



PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAGNET SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

To: Board of Education

Dr. Brian McDonald, Superintendent

From: Shannon Mumolo, Coordinator, Signature Programs

Trudell Skinner, Interim Coordinator, Enrollment Permits and Records

RE: Update for Magnet Schools Assistance Program FY2017 Grant

Date: February 15, 2019

The FY2017 Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) Grant includes allocable funding to research and implement best practices for socioeconomic integration.

Attached is a status update on this aspect of the MSAP FY2017 project in an effort to closely align MSAP department planning and implementation with the Board's goal/vision and guiding beliefs for the master planning process as it relates closely to any potential recommendations to program changes or locations, the Open Enrollment process, feeder patterns, transportation, and school boundaries.

The MSAP FY2017 project strongly aligns with the Board's guiding beliefs in:

- 1) Equitable access to schools/programs for all students
- 2) Integration and diversity are important
- 3) Holistic view of school district rather than individual decisions on sites, and
- 4) Transparency – communicate with stakeholders and demonstrate that all options have been considered.

MSAP FY2017 Project Plan Status for Project 7.0- Socioeconomic Integration

Task	Status	Comments
7.1.1 Recommend and report proposed student assignment options. Review current Open Enrollment and magnet application process. Identify deficiencies and inequities that need to be addressed to make the application process more transparent and parent-friendly.	Completed	SES Consultants (Alves, Kahlenberg, and Brittain) reviewed PUSD Open Enrollment historical lottery data, school enrollment information, and the application process. The team reported on best practices and draft recommendations. Simultaneously, a team of faculty and students from Caltech led by Professors Laura Doval, Federico Echenique, and Adam Wierman examined PUSD's process and historical data from Open Enrollment, recommending improvements to the lottery process.
7.1.2 Inform community about the purpose of the project. Conduct community-wide forums on the purpose of the SES Integration planning process.	Completed	PUSD Staff and the SES team facilitated School Diversity Focus Groups to gather input from a variety of stakeholders in Summer 2018. 58 participants over three sessions included current, former, and prospective families as well as staff and community members. In October 2018, Adam Wierman presented recommended process improvements to Open Enrollment based on his team's analysis.
7.1.3 Review recommended policy changes.	Completed	In October 2018, the Board discussed minor process improvements The final Memorandum was published and shared with the Board and focus group participants in November 2018.
7.1.4 Support socioeconomic integration policies by attending Board Study Session/information session.	Not Started	PUSD Staff is available to attend Master Planning meetings to share updates and information as requested by the Board.
7.1.5 Get approval by school board, Office of Civil Rights, MSAP Officer for any proposed changes to enrollment policies.	Not Started	In October 2018 the Board discussed improvements to Open Enrollment. The Office of Civil Rights and the MSAP Program Officer will need to be consulted should any enrollment policies or the approved Voluntary Desegregation Plan be considered for revision.
7.1.6 Organize the Equity and Access Committee (EAC) into sub-groups and identify changes needed to current open enrollment policy to achieve SES integration goals.	In Progress	The Equity and Access Committee resumed meeting in January 2019.

7.1.7 Recommend plan, “Blueprint for Equity and Access” for adoption by PUSD.	Not started	PUSD staff will need feedback on the recommendations proposed by the SES team and Caltech researchers from a) the Executive Leadership Team, b) the Board’s Master Planning Committee, and c) Equity and Access Committee to inform the Blueprint for Equity and Access.
7.2.1-7.2.2 Provide workshop on socioeconomic (SES) integration to members of Equity and Access team. Provide training to MSAP Community Assistants on equity and access.		PUSD Staff met with staff from Equity Assistance Center and have had two follow-up conference calls to discuss and assess program and training needs. Training dates for spring 2019 are to be determined.
7.3.1 Monitor applicant data, enrollment data, and course enrollment data for diversity.	In Progress, Ongoing	PUSD Staff monitors and reports on this data for FY2017 MSAP schools annually in October.
7.3.2-7.3.6 Customize and beta-test an online application software system for choice-based SES lottery assignment. Review and analyze beta test results. Beta-test results for SES integration with realigned school attendance areas (if realigned). Beta-test optimum SES Integration plan. Report on the comparative results and identify the best options for achieving socioeconomic diversity goals.	In Progress	In January 2019, the MSAP Program Officer approved the use of carryover funds to pay for improved lottery software with capabilities to implement the recommendations made by the SES Team. PUSD staff are currently reviewing potential software options. Sustainability will be an important consideration as this funding is limited to the term of the grant award. Caltech researchers are using historical data to run simulations based on different lottery designs that incorporate weights. Comparative results are expected in May 2019.