

Sunnyvale I.S.D.

Community Strategic Planning Committee

FINDINGS / CONCLUSIONS

Sean Curry, Chair

Scott Fitzgerald

Don Griffin

Linda Howig

Gary Justice

Lee Kellogg

Regina Kirven

Troy Tuttle

Paul Vanek

February, 2007

Table of Contents

	<u>Page No.</u>
I. Executive Summary	3
II. Background	5
III. Vision & Mission	7
IV. Facilities	8
V. Curriculum	14
VI. Scheduling & Staffing	15
VII. Programs	16
VIII. Financial Feasibility	17
IX. Community Support	20
Appendix A – Sunnyvale Student Participation in MISD	21

I. Executive Summary

The following recommendations represent the unanimous position of the Sunnyvale ISD Community Strategic Planning Committee (CSPC).

<u>Vision and Mission</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunnyvale ISD has the capacity and resources to begin educating all Sunnyvale students in an environment that reflects Sunnyvale ISD values, expectations and vision for the future -- beginning with a ninth (9th) grade class in the 2007-2008 school year and adding one grade each school year thereafter.
<u>Facilities</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunnyvale ISD has the capacity and resources to proceed immediately with plans to build a new high school facility to accommodate the projected growth in Sunnyvale. • The development of an “events center” should be jointly considered with the Town of Sunnyvale to help with construction funding and improve utilization of the facility.
<u>Curriculum</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunnyvale High School should be a Dual Credit / Concurrent Enrollment high school with a contractual relationship with Dallas County Community Colleges to deliver advanced courses and provide access to specialty courses and other electives. • Sunnyvale ISD should consider the merits of establishing graduation requirements that exceed the state minimum (26 credits).
<u>Scheduling & Staffing</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunnyvale ISD should offer a Modified block (eight periods) schedule. • Sunnyvale ISD should reduce staffing costs by combining skills / responsibilities, as appropriate. • Educators hired into the Sunnyvale ISD must meet the Educator Profile.
<u>Programs</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sunnyvale ISD should petition the Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) for membership beginning in 2008-2009. • Sunnyvale ISD should offer a full complement of extracurricular programs. • Staff (i.e. coaches, directors) should be expected to have responsibilities in multiple programs, as applicable.

I. Executive Summary (continued)

<u>Financial Feasibility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The establishment and ongoing operation of a Sunnyvale High School is feasible given projected revenue and expenses.• The establishment and ongoing operation of a Sunnyvale High School is feasible under current tax codes.• The School Board and administration should continue to pursue ways to reduce the costs of Sunnyvale ISD operation.
<u>Community Support</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A town hall meeting should be held prior to the School Board announcing their decision regarding the opening of a high school in the fall of 2007.• A website should be created to inform Sunnyvale citizens of the actions involved with the opening of a high school and impending bond actions.• A bond package that reflects the views of the community should be developed and presented for approval.• Sunnyvale school and community organizations should be enlisted to educate, gain support, and facilitate voter registration throughout the community.

More detail on each recommendation can be found in the related sections of this report.

If the School Board chooses to open a high school with a 9th grade in August 2007, several items must be addressed immediately:

- **February-March:** A “high school initiative” package (presentation) should be developed and used to inform and gain support of the citizens of Sunnyvale in town hall meetings and meetings with key organizations and individuals.
- **February-May:** A detailed plan for curriculum, scheduling, staffing, and programs should be developed.
- **February-September:** A bond initiative for the high school facility should be developed with the intent of “calling for” a bond election in the fall of 2007.

These recommendations should not be construed as the final roadmap for accomplishing the strategic goal to create a high school identified by the Sunnyvale ISD Strategic Planning Committee (SPC).

II. Background

The Sunnyvale ISD Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) convened in February-March 2006 to develop a strategic plan for the Sunnyvale ISD. The result of this session is documented in the Sunnyvale ISD Strategic Plan dated April 27, 2006. The number one strategic goal resulting from these sessions was to develop a structured plan to create a high school within the community of Sunnyvale.

As a result of this defined strategic goal the Sunnyvale ISD Board of Trustees (School Board) initiated the formation of a Community Strategic Planning Committee (CSPC) in August 2006.

- The CSPC was intended to work independently of the School Board.
- All community members / volunteers that participated in developing the 2006 Sunnyvale ISD Strategic Plan were asked and encouraged to serve on the CSPC. Some community members / volunteers opted to not participate from the start and others participated in the beginning but withdrew from the committee due to time constraints. The members listed on the cover sheet of this document participated throughout the process.
- The School Board charged the CSPC with developing a structured plan to create a Sunnyvale High School. As delineated in the SPC strategic goal, key elements requiring critical evaluation were identified as: (1) Financial Feasibility, (2) Community Support, (3) Curriculum, (4) Facilities, (5) Staff, (6) Programs, and (7) Standards. As expressed, these elements were not all inclusive and should not distract from the exploration and assessment of other key variables.

In order to fully understand and assess these key elements, the CSPC established a bi-weekly meeting schedule beginning in September 2006 and slated to continue for several months. A typical meeting focused on a particular issue identified within the scope of the CSPC. In the first meeting, the CSPC established a goal for each member to individually reach out to and gather input from all Sunnyvale citizens on all aspects of this important issue.

At the regularly scheduled School Board meeting in November 2006, a petition containing a large number of signatures from Sunnyvale residents was presented for consideration. The petition recommended that Sunnyvale ISD work toward establishing a ninth (9th) grade class in the 2007-2008 school year, adding one additional grade each school year thereafter. As a result of this petition:

- At the recommendation of the School Board, the CSPC priority changed to focusing on the feasibility of beginning a high school in Sunnyvale in the 2007-2008 school year.
- The CSPC and the School Board begin conducting weekly joint “workshops” in December 2006 to investigate the feasibility of the petition request.
- The CSPC continued to conduct independent CSPC meetings.

