San Diego Unified School District Magnet Schools Assistance Program (2023-2028) Abstract

The San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) is the second largest district in California, serving more than 93,000 students in pre-school through grade 12. The student population is extremely diverse, representing more than 15 ethnic groups and 60 languages and dialects. To prepare students for a competitive global economy, the SDUSD Board of Education is transitioning from its focused, long-term plan, known as Vision 2020, to Vision 2030, both designed to improve academic achievement for all students.

Within its portfolio of choice, SDUSD has a rich, 43-year history of developing and sustaining Magnet schools. Its network of 28 whole-school Magnet programs serves as the cornerstone of the district's desegregation efforts. To support recruitment of students from different socio-economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds into magnet schools, SDUSD has developed its 2023 MSAP application, *Magnifying Media Arts in the San Diego Unified School District*. SDUSD is requesting a grant from MSAP to significantly revise three existing Magnet schools, two of which (Montgomery and Roosevelt) are currently designated as needing comprehensive support and improvement and reduce or prevent Hispanic student minority group isolation (MGI) and socio-economic (SES) isolation in all three sites.

Oak Park ES will significantly revise to become Oak Park Music and Media Arts Magnet, becoming the district's first elementary media arts magnet. By 2028, Oak Park will increase its enrollment to 568 students in grades TK-5 and prevent MGI among Hispanic students. Montgomery will significantly revise to become Montgomery STEAM Media Arts Magnet, adding opportunities for students to learn about media arts and experience the integration of media arts into their STEAM curriculum. By 2025, Montgomery will increase its enrollment to 466 students in grades 6-8 and reduce MGI among Hispanic students. Roosevelt International will significantly revise its IB MYP curriculum by adding opportunities for students to learn about and through media arts to become Roosevelt International Media Arts Magnet. Roosevelt will increase its enrollment to 862 students in grades 6-8 and reduce Hispanic student MGI. The three revised schools will all be whole-school magnets, and will address a gap in the district's Media Arts Magnet Pathway, feeding into San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts Magnet (6-12), and Kearny High Educational Complex Magnet (9-12).

All three sites will apply a framework for arts integration to the development of integrated project-based learning units (Oak Park and Roosevelt) or IB MYP curricular units (Roosevelt) with the support of the California Global Education Project at the University of San Diego. Additional project-wide partnerships will include Media Arts Center San Diego, The Comic-Con Museum, Outside the Lens, the Museum of Photographic Arts, and Art Reach.

The SDUSD MSAP initiative will accomplish the following objectives: (1) Promote voluntary desegregation in public schools by preventing MGI in one elementary school, and reducing MGI at two secondary schools with substantial proportions of Hispanic students; (2) Increase academic achievement among all students by developing and implementing quality standards-aligned and interdisciplinary media arts instruction; (3) Advance systemic reforms through a rigorous and sustained curriculum and professional development initiative; and (4) Increase parental and community engagement in and satisfaction with the three schools. As articulated in CPP 2 and the project logic model, two evidence-based curricular supports, ITSS and ST Math, will serve as key strategies for improving student learning in literacy and math, respectively.