



# UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATIONAL ITEM

**TOPIC:** District-Wide Magnet Research Study

**SUBMITTED BY:** Pamela R. Juarez **OF:** Instructional Department

**APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:** August 19, 2009

## INFORMATIONAL REPORT:

Based on 2008-2009 student data, administration recommends that we dispense with the proposed 2009-2010 universal testing.

## District-Wide Magnet Research Study

Date	Activity	Person Responsible
January 2009	Validates PEIMS Research on Individual Campus Accountability	Mr. Hector Perez Executive Director for Information Technology
February 2009 – March 2009	Research assessments such as the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) and the Preliminary SAT Scoring Service (PSSS).	Ms. Amy Alaniz Dr. Guadalupe Gorordo Mrs. Pamela Juarez
February 2009 – March 2009	Determine which test best meets the needs of our eighth-grade students with regard to norms.	Ms. Amy Alaniz Dr. Guadalupe Gorordo Mrs. Pamela Juarez
March 2009 – April 2009	Gather projected number of eighth-grade students and budget for purchase and administration of the chosen assessment.	Ms. Amy Alaniz Dr. Guadalupe Gorordo Mrs. Pamela Juarez
April 2009	Place chosen assessment on the eighth-grade calendar for the 2009 – 2010.	Ms. Amy Alaniz Dr. Guadalupe Gorordo Mrs. Pamela Juarez
October 2009	Administer universal assessment.	Eighth-grade campus counselors
January 2010	Gather and analyze results and collaborate with Facilities, Technology, Human Resources, the Business Department, and Transportation in developing a district-wide magnet.	Curriculum and Instruction and Support Services
March 2010	Report findings to the Board of Trustees.	Ms. Amy Alaniz Dr. Guadalupe Gorordo Mrs. Pamela Juarez
April 2010	Review and revise the Magnet School Eligibility Criteria and Selection Process for future cohort based on March recommendations.	Ms. Amy Alaniz Dr. Guadalupe Gorordo Mrs. Pamela Juarez
August 2010	Continue planning for future district-wide high school magnet.	Curriculum and Instruction and Support Services



# Recommendation

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- Due to investment made in the current assessment (CogAT) and the trend in the data suggesting that qualifying magnet candidates display above-average achievement and aptitude, the **recommendation is to retain the current magnet identification process and focus on ensuring rigorous instruction in the classroom.**

\*Note: All accepted students scored above the average national norm of 50.  
As of: 6-9-09

Source: Magnet Entry Data  
Compiled by: GT/AA Department