In the joint workshops and independent meetings, the CSPC:

- Studied the Sunnyvale ISD Facilities Recommendation report dated January 19, 2004,
- Engaged in discussions with key school administrators of Sunnyvale ISD,

II. Background (continued)

- Reviewed the Lovejoy ISD plans and progress for their opening a high school in 2006-2007 – discussions with Superintendent and key administrators,
- Studied the findings of the TASBO Financial Feasibility Study dated December 5, 2006,
- Studied the Planware Systems LLC Demographers Report dated December 19, 2005,
- Studied the Sunnyvale Residential Activity Update, presented by Mayor Phaup, as of December 12, 2006,
- Reviewed construction phasing and cost estimates provided by WRA and Gallagher Construction in a spreadsheet labeled "Sunnyvale-plan-summary-jan-071.pdf" and dated January 2007,
- Analyzed the 2006 fall semester course selection summary data of Sunnyvale students attending high school in Mesquite ISD (Appendix A),
- Studied bond and tax rate impact projections provided by George Williford of First Southwest Company in a spreadsheet labeled "Sunnyvale ISD tax impact 1-25-073.pdf" and dated January 2007, and
- Studied revenue and expense projections compiled and presented by Sunnyvale ISD Superintendent Seth Adams in a spreadsheet labeled "BUDGET SIMULATION 2007-2012.pdf".

In response to these meetings and other information gathered the CSPC is pleased to present its findings to the Sunnyvale ISD School Board.

III. Vision and Mission

The vision and mission of Sunnyvale ISD are documented in the 2006 Sunnyvale ISD Strategic Plan:

Vision: Sunnyvale ISD, in partnership with the community, is a stable, safe and caring “hometown” learning environment that focuses on the changing needs of our students and achieves educational excellence.

Mission: The mission of Sunnyvale ISD is to provide the highest quality education by creating life-long learners through comprehensive academic, athletic, cultural and extracurricular opportunities for the children of our community.

The CSPC feels that the district fulfills this vision and mission for grades K-8. Currently the task of educating Sunnyvale students in grades 9-12 is assigned to the Mesquite ISD (MISD).

The responsibility of educating all students of Sunnyvale ISD rests with the citizens of Sunnyvale. The values, ideals and goals of this community for its students are best obtained by the establishment of a Sunnyvale High School.

The CSPC considered numerous potential changes being evaluated by Texas legislative and educational accrediting entities. School district consolidation was a discussion point that has been a topic across the state. A specific question was whether school districts in the state of Texas that do not currently have high schools could be forced to consolidate with surrounding larger districts that did have high schools. Informal discussions with various state education officials revealed that while it is unlikely that this would occur, the possibility certainly exists. If this were to occur, it would be difficult to carry out the vision and mission currently given to the Sunnyvale ISD – for all Sunnyvale students.

An important part of vision for Sunnyvale High School students is the expectations that will be placed on Sunnyvale graduates. These expectations and characteristics are documented in the Sunnyvale High School Graduate Profile developed by the CSPC:

- Life-long learners,
- Effective communicators and listeners,
- Prepared to excel in college / university environments or in workplace / trades occupations,
- Leaders in the community, and
- Responsible citizens.

Recommendation:

Sunnyvale ISD has the capacity and resources to begin educating all Sunnyvale students in an environment that reflects Sunnyvale ISD values, expectations and vision for the future -- beginning with a ninth (9th) grade class in the 2007-2008 school year and adding one grade each school year thereafter.

IV. Facilities

Given the significant growth projections for Sunnyvale, the School Board commissioned Planware Systems LLC to conduct a demographic study in 2005 to better understand projected growth and its impact. The study concluded that the district can anticipate an annual growth of 9-12% in student population.

Current Sunnyvale ISD facilities can accommodate 925 students: the elementary school (K-4) has a capacity of 525 students and the middle school (5-8) has a capacity of 400 students. The current total student population in grades K-8 is 550 students. This results in unused space being available in these two existing facilities.

This unused space provides a window of opportunity to add a 9th grade in the fall of 2007 and a 10th grade in the fall of 2008 using existing facilities. Even with both grades and the projected growth, no new facilities or additions would be required until the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year.

The CSPC developed a technique to model the growth in student population to determine when each facility would reach its capacity for educating students. After determining when a facility would reach capacity, options for providing additional space were reviewed. This technique of modeling building capacities was applied uniformly across each facility scenario in order to reach a conclusion about facilities that would be needed when establishing a high school. The scenarios considered in this document are:

- The Sunnyvale ISD Strategic Facilities Planning Committee 2004 facility plan
- A combined middle school / high school facility plan – Option 1
- A new high school facility plan – Option 2

The assumptions used in this modeling technique included:

- Projections from the demographers report represent the most reliable data on population growth. However, since the approval cycle for the Town of Sunnyvale took longer than the demographer projected in the report, the CSPC, with agreement from the school board, adjusted the growth projections outward one year.
- Projections for construction phasing and cost estimates by WRA and Gallagher Construction represent the most reliable data on construction.
- The maximum timeframe for projections is 10 years.
- The number of students is based on the projected number of students at the end of any given school year versus the beginning of the school year.
- The ideal maximum number of students in the current elementary school building is 525 students.
- The ideal maximum number of students in the current middle school building is 400 students.
- A minimum of 21 months is required between passing a bond and completing construction on any given facility.
- It is acceptable to change the facility used to educate 5th grade students but it is not acceptable to have them educated in the same facility as students above the 9th grade.

