

**TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD AGENDA ITEM FORM**

MEETING OF: May 23, 2017 **AGENDA ITEM NO.:**

TITLE: Strategic Planning for University High School

***Information** _____

Study X

Action X

PURPOSE:

To request that the administration and site council of University High School provide a report on the feasibility of implementing the Board's 2012 direction to give UHS a dedicated site and to create a co-located high standards middle school that has no admissions test. (The Board's 2012 resolution is excerpted below.) The Board requests this report, if possible, by October 1.

In preparing the report, UHS should seek input from the (interim) superintendent, secondary leadership, and relevant departments in Central administration, who should in turn respond to UHS's reasonable requests for information.

The request is open-ended. Reasonable responses could vary from a broad statement of planning principles to one or more detailed proposals.

Any proposal should explain:

- a) how it would advance the desegregation goals of improving academic achievement and integration;
- b) how it would mitigate the existing problem of excess capacity in TUSD high schools and improve the physical facilities and programs of both UHS and any existing high school that is likely to receive additional students;
- c) how it would affect current and prospective students at University and Rincon High Schools;
- d) how co-locating UHS and a high-standards middle school creates advantages not obtained by such a middle school at a separate site;
- e) estimated financial costs and benefits, including capital expenses, ongoing operating expenses, and enrollment effects;
- f) whether it is practical or desirable for the proposed middle school to have magnet school designation;
- g) any other considerations that the UHS administration and site council believe are relevant.

CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION:

In December, 2012 the Board requested “a plan for the expansion of UHS that addresses:

- 1. UHS’s exclusive use of an existing TUSD high school site...**
- 2. Anticipated growth in UHS enrollment to accommodate more out-of-district students while maintaining priority for in-district students.**
- 3. Assurances that the new UHS site is suitable for accommodating the creation, on the same site, of a new full magnet middle school with an emphasis on academic achievement The middle school will have an independent name, mascot, and identity, and will be under the overall supervision of the UHS principal. Admissions will be open and subject to no test.**
- 4. It is explicitly not the goal of this plan that students at the middle school typically matriculate to UHS. Attendance at or graduation from the middle school will confer no advantage in admission to UHS. Some middle school students will matriculate to UHS and others will matriculate to other TUSD high schools.”**

Eleven months later a different Board set aside this resolution and directed that planning for UHS be folded into the general strategic planning for high schools. This planning has never occurred, and so it seems appropriate to revisit the Board’s original resolution.