

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Joseph Mezher, Chairman  
Cedars International Academy

**From:** Mary Perry, Division Director   
Division of Charter Schools

**Date:** October 20, 2003

**Re:** Notification of Commissioner Action

---

The commissioner has approved the requested amendment (244-03) to state that the faculty and staff will be evaluated according to an “appraisal system developed by the charter school administration” instead of by PDAS; state that “the Cedars International Academy will not accept students who have been expelled from another district or assigned to an alternative placement for discipline problems under Texas Education Code, Subchapter A, Chapter 37 unless the student has completed his expulsion/alternative placement time in the other district; and change the term “multi lingual” with “bilingual” in the charter. (Underlined language added by agency staff.)

If you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at (512) 463-9575.

2003-09-18

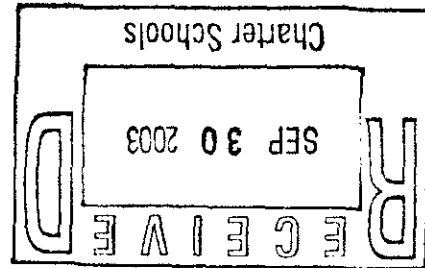


# Cedars International Academy

1320 East 51st Street ● Austin, TX 78723 ● (512) 419-1551 ● Fax: (512) 419-1551

September 18, 2003

Ms. Kirsten Christopherson  
Charter School Division  
Texas Education Agency  
1701 North Congress  
Austin, Texas 78701



RE: Amendments to Charter

Dear Ms. Christopherson:

This is to verify that we, the Board of Directors for Cedars International Academy, agree with the amendment as submitted. The amendment contains changes in three sections of the charter: faculty and staff evaluation, policy regarding students expulsion and suspension, and the mission statement.

Sincerely,

Cedars International Academy Board of Directors

Joseph Mezher  
Chairman

Joe Crowley

Dr. Donald Sawyer

## Charter Amendments

This addresses 3 sections of the charter that we are seeking to amend.

### Section V

#### C. For Faculty and Staff

##### 4. How will faculty and staff be evaluated?

The faculty and staff will be evaluated according to the Texas Professional Development Appraisal System (PDAS) to an appraisal system developed by the charter school administration.

#### D. Code of Conduct

2. Describe your school's policies regarding student expulsion and suspension. Include a description of procedures that satisfy due process requirement. (add a second paragraph)

The CIA Academy will not accept students who have been expelled from another district or assigned to an alternative placement unless the student has completed his expulsion/alternative placement time in the other district.

### IX. Vision of the School

#### A. Describe the long-range vision of the school:

**The mission statement** of the Cedars International Academy is to offer a ~~multi-lingual~~ **bilingual** multi-disciplinary learning experience in preparing students to be competitive globally. The school will provide a rigorous core curriculum, which will include advanced technology and curriculum and that reflects the rich cultural diversity of the area. Strong community ties, serious parental involvement, and a safe nurturing environment will encourage students to learn and reach their full potential.