IV. Facilities (continued)

Sunnyvale ISD Strategic Facilities Planning Committee 2004 facility plan

In response to two unsuccessful bond elections and the need for a comprehensive growth plan for Sunnyvale ISD, a 12 member committee was established by the School Board in 2003. Their recommendations, presented to the Sunnyvale ISD School in January 2004, included:

- Building a middle school facility for grades 5-8 with capacity of 400 students.
- Expanding K-8 capacity when attendance exceeds 700.
- Calling a Special Bond election to start the process to build a separate high school when attendance in grades 5-8 is equal to 400 students.

The resulting 10 year scenario, using the assumptions for the model, is:

SUNNYVALE ISD STRATEGIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE PLAN									
School Year	Facility Plan	Facility Usage			Bond Plans				
		Total Capacity	Number of students at designated grade levels - end of year (Number of students each building will hold)		Bond Action	Additional Capacity	Construction Cost (\$)	Bond Amount (\$)	
			K – 4 th (525)	5 th – 8 th (400)	2004 Spring Bond Election: Renovate elementary school New middle school facility	0 400		\$18,750,000	
06 – 07	Renovated elementary school & new middle school open	925	283	267					
07 – 08		925	336	282					
08 – 09		925	364	312					
09 – 10		925	409	327					
10 – 11		925	458	361	2010 Spring Bond Election: New elementary school (3-5)	500	\$16,482,149	\$16,482,149	
11 – 12		925	496	389					
			K – 2 nd (525)	3 rd – 5 th (500)	6 th – 8 th (400)				
12 – 13	Adjust grade configurations for: New elementary school	1425	319	319	299				
13 – 14		1425	340	341	323	2013 Fall Bond Election: New high school - Phase I Designed for 900 (core areas) Capacity for 500 (classrooms)	500	???	???
14 – 15		1425	361	363	351				
15 – 16		1425	382	384	373				
			K – 2 nd (525)	3 rd – 5 th (500)	6 th – 8 th (800)	9 th (500)			
16 – 17	New high school opens	1925	382+	384+	373+	117+			
??-??	City of Sunnyvale build-out enrollment	3225					Future Bond Election: Replace old elementary school Expand middle school Classrooms in high school	0 500 400	???

The CSPC elected to not interpret bond package amounts nor develop “pros” and “cons” for this scenario since the CSPC mission is to study the feasibility of a high school beginning in 2007-2008. However, it was relevant to apply the same modeling technique to allow for comparisons.

IV. Facilities (continued)

Option 1: Combined middle school and high school plan

Option 1 utilizes the space available in the middle school to house high school students in the first two years. In the fall of 2007, the 9th grade would be housed in the middle school. In the fall of 2008, the 9th and 10th grades would be housed at the middle school and the 5th grade would be retained on the elementary campus.

The current middle school was built with a core capacity of 900. Preliminary plans to expand the middle school have already been developed. The architecture firm acknowledges that the facility could be modified to house a combined middle/high school facility.

When analyzed with the model assumptions, the following 10 year scenario results:

OPTION 1 - COMBINED MIDDLE SCHOOL / HIGH SCHOOL FACILITY								
School Year	Facility Usage				Bond Plans			
	Facility Plan	Total Capacity	Number of students at designated grade levels - end of year (Number of students each building will hold)		Bond Action	Additional Capacity	Construction Cost (\$)	Bond Amount (\$)
			$\frac{K-4^{th}}{(525)}$	$\frac{5^{th}-8^{th}}{(400)}$	2004 Spring Bond Election: Renovate elementary school New middle school facility	0 400		\$18,750,000
06 – 07	Renovated elementary school & new middle school opens	925	283	267				
			$\frac{K-4^{th}}{(525)}$	$\frac{5^{th}-9^{th}}{(400)}$				
07 – 08	Grade 9 in middle school facility	925	403	370	2007 Fall Bond Election New elementary school Full middle school expansion	500 500	\$11,424,677 \$13,378,368	\$24,803,045
			$\frac{K-5^{th}}{(525)}$	$\frac{6^{th}-10^{th}}{(400)}$				
08 – 09	Adjust grade configurations for: Grade 5 in elementary school Grades 6-10 in MS/HS	925	451	408				
			$\frac{K-2^{nd}}{(525)}$	$\frac{3^{rd}-5^{th}}{(500)}$				
09 – 10	Adjust grade configuration for: New elementary school MS/HS expansion	1925	250	239				
10 – 11		1925	275	268				
11 – 12		1925	298	297	2012 Spring Bond Election: New middle school - Phase I Designed for 900 (core areas) Capacity for 400 (classrooms)	500	\$24,372,000	\$24,372,000
12 – 13		1925	319	319				
13 – 14		1925	340	341				
			$\frac{K-2^{nd}}{(525)}$	$\frac{3^{rd}-5^{th}}{(500)}$				
14 – 15	Adjust grade configuration for: New elementary school	2325	361	363				
15 – 16		2325	382	384				
			$\frac{6^{th}-8^{th}}{(400)}$	$\frac{9^{th}-12^{th}}{(900)}$				
?? - ??	City of Sunnyvale build-out enrollment	3225			Future Bond Election Replace old elementary school Classrooms in high school	0 500		???

The total 10 year bond package for this scenario is estimated to be \$49.2 million.

IV. Facilities (continued)

Option 1: Combined middle school and high school plan

Pros:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good fit for strategic vision of school district• Separates high school students from elementary students• Utilizes the window of opportunity with middle school and elementary school capacity to allow a 9th and 10th grade to be accommodated with no new facilities being required in the first two years• Provides efficient use of the middle school facility.• The two bond packages (\$24.8 million and \$24.4 million) would “fit” under the state property tax cap• Interest rates for a bond offering are at historic lows.
Cons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6th grade would be housed with high school for 6 years.• Potential overcrowding in middle school in 2008-2009 school year.• Major renovation / construction in close proximity of school day activities.• Three major grade reconfigurations in the 10 year evaluation period.

