



August 24, 2020

The Honorable Richard Corcoran
Commissioner, Florida Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1514
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

The Honorable Dr. Mike Grego
President, Florida Association of District School Superintendents
208 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

The Honorable Jane Goodwin
President, Florida School Board Association
203 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Commissioner Corcoran, President Grego, and President Goodwin,

My name is Joey Chen and I am the District Governor of the Florida District of Key Club International. I am writing to you all today to encourage the continuation of Key Club activities this fall and further express the importance that Key Club holds in the lives of student leaders across the state of Florida. For me, Key Club completely changed my life. I joined this organization as a shy and nervous freshman, barely able to participate in class discussions, and afraid to even raise my voice. Through the combined focus on service and leadership that Key Club offered me and the genuine friendships that I formed through attending club meetings, I was empowered to face my fears and give back to my community—Key Club gave me a voice.

Even now, Key Club continues to make a difference in my life and in others. This entire summer, I was rarely able to leave my house due to COVID-19 and spent most of my days inside my room. Being able to hop on a Zoom call with fellow Key Clubbers made all the difference, as I was still able to interact with my friends from across the state and support my community at the same time. Key Club helped me, and many others get through this difficult period, and I am hoping it will still be there for all Florida students as the 2020-2021 school year begins.

I am asking for all school administrators' support and encouragement in continuing Key Club meetings this fall, because the impact that our organization makes transcends these current circumstances. Actually, students across the state of Florida need our organization now more than ever. Especially since many other extracurricular activities are canceled, Key Club serves as the perfect outlet for student leaders to still assist our communities from home and not feel alone during this extremely isolating global pandemic. From the district level, we have an entire board



Page two
August 24, 2020

preparing resources to adapt to this online format, and I assure you that we are more than prepared to smoothly proceed with all club activities—we just need your support.

Key Club hopes to work hand in hand with Kiwanis to keep our organizations afloat during this time and continuously make an impact on the lives of our student leaders. We want to be there to support them—no matter the circumstance, no matter if it's in person or online, and no matter the pandemic.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joey Chen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joey" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Chen".

Joey Chen
Governor, Florida District of Key Club International, Inc.
1205 W Airport Blvd
Sanford, FL 32773

CC: Governor Ron DeSantis
Attorney General Ashley Moody
Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis
Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried
Florida Children and Youth Cabinet Chair Casey DeSantis
Florida Association of District School Superintendents Executive Director Bill Montford
Florida School Board Association Executive Director Andrea Messina