

Mark Kelly and Gabrielle Giffords  
65 E. Calle Resplendor  
Tucson, AZ 85716

September 24, 2017

Dear President and Members, TUSD Governing Board,

Gabby, a graduate of University High School (UHS) class of 1988, has long been a supporter of Arizona's public education and in particular TUSD. As a state legislator, Gabby joined the bipartisan Children's Caucus, which sought to improve education and health care for Arizona's children. She worked with the Arizona Governor to promote all-day kindergarten and supported raising more money for schools through sponsorship of supplemental state aid through bonds and tax credits that could be used for school supplies. Gabby benefited from a great public education and she benefited from outstanding teachers at University High such as Dr. John Hosmer and Paul Karlowicz. Gabby is convinced that her TUSD education gave her the foundation she needed for future success and strongly believes that we need to strengthen public education not weaken it.

Recently, a UHS committee, responding to TUSD direction to develop a vision statement that includes a proposed co-located high standards middle school, approached us regarding naming the middle school after Gabby. As a Tucson native, she was, of course, humbled by the idea and considers the naming of the middle school in her name to be an incredible honor. We support TUSD's efforts and the naming of the high performing middle school Gabrielle Giffords.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Mark Kelly and Gabrielle Giffords in black ink. Mark Kelly's signature is on the left and Gabrielle Giffords' signature is on the right.

Mark Kelly and Gabrielle Giffords