IV. Facilities (continued)

Option 2: New high school facility plan

Option 2 is to build a new high school facility. As with option 1, this option utilizes the space available in the middle school to house high school students in the first two years. In the fall of 2007, the 9th grade would be housed in the middle school. In the fall of 2008, the 9th and 10th grades would be housed at the middle school and the 5th grade would be retained on the elementary campus. The new high school would open in fall of 2009 with grades 9, 10 and 11.

When analyzed with the model assumptions, the following scenario results:

OPTION 2 – NEW HIGH SCHOOL FACILITY									
School Year	Facility Usage				Bond Plans				
	Facility Plan	Total Capacity	Number of students at designated grade levels - end of year (Number of students each building will hold)		Bond Action	Added Capacity	Construction Cost (\$)	Bond Amount (\$)	
			$\frac{K-4^{th}}{(525)}$	$\frac{5^{th}-8^{th}}{(400)}$	2004 Spring Bond Election: Renovate elementary school New middle school facility	0 400		\$18,750,000	
06 - 07	Renovated elementary school & new middle school opens	925	283	267					
			$\frac{K-4^{th}}{(525)}$	$\frac{5^{th}-9^{th}}{(400)}$					
07 - 08	Grade 9 in middle school facility	925	403	370	2007 Fall Bond Election New high school - Phase I Designed for 900 (core areas) Capacity for 500 (classrooms)	500	\$23,402,380	\$23,402,380	
			$\frac{K-5^{th}}{(525)}$	$\frac{6^{th}-10^{th}}{(400)}$					
08 - 09	Adjust grade configurations for: Grade 5 in elementary school Grades 6-10 in middle school	925	451	408					
			$\frac{K-5^{th}}{(525)}$	$\frac{6^{th}-8^{th}}{(400)}$	$\frac{9^{th}-11^{th}}{(500)}$				
09 - 10	Adjust grade configurations for: Grades 6-8 in middle school Grades 9-11 in high school	1425	489	247	285				
			$\frac{K-4^{th}}{(525)}$	$\frac{5^{th}-8^{th}}{(400)}$	$\frac{9^{th}-12^{th}}{(500)}$				
10 - 11	Adjust grade configurations for: Grade 5 to middle school	1425	458	361	374				
11 - 12		1425	496	389	387	2011 Fall Bond Election New elementary school	500	\$18,194,580	\$18,194,580
12 - 13		1425	532	405	417				
			$\frac{K-2^{nd}}{(525)}$	$\frac{3^{rd}-6^{th}}{(500)}$	$\frac{6^{th}-8^{th}}{(400)}$	$\frac{9^{th}-12^{th}}{(900)}$			
13 - 14	Adjust grade configurations for: New elementary school (3-5)	1925	340	341	323	433			
14 - 15		1925	361	363	351	460			
15 - 16		1925	382	384	373	490			
?? - ??	City of Sunnyvale build-out enrollment	3225					Future Bond Election Replace old elementary school Expand middle school Expand high school	0 500 400	???

The total 10 year bond package for this scenario is estimated to be \$41.6 million.

IV. Facilities (continued)

Option 2: A new high school facility plan

Pros:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best fit for strategic vision of school district• Separates high school students from elementary students• Utilizes the window of opportunity with middle school and elementary school capacity to allow a 9th and 10th grade to be accommodated with no new facilities being required in the first two years• Opening the new high school facility with grades 9-11 provides efficient utilization of resources - a delay in beginning a high school of even one year impacts this opportunity• A total bond package that is \$7.6 million less than the combined middle school / high school (option 1)• The two bond packages (\$23.4 million and \$18.2 millions) would “fit” under the state property tax cap.• Interest rates for a bond offering are at historic lows.
Cons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Higher high school operational costs in the first few years – when compared to the middle school / high school (option 1)• Potential overcrowding in elementary school in 2008-2009• Four major grade reconfigurations during the 10 year period

Recommendation:

Sunnyvale ISD has the capacity and resources to proceed immediately with plans to build a new high school facility (option 2) to accommodate the projected growth in Sunnyvale.

Additional recommendation:

The development of an “events center” should also be considered. Auditoriums are expensive to construct and used infrequently. It makes little sense to have separate elementary, middle and high school auditoriums. An events center could be utilized by all facilities in the district. A partnership could also be developed with the Town of Sunnyvale to help with construction funding and improve utilization of the facility.

V. Curriculum

One of the first tasks of the CSPC was to analyze the courses (required and electives) currently being taken by Sunnyvale students in Mesquite ISD high schools to determine if the Sunnyvale ISD could offer a comparable curriculum for Sunnyvale students (see Appendix A). This report confirms that choices for electives for students of a smaller high school, such as those being considered for a Sunnyvale high school, will be fewer when compared to the larger schools in the Mesquite ISD.

However, options do exist for the Sunnyvale ISD to provide a curriculum that would meet the expectations of the students, parents, and citizens of Sunnyvale and would prepare the students to meet all aspects of the Sunnyvale graduate profile.

One key option in providing students with both choice and challenge in course selection is a contractual relationship with Dallas County Community Colleges, such as Eastfield Community College.

Dual credit / concurrent enrollment programs are common in both public and private schools. A dual credit / concurrent enrollment course is a college course taken by a high school student for which the student earns both college and high school credit. Dual credit courses, in most cases, transfer to any Texas public college or university provided that the student receives a grade of “C” or better.

Dual credit / concurrent enrollment courses could be offered either on the Sunnyvale High School campus or on the Eastfield Community College campus. This access to college level courses without leaving a Sunnyvale school is considered both highly desirable and realistic. Access to courses on the Eastfield Community College campus would also provide the option for Sunnyvale students to select courses such as Auto Mechanics, HVAC and other trades classes that would be impractical for Sunnyvale ISD to offer on campus because of the required facilities. Availability of these courses should be limited to students in their junior and senior years.

