




November 28, 2018

TO: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

FR: Thomas Stahovich, Chair 
Executive Committee, Bourns College of Engineering

RE: Summary White Paper on RUSD STEM High School on the campus of the University of California, Riverside

On November 13, 2018 the BCOE executive committee met and discussed the “Summary White Paper on RUSD STEM High School on the campus of the University of California, Riverside.” The committee is strongly in favor of having a STEM high school near campus. This would have a number of benefits. For example, it would be helpful for recruiting and retention of faculty. Likewise, a STEM high school would be well-aligned with BCOE’s outreach and community engagement efforts.

However, there are also strong concerns about the proposed choice of location. Many believe that constructing a high school at this location would cause significant problems with traffic and parking. Furthermore, there is a concern about the potential impact on the campus’ expansion as the campus sets out to double in size over the next 20 years. The proposed site for the high school is a prime location which may be needed for campus expansion. The committee believes that it is premature to select the proposed site prior to the completion of the next long range development plan for the campus.

In conclusion, the committee is strongly in favor of having a STEM high school near campus. However, the committee believes that much additional analysis of proposed sites is needed. The committee believes that it would be beneficial to evaluate other sites both on campus and near campus. Selecting a site near campus would achieve the expected benefits of a STEM high school while avoiding the concerns about the present site.