

Dear Governing Board Members,

I am Marian Benz and I am the President of the University High School Parents' Association (UHSPA). The UHSPA represents the parents of University High School (UHS).

The reason for my letter is to express the UHSPA's collective support and desire for UHS to have its own campus. Our group has discussed the pros and cons of moving to an independent campus. We believe that a move is in the best interest of our children and our school community, and would allow both Rincon and UHS to flourish.

While we love our Rincon Family, there are key reasons supporting an independent UHS campus:

- We have outgrown the space. The school is extremely over-crowded and there is no room for either UHS or Rincon to grow its student population and faculty. Teachers are sharing classrooms, classes are held in spaces that are not designed to be classrooms, there are not enough lockers or equipment for our students, and many students cannot purchase lunch because the lines are too long. These burdens would be alleviated by moving UHS to a different campus.
- An independent campus would allow for more students to enroll at UHS and reap the benefits of our award-winning programs.
- Our children would have the opportunity to learn and thrive in an environment that is focused on their distinct educational needs and desires. It would allow for a bell schedule that would best align with their academic needs and goals, and they would have their own sports and fine arts programs.

We are extremely proud of the accomplishments our students, faculty and administrators have achieved over the years despite the overcrowding and limitations of our campus. UHS is consistently ranked amongst the top in the nation for our students' performance, not only as it relates to G.P.A. and standardized test scores, but also as being the most diverse public college preparatory school in the country. Prestigious universities and colleges recognize how great our students are and offer them millions of dollars in scholarships to attend their schools.

We want our children to continue to have these same opportunities, and even more going forward, and we want more students to have the opportunity to be part of this great school community. We are a highly-engaged parents' organization and certainly would be willing to help in every way we can to make this dream come true.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me. I can be reached at 610-310-9564 or via email at mebenz@mac.com.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.


Marian E. Benz
UHSPA President, 2017-18