Texas legislative and educational accrediting entities are establishing new state graduation requirements (26 credits for graduation and “4 x 4” program in core subjects) beginning in the fall of 2007 that affects all high schools. To meet these state requirements and to satisfy the Sunnyvale graduate profile of being prepared to excel in a college/university environment and in the workplace, the CSPC recommends that Sunnyvale ISD consider the merits of establishing graduation requirements that exceed the state minimum (26 credits).

Recommendation(s):

Sunnyvale High School should be a Dual Credit / Concurrent Enrollment high school with a contractual relationship with Dallas County Community Colleges to deliver advanced courses and provide access to specialty courses and other electives.

Sunnyvale ISD should consider the merits of establishing graduation requirements that exceed the state minimum (26 credits).

VI. Scheduling & Staffing

Texas legislative and educational accrediting entities are establishing new state graduation requirements (a minimum of 26 credits and “4 x 4” program in core subjects) beginning in the fall of 2007. This will make scheduling more challenging for districts across the state.

These new requirements may force districts to offer 8 course periods per semester to offer enough state required credits for a student to graduate. There are at least three options to offer 8 courses per semester:

- An 8 period schedule – each student attends each course every day.
- A block schedule – each student attends half of the courses one day and the other half on the next day.
- A modified block schedule – a variation of the first two.

The CSPC recommends a modified block (eight periods) schedule to allow extended time for science and mathematics courses, if feasible. The high school schedule should not adversely affect the schedule nor the length of the school day for lower grades. Further evaluation of scheduling is necessary to determine what is best for the students and educators of Sunnyvale ISD.

Staffing requirements will be dictated by courses offered and scheduling format. Sunnyvale ISD should strive to reduce staffing costs by combining skills/responsibilities, as appropriate, while maintaining high standards for each educator.

In order to meet the vision of educational excellence for Sunnyvale students, the CSPC developed a Sunnyvale Educator Profile. This profile delineates the characteristics and expectations of Educators in Sunnyvale ISD. Any Educator in the Sunnyvale ISD would be expected to meet these requirements:

- Committed to developing students that meet the Sunnyvale ISD Graduate Profile,
- Tops in their area(s) of proficiency,
- Recognized as intellectually accomplished by peers in the education community,
- Actively involved in Sunnyvale ISD activities,
- Fair and respectful with students and parents,
- Open to education transformation, and
- Caring role models to students and the community.

Recommendation(s):

Sunnyvale High School should offer a Modified block (eight periods) schedule.

Sunnyvale ISD should strive to reduce staffing costs by combining skills/responsibilities, as appropriate.

Educators hired into the Sunnyvale ISD must meet the Sunnyvale ISD Educator Profile.

VII. Programs

The Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) recognizes that extracurricular activities assist in preparing students for citizenship by providing healthy, character- building, and educational activities. Extracurricular activities are also an important element in the mission of the Sunnyvale ISD and in the Sunnyvale Graduate Profile. The Sunnyvale ISD should offer a full complement of extracurricular activities for its high school students.

The Sunnyvale ISD should petition the UIL for membership beginning in 2008-2009 – when grades 9-10 will attend the high school. Sunnyvale High School would then compete with other schools of similar size in academic, athletic, theatre, and music contents.

- A Sunnyvale High School would most likely be assigned to the 2A UIL classification based on projected enrollments.
- Varsity competition in football should begin in the 2010-2011 school year when grades 9-12 are attending the high school. Other programs could compete at the varsity level beginning in 2008-2009.
- For 2007-2008, when the high school will be comprised only of a 9th grade, competition (games, contests) can be sought with both UIL and TAPS schools in the immediate area.

Every attempt should be made to have a full offering of programs.

- Initial extracurricular offerings should include all programs currently offered for Sunnyvale ISD middle school students: cheerleading, football, basketball, volleyball, track & field, tennis, band, and choir.
- Additional programs should be based on demand – those programs for which a sufficient number of students will participate: drill team, theatre, debate, soccer, baseball, softball, cross country, and golf.
- Availability of competing schools must be considered. Travel costs should not adversely affect extracurricular budgets.

Volunteers should continue to have a valued role in assisting with extracurricular programs in Sunnyvale ISD, as long as there is no violation of UIL rules.

Recommendation(s):

The Sunnyvale ISD should petition the Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) for membership beginning in 2008-2009.

Sunnyvale ISD should offer a full complement of extracurricular programs.

Staff (i.e. coaches, directors) should be expected to have responsibilities in multiple programs, as applicable.

VIII. Financial Feasibility

Sunnyvale ISD will experience an increase in both revenues and expenses regardless of the year a high school is established.

Expenses will increase due to additional administrative personnel, support personnel, facilities, and equipment necessary for a high school.

Revenues will increase due to:

- Increased state funding,
- Retention of tuition currently being paid to MISD, and
- Reduction “Chapter 41” (Robin Hood) costs due to: (1) additional students being educated by the district and (2) an additional \$250/year/student allotment for educating high school students.

The question becomes whether or not the Sunnyvale ISD can offset the increase in expenses with current revenue / reserve fund projections. Due to the foresight and excellent management of expenses over the past several years, the School Board has accumulated a reserve balance of approximately \$4,000,000. This reserve fund provides the district with the funds needed to operate the district during the five years following the start of a high school.

Budget Considerations

Sunnyvale ISD administrators reviewed revenue / expense projections for the next five years with the CSPC and School Board using current Sunnyvale ISD demographic growth projections. Five years is the timeframe to retain all Sunnyvale high school grades in Sunnyvale ISD. The major budget impact of a high school should level off after these initial years.

