

Consent Item:**Revisions to the 2016-17 High School Planning Guide****Submitted by:**

Dr. Diane Whitmore, Director of Curriculum
Dr. Mitchell von Gnechten, Executive Director of Secondary/Middle
Schools
Dr. Karen Benson, Executive Director of Instructional Services

Funding:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Governing Board approve the proposed revised language to the SUSD 2016-17 High School Planning Guide (HSPG), effective immediately.

BACKGROUND:

At the June 21, 2016 Governing Board meeting, Dr. Karen Benson presented an informational overview of the highlights and changes recommended by the HSPG Committee for the 2016-2017 HSPG. The following three (3) revisions are presented for approval:

1. Upon review of our acceptance of online provider courses and transcripts, the HSPG Committee members recommend that the Board approve the following changes and additions to the 2016-17 HSPG to ensure accurate information in the HSPG.

Out of District Online Providers

Courses are accepted as elective credit only unless a request is made by the parent/student within 10 days following receipt of a transfer credit evaluation form. Students may request to take an end-of-course/semester exam in core courses required for graduation (mathematics, language arts, reading, social studies, science, and world languages). Upon demonstrating minimum competency (70%) on the exam, core credit may be granted. The credit evaluation exam may be taken one time.

It is the responsibility of high school athletes (NCAA college-bound student-athletes) and their parents to check the ncaaclearinghouse.net website to ensure that providers outside SUSD are NCAA approved and their course offerings are accepted by NCAA. Students should check with their guidance counselor for specific information.

2. To update the HSPG in accordance with revised Governing Board policy IEE – Student Schedules and Course Loads, the HSPG Committee members recommend that the Board approve the following changes and additions to the 2016-17 HSPG to ensure accurate information in the HSPG.

Page 8

Athletic Eligibility: In order to participate on an athletic team, a student must take a minimum number of classes to be in compliance with Arizona Interscholastic Association and State policies. Five credit bearing classes are needed for athletic eligibility the first seven semesters of high school. SUSD

policies and AZ Statute (A.R.S 15-901) require seniors to be enrolled in a program of study that provides seven-hundred twenty or more instructional hours throughout their senior year.

Page 10

All students in high school, except graduating seniors, are required to enroll in six (6) on-campus classes per semester, two of which may be in an on campus lab. Graduating seniors will be required to be continuously enrolled in on-campus credit bearing courses each semester of their senior year in a program of study that provides seven-hundred twenty or more instructional hours. (Seniors may take an additional course either on campus or online.)

Page 12

Graduation Residency Requirement: A student may be awarded a diploma from any SUSD high school if he/she is continuously enrolled during the final semester on a Scottsdale high school campus his/her senior year in a program of study that provides seven-hundred twenty (720) or more instructional hours. Students are not eligible for an SUSD diploma if they have received a diploma from another high school. Diplomas are student records, therefore not released to anyone except the student (if over 18) or the parent/guardian, with photo identification.

Page 17

eLearning Labs at School Sites: Each high school has at least one designated brick-and-mortar eLearning lab. The school site will work together with the Assistant Principal for Educational Services to determine availability of the lab. Seniors have an option to take an online class at their homes or other off-campus locations if they are enrolled in a program of study that provides seven-hundred twenty (720) or more instructional hours in a brick and mortar setting, and have parental permission. In general, freshman, sophomore and junior students will remain on campus the entire school day.

3) To expand course options for graduating seniors, the HSPG Committee members recommend that the Board approve the following courses for the 2016-17 HSPG to ensure accurate information in the HSPG.

- Introduction to Finance
- Public Speaking
- Reading for College Success
- Thinking and Learning Strategies

Upon approval, the digital version of the HSPG will be updated and reposted in both English and Spanish.

IMPACT ON STUDENTS AND DISTRICT GOAL ALIGNMENT

Students, teachers, parents, counselors and principals will have access to an accurate and accessible HSPG that clearly promotes equitable practices and opportunities for students across SUSD – better preparing all of our students for college and careers beyond high school

This aligns to District Goal:

- 1 Communications and Community Partnerships
- 2 Optimal Class Sizes and Personalized Learning
- 3 Teacher Quality and Professional Development
- 4 Technology Improvements and Integration
- 5 High Standards and Accountability
- 6 School Safety and Student Support