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HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CLEARED BY THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY -- TEA Finds Nothing To Support False Claims By Foreign Agent --

October 17, 2016 (Houston, TX) -- The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has rejected complaints made by a registered foreign agent against Harmony Public Schools, a Texas-based charter school system. The TEA notified Amsterdam & Partners, the London-based law firm representing Turkey, that their complaint "does not warrant a TEA investigation" and has concluded this matter.

"The flagrant lies spread by these foreign agents are unconscionable," said Robert Schulman, counsel for Harmony Public Schools. "I have been working with charter schools in Texas for twenty years, and I have never seen anything like this. That a foreign country would attack a U.S. public school system and waste taxpayers' dollars by requesting a state review of 42 pages of phony accusations is simply wrong."

In May 2016, the country of Turkey filed what they admitted to be a "politically-motivated" complaint against Texas-based Harmony Public Schools. As the largest charter school system in Texas, and the largest STEM school system in the nation, Harmony is a high performing institution educating over 32,000 students at 48 campuses across the state. Harmony serves a diverse student body, including almost 62 percent economically disadvantaged students.

"We are pleased the TEA has issued a report clearing Harmony of false charges, and we remain focused on our most critical mission of providing high quality public education to students across Texas," said Peggy England, a spokesperson for Harmony Public Schools. "Unfortunately, we expect these unwarranted attacks to continue, but we are heartened by the enormous support we continue to receive from our alumni, parents, and community and state leaders as we defend the integrity of our public school system."

ABOUT HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

Harmony Public Schools is a 48 campus K-12 preparatory charter system in Texas. Harmony blends the highest standards and expectations, with a rigorous math and science-centered curriculum, and dedicated and engaged teachers and families to cultivate excellence and prepare students to succeed in college, careers and life. To learn more about Harmony Public Schools and our 48 campuses across Texas, please visit <u>www.harmonytx.org</u>, and follow us on Twitter @HarmonyEdu and "like" us on Facebook facebook.com/HarmonyTexas.