Option 1 (Combined Middle School / High School)

	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>
Revenues	\$8,172,454	\$8,691,960	\$9,722,293	\$10,424,343	\$11,077,127
Expenditures	\$8,245,705	\$9,300,188	\$10,679,647	\$10,825,938	\$11,262,599
Reserve Fund (end of year)	\$4,871,161	\$4,262,933	\$3,305,579	\$2,903,984	\$2,718,509

Option 2 (New High School)

	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>
Revenues	\$8,172,454	\$8,691,960	\$9,722,293	\$10,424,343	\$11,077,127
Expenditures	\$8,245,705	\$9,475,380	\$10,860,095	\$11,011,800	\$11,454,037
Reserve Fund (end of year)	\$4,871,161	\$4,087,741	\$2,949,939	\$2,362,482	\$1,985,572

It should be noted that the use of reserve funds will be required for the first few years whenever a high school is started.

Either option results in a positive balance in the reserve fund over the 5 year period.

VIII. Financial Feasibility (continued)

Tax Rate Considerations

Tax rates are based on property values. A higher rate of growth in property values means a lower tax rate. The reverse is also true. Two components make up the tax rate paid by Sunnyvale homeowners:

Maintenance & Operations (M&O) – the money raised to pay for costs associated with the operation of the school district, i.e. salaries, electricity, supplies.

Interest & Sinking (I&S) – the money raised to pay for specific capital needs, i.e. building a new facility.

Due to recent changes in school finance laws, the State of Texas is assuming a great portion of the school finance burden. This means that property tax rates assessed to homeowners by the state decreased in 2006-2007 and will decrease further in 2007-2008. The Sunnyvale ISD operating (M&O) tax rate will be reduced to the state mandated tax rate cap of \$1.004 in 2007-2008. The state mandated tax rate cap for capital (I&S) is \$0.50 for Texas school districts.

Tax rate projections were compiled and provided by First Southwest Company (FSC). The FSC analysis included projections for low, mid-range, and high growth rates for the Sunnyvale ISD tax base:

- Low growth rate projections use data provided by FSC.
- Mid-range growth projections use data provided by the Town of Sunnyvale.
- High growth projections use the data from Planware Systems LLC.

Using the FSC tax rate projections for mid-range growth and the timeframes / bond amounts documented in the **Facilities** section of this report, the resulting tax rates result for each option:

	Projected M&O Tax Rate	Option 1 Projected I&S Tax Rate	Option 2 Projected I&S Tax Rate	Option 1 Total Tax Rate	Option 2 Total Tax Rate
2005-2006:	\$1.4460	\$0.2199	\$0.2199	\$1.6659	\$1.6659
2006-2007:	\$1.3220	\$0.1971	\$0.1971	\$1.5191	\$1.5191
2007-2008:	\$1.0040	\$0.1761	\$0.1761	\$1.1801	\$1.1801
2008-2009:	\$1.0040	\$0.4231	\$0.3878	\$1.4271	\$1.3918
2009-2010:	\$1.0040	\$0.4130	\$0.3791	\$1.4170	\$1.3831
2010-2011:	\$1.0040	\$0.4044	\$0.3720	\$1.4084	\$1.3760
2011-2012:	\$1.0040	\$0.3947	\$0.3635	\$1.3987	\$1.3675
2012-2013:	\$1.0040	\$0.4613	\$0.4167	\$1.4653	\$1.4207
2013-2014:	\$1.0040	\$0.4410	\$0.3988	\$1.4450	\$1.4028
2014-2015:	\$1.0040	\$0.4229	\$0.3830	\$1.4269	\$1.3870
2015-2016:	\$1.0040	\$0.4052	\$0.3673	\$1.4092	\$1.3713

With these projections, the tax rates for neither option exceed the mandated \$0.50 cap for capital (I&S) in any year.

VIII. Financial Feasibility (continued)

Ongoing Budget Considerations

The School Board should consider revenue / expense suggestions from the TASBO Feasibility Study and other sources for any Sunnyvale ISD growth scenario (Strategic Plan, Option 1, Option 2, etc) including:

- Implementing the \$.02 property tax rate increase allowed by House Bill 1,
- Employing a common staff, where feasible, to manage both middle and high school operations,
- Utilizing food preparations in a central kitchen facility,
- Maintaining one principal and assistant until the opening of the high school facility,
- Selecting staff that is certified to teach multiple subjects, and
- Utilizing both middle and high school teaching staff to accommodate middle and high school schedules.

Recommendation(s):

The establishment and ongoing operation of a Sunnyvale High School is feasible given projected revenue and expenses.

The establishment and ongoing operation of a Sunnyvale High School is feasible under current tax codes.

The School Board and administration should continue to pursue ways to reduce the costs of Sunnyvale ISD operation.

IX. Community Support

The success of the students in Sunnyvale ISD is dependent on the support and involvement of parents, educators, the school board and the community as a whole. All entities should have a voice in discerning what is best for the Sunnyvale ISD.

- The November 2006 petition containing a large number of signatures from Sunnyvale residents requesting the formation of a 9th grade in the fall of 2007 demonstrates significant support among the parents of Sunnyvale ISD students. A large majority of parents of current 8th grade students have stated they would attend a Sunnyvale 9th grade if available in the fall of 2007.
- There are community members that do not support the petition to start a high school in the fall of 2007 and would equally like to have their concerns and desires taken into consideration.

