



## Governing Board Agenda Item

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Meeting Date: April 10, 2025

From: Kristin Reidy, Assistant Superintendent

Subject: Statement of Work No.1 for Longitudinal Student Performance- ViSTA

Strategic Priority: To provide rigorous, relevant, and innovative academics

Consent ☐ Action ☒ Discussion ☐

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### Background:

The purpose of this Statement of Work is to partner with the Arizona State University (ASU) Helios Decision Center to engage in research to evaluate the District's educational effectiveness and study the longitudinal achievement patterns of District students. The data shared with the Decision Center will be de-identified for the purpose of producing data visualizations.

This study will focus on student performance as students move through middle school, high school, and beyond. This will serve to evaluate current educational programs and identify successful practices. The District will be able to compare its performance to other similar participating districts. ASU researchers will also identify gateway and gatekeeper points in student progressions that can inform District efforts. The Decision Center shall be permitted to share aggregated data for grouped districts with other participating districts for comparison (e.g., compiled results for all similar or regional districts).

The research questions are:

- How do middle school students perform in high school?
- What are the academic trajectories of students based on their performance in the District?
- How do groups of students differ in their trajectories? What factors impact those trajectories?
- How does the performance of students in the District compare to the performance of other students from similar districts or schools?
- Are students being prepared for rigorous high school classes and eventually for college or other education needed for their future?

- How effective are the District's educational programs in producing successful student outcomes?

The Decision Center staff will analyze the data used in this study to produce visualizations and reports that will inform District staff and identify patterns of improvement and effectiveness.

There are no costs to the District to implement this Statement of Work. This Statement of Work has been approved by the District's legal counsel.

**Recommended Motion:**

I move that the Governing Board approve Statement of Work No.1 for Longitudinal Student Performance - ViSTA with the Arizona Board of Regents, the Arizona State University's Helios Decision Center for Educational Excellence, and Marana Unified School District.

Approved for transmittal to the Governing Board:



Dr. Daniel Streeter, Superintendent

*Questions should be directed to: Kristin Reidy, Assistant Superintendent  
Phone: (520) 682-4757*

## **Statement of Work (SOW) No. 1**

### **Longitudinal Student Performance - ViSTA**

#### **Purpose**

The ASU Helios Decision Center for Educational Excellence ("Decision Center"), and the Marana Unified School District ("District") created and executed an ongoing Data Sharing Agreement executed on or about \_\_\_\_ (date signed) \_\_\_\_ ("Agreement"). This Statement of Work Agreement describes a specific project governed under the above Data Sharing Agreement.

For purposes of this SOW No. 1, the District designates Decision Center and Helios as its school officials, as that term is defined in FERPA. The research conducted by these researchers is invaluable in the District's ability to evaluate the effectiveness of the District's educational effectiveness and to study longitudinal achievement patterns. For the avoidance of doubt, Decision Center shall be permitted to share de-identified data with Helios for the purpose of producing visualizations.

The purpose of this SOW is to describe a specific project and study using the data under the above DSA.

#### *Study: Longitudinal Student Performance - ViSTA*

This study will focus on student performance as students move through middle school, high school and beyond. This will serve to evaluate current educational programs and identify successful practices. The District will be able to compare their performance to other similar participating districts. ASU researchers will also identify gateway and gatekeeper points in student progressions that can inform district efforts. Decision Center shall be permitted to share aggregated data for grouped districts with other participating districts for the purpose of comparison (e.g., compiled results for all similar or regional districts).

The research questions are:

- How do middle school students perform in high school?
- What are the academic trajectories of students based on their performance in the District?
- How do groups of students differ in their trajectories? What factors impact those trajectories?
- How does the performance of students in the district compare to the performance of other students from similar districts or schools?
- Are students being prepared for rigorous high school classes and eventually for college or other education needed for their future?
- How effective are the district's educational programs in producing successful student outcomes?

Decision Center staff will analyze data used in this study to produce visualizations and reports that will inform District staff and to identify patterns that areas of improvement and effectiveness.

The results will be shared through visualizations that can be accessed at the Decision Theater and virtually. Presentations may be made at professional meetings and it is anticipated that the research and evaluation work will be published by the Center in reports and elsewhere.

**B. Methodology**

The data will be stored on secure ASU servers. All data reported will be aggregated and counts under 11, below 2% and above 98% will be repressed for public reports. Reports and data presentations for districts that educated the students in the report will not be redacted because it is important information that will be useful to the District. Results will be reported as aggregated frequencies and percentages.

**C. Confidential Data to Be Disclosed:**

The specific confidential data, including PII protected under FERPA (“the Confidential Data”), that will be disclosed under this SOW for the purpose of improving student academic outcomes are:

- Student characteristics including, but not limited to, ID number, date of birth, school, district, grade, gender, ethnicity, poverty indicator, special education status, EL status and other characteristics that the district approves for use as filters or variables in an analysis or evaluation.
- Attendance data.
- Transference data, including entry and withdrawal codes and dates and the sending and receiving schools (if available).
- Test results for state assessments and related assessments (e.g., kindergarten readiness) required by the state. Results for any district assessments that the district chooses to include for use in this project. Data includes name, school, ID, test name, test date, test performance levels and scores.
- For high schools, National Student Clearinghouse or similar data on student enrollment, persistence and performance in college.
- The N size rule of less than 11, less than 2% or greater than 98% will be applied in any publicly released reports. Districts will receive unredacted data for the students of the district, but will not be able to see unredacted data for any specific district or school not part of their district unless they are part of a feeder pattern that shares students and the other district has approved sharing the data.

The data to be shared includes data from 2015 or when valid data are available and any subsequent years for the duration of the project. Data will be provided for each school year.

Decision Center and the District hereby acknowledge that the privacy, confidentiality, and security of the Confidential Data must be protected in accordance with the regulations and state and federal law. The group further represents and warrants that it is aware of the regulations and laws and the privacy requirements and undertakes to train and supervise all staff that has access to the Data on the procedures to be taken to protect the privacy of the Confidential Data in accordance with stated law(s).

**D. Data Transmission Process and Protocols**

The District will provide DC Ed EX and the project researcher(s) with access to the data requested. The data provided by the district will be used for no other purposes than those described in the Agreement. No specific student level records will leave ASU and will not be

shared with anyone outside the Decision Center unless specified in this agreement or subsequent amendment.

**E. Schedule & Frequency of Data Exchange**

Data will be provided at least annually for updates, with the frequency dependent on the projects the district has chosen to participate in and the data needs of the specific project(s).

**F. Description of Audit or Evaluation**

The Confidential Data is necessary for this research because we need to match students across years and track their performance. This will require matching records over years on name, data of birth, state (SAIS) ID and school. Once merged, an encrypted student study ID will be created and added to the file. A file without the name, date of birth and SAIS ID PII will be created for use in running any analysis. Neither the original file nor the analysis file will be copied or removed from ASU servers.

**Marana Unified School District**

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Dan Streeter  
Superintendent  
Marana Unified School District  
11279 W. Grier Road  
Marana, AZ 85653

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**The Arizona Board of Regents, for and on behalf of  
Arizona State University**

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Rund  
Senior Vice President,  
Educational Outreach and Student Services  
Fulton Center  
300 East University  
Tempe, AZ 85281

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_