A decision by the school board to begin a high school in the 2007-2008 school year would likely require a bond election in the fall of 2007. Previous bond elections demonstrate the need for a more organized and informative approach for a bond election. Accurate information needs to be disseminated quickly to all community members. Toward that end:

- The CSPC, as a representation of the community, has attempted to individually gather input from all Sunnyvale citizens on this important issue. Community members are encouraged to express their thoughts, questions and suggestions to this committee as well as the School Board.
- A town hall meeting should be held prior to the School Board announcing their decision regarding the opening of a high school in the fall of 2007. This meeting will allow the CSPC to report committee findings and allow community members to ask questions, make suggestions and voice options to be taken in consideration when making the decision.
- A website should be created to inform community members of actions taken by the School Board and CSPC; announce upcoming meetings; and list documents used in researching the feasibility of a high school. Documentation should be placed on the website with the ability to download and print.
- A bond package that reflects the views of the community should be developed and presented for approval.
- Sunnyvale school and community organizations should be enlisted to educate, gain support, and facilitate voter registration throughout the community.

Recommendation(s):

A town hall meeting should be held prior to the School Board announcing their decision regarding the opening of a high school in the fall of 2007.

A website should be created to inform Sunnyvale citizens of the actions involved with the opening of a high school.

A bond package that reflects the views of the community should be developed and presented for approval.

Sunnyvale school and community organizations should be enlisted to educate, gain support, and facilitate voter registration throughout the community.

Appendix A - Sunnyvale Student Participation in Mesquite ISD

<u>Area/Subject</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>				<u>Total</u>
		<u>9th</u>	<u>10th</u>	<u>11th</u>	<u>12th</u>	
<u>Language: English</u>						
Advanced Journalism: Newspaper 1		0	0	1	2	3
Advanced Journalism: Yearbook 1		0	1	0	0	1
Advanced Journalism: Yearbook 2		0	0	0	1	1
Advanced Journalism: Yearbook 3	Honors	0	0	0	2	2
Communication Applications		0	1	12	8	21
English 1	Basic	2	0	0	0	2
English 1	Honors - GT	10	0	0	0	10
English 1	Honors - Pre-AP	24	0	0	0	24
English 1		28	0	0	0	28
English 2	Basic	0	2	0	0	2
English 2	Honors - GT	0	9	0	0	9
English 2	Honors - Pre-AP	0	18	0	0	18
English 2		0	25	1	0	26
English 3	Basic	0	0	2	0	2
English 3	Honors - AP	0	0	25	1	26
English 3	Honors - GT - AP	0	0	6	0	6
English 3		0	1	18	1	20
English 4	Basic	0	0	0	2	2
English 4	Honors - AP	0	0	0	18	18
English 4	Honors - GT - AP	0	0	0	10	10
English 4		0	0	1	22	23
American Drama	Honors	0	1	1	10	12
British Drama	Honors	0	1	3	3	7
Journalism		1	0	2	0	3
Literary Genres	Honors	0	0	2	5	7
Photojournalism		0	0	1	0	1
Public Speaking: Debate		0	2	0	0	2
Reading Application	Honors	0	6	6	2	14
<u>Language: Non-English</u>						
American Sign Language 1		2	2	0	1	5
American Sign Language 2		0	4	1	1	6
American Sign Language 3	Honors	0	0	0	2	2
French 1		1	2	0	0	3
French 2		0	1	1	0	2
French 3	Honors	0	0	2	0	2
German 3	Honors	0	0	1	0	1
German 4	Honors - AP	0	0	0	1	1
Spanish 1		13	2	2	0	17
Spanish 2		36	10	7	2	55
Spanish 3	Honors	0	21	5	0	26
Spanish 4	Honors - AP	0	0	11	2	13
Spanish 5	Honors - AP	0	0	0	11	11

Appendix A - Sunnyvale Student Participation in Mesquite ISD

<u>Area/Subject</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>				<u>Total</u>
		<u>9th</u>	<u>10th</u>	<u>11th</u>	<u>12th</u>	
<u>Mathematics</u>						
Algebra 1	Basic	4	1	0	0	5
Algebra 1		28	1	0	0	29
Algebra 2	Basic	0	0	1	1	2
Algebra 2	Honors - GT	0	15	1	0	16
Algebra 2	Honors - Pre-AP	0	9	7	0	16
Algebra 2		0	8	13	1	22
Algebra 3		0	0	1	2	3
Calculus	Honors - AP	0	0	1	16	17
Geometry	Basic	0	2	0	0	2
Geometry	Honors - GT	16	0	0	0	16
Geometry		16	19	1	0	36
Math Models w/Application		0	0	0	3	3
Precalculus	Honors	0	0	19	6	25
Precalculus	Honors - GT	0	0	8	0	8
<u>Science</u>						
Anatomy & Physiology	Honors	0	0	5	7	12
Aquatic Science	Honors	0	0	6	17	23
Biology	Honors	30	0	0	0	30
Biology	Honors - AP	0	0	0	10	10
Biology	Honors - GT	4	1	0	0	5
Biology		30	3	0	0	33
Chemistry	Honors	0	15	0	0	15
Chemistry	Honors - GT	0	8	0	0	8
Chemistry		0	9	9	2	20
Integrated Physics & Chemistry	Basic	0	1	0	0	1
Integrated Physics & Chemistry		0	18	0	0	18
Physics	Honors	0	0	22	1	23
Physics	Honors - GT	0	0	3	0	3
Physics		0	0	16	2	18
Scientific Research/Design	Honors	0	0	0	7	7
Sports Medicine		1	1	0	1	3
<u>Social Studies</u>						
American Cultural Studies		0	0	0	1	1
Economics		0	0	0	13	13
Macroeconomics	Honors - AP	0	0	0	10	10
Psychology	Honors - AP	0	0	5	12	17
Psychology		0	0	1	4	5
Sociology		0	0	2	0	2
State & National Security	Honors	0	1	1	5	7
US Government	Honors - AP	0	0	0	12	12
US Government		0	0	1	15	16
US History	Honors - AP	0	1	31	2	34
US History		0	2	19	4	25
World Geography	Honors - GT	7	0	0	0	7
World Geography	Honors - Pre-AP	27	0	0	0	27
World Geography		30	1	0	0	31
World History	Basic	0	1	0	0	1
World History	Honors - GT	0	11	0	0	11
World History	Honors - Pre-AP	0	16	0	0	16
World History		0	23	2	0	25

Appendix A - Sunnyvale Student Participation in Mesquite ISD

<u>Area/Subject</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>				<u>Total</u>
		<u>9th</u>	<u>10th</u>	<u>11th</u>	<u>12th</u>	
<u>Ag Science</u>						
AG Metal Fab Tech: Welding		0	1	0	0	1
Home Maintenance & Improvements		0	1	0	0	1
<u>Business</u>						
Accounting 1		0	8	1	1	10
Accounting 2	Honors	0	0	3	1	4
BCIS 1		58	6	1	1	66
BCIS 2		0	2	0	1	3
Business Education		0	0	0	2	2
Business Law		0	0	1	0	1
Introduction to Business		1	2	1	0	4
<u>Family & Consumer</u>						
Apparel		0	1	0	1	2
Career Workshop		0	0	1	0	1
Child Care Lab		0	0	0	2	2
Child Development		3	2	0	1	6
Family & Career Management		0	1	0	0	1
Food Production		0	1	0	1	2
Hospitality		0	0	0	1	1
Individual & Family Life		4	0	0	0	4
Interior Design		1	2	0	2	5
Nutrition & Food Science		4	8	3	1	16
Personal & Family Development		4	10	1	0	15
<u>Health Science</u>						
Clinical Rotation 1		0	0	6	2	8
Clinical Rotation 2	Honors	0	0	0	1	1
Health Education		16	5	4	1	26
Health Science Technology 1		2	1	0	0	3
<u>Marketing Education</u>						
Marketing Education		0	0	0	3	3
Principles of Marketing		0	0	2	0	2
Retailing		0	1	0	0	1
<u>Technology</u>						
BIM/Multimedia		0	0	2	1	3
Digital Graphics & Antimation		0	0	0	1	1
Web Mastering 1		0	2	1	2	5
Web Mastering 2		0	0	1	0	1
Technology Systems		0	0	1	2	3

Appendix A - Sunnyvale Student Participation in Mesquite ISD

<u>Area/Subject</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>				<u>Total</u>
		<u>9th</u>	<u>10th</u>	<u>11th</u>	<u>12th</u>	
<u>Trade & Industrial</u>						
Auto CRRT 2		0	0	0	1	1
Communication Graphics		0	3	1	1	5
Construction Systems: Shop		3	2	0	1	6
Drawing 2		0	0	3	0	3
Energy/Power Tran Sys: Shop		1	0	0	0	1
Engineering Graphics		1	0	1	2	4
Environmental Systems		0	0	2	2	4
Graphic Design 3		0	0	2	1	3
Intro to Computer Maintenance		0	1	0	1	2
Manufacturing Systems		1	0	0	0	1
Technical Applications 2	Basic	0	0	1	0	1
Trade & Industrial Education		0	0	0	3	3
Attendance Office		0	0	1	4	5
Discipline Office		0	1	0	0	1
Front Office		0	0	1	0	1
Mentorship	Honors - GT	0	0	0	9	9
Int Comm Trans 1		0	0	0	1	1
Peer Helpers 1		0	0	2	1	3
Radio B&P 1		0	0	1	0	1
Academic Decathlon	Honors	0	0	1	3	4
Student Leadership 1		0	0	1	0	1
<u>PE</u>						
Adventure/Outdoor Education		0	0	1	0	1
Aerobic Activities		1	1	0	0	2
Sports: PE		12	17	2	1	32
<u>Remedial</u>						
ACA Study Skills 1		1	0	0	0	1
TAKS Prep English LC		0	0	0	3	3
TAKS Prep Math LC		0	0	0	2	2
TAKS Prep Science LC		0	0	0	1	1
<u>Special Education</u>						
Communication	Basic	0	0	1	0	1
Daily Living Skills		0	0	1	0	1
Life Communication		0	0	1	0	1
Life Math	Basic	0	0	1	0	1
OCC Prep		0	0	1	0	1
Recreation/Leisure		0	0	1	0	1
Social Skills		1	0	1	0	2

Appendix A - Sunnyvale Student Participation in Mesquite ISD

<u>Area/Subject</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>				<u>Total</u>
		<u>9th</u>	<u>10th</u>	<u>11th</u>	<u>12th</u>	
<u>Extracurricular – Athletics</u>						
Athletic Trainer		1	1	0	1	3
Baseball		0	0	2	1	3
Basketball – Boys		2	0	1	2	5
Basketball – Girls		0	1	0	3	4
Cheerleading		0	4	1	2	7
Cross Country – Boys		0	0	0	1	1
Cross Country – Girls		0	0	0	1	1
Football		18	4	5	1	28
Golf		2	0	2	2	6
Soccer – Boys		0	3	0	0	3
Soccer – Girls		0	1	1	2	4
Softball		2	1	1	0	4
Swimming		1	1	0	0	2
Tennis		12	3	5	0	20
Volleyball		3	4	2	0	9
<u>Extracurricular - Fine Arts</u>						
Art 1 Basic Design		2	12	6	3	23
Band		4	2	0	10	16
Choir		8	2	5	4	19
Dance		1	0	1	1	3
Drill Team		3	1	3	1	8
Orchestra		0	4	1	0	5
Painting 2		0	1	0	0	1
Painting 3		0	0	0	1	1
Studio Art 2 Dimension Design Port.	Honors - AP	0	0	1	0	1
Technical Theatre 1		0	0	1	0	1
Theatre		3	15	11	4	33
<u>Military Science</u>						
ROTC 1		4	1	0	0	5
ROTC 2		0	2	0	0	2
ROTC 3		0	0	2	0	2
ROTC Drill Rifle LC		0	1	1	0	2