



Tombstone Unified School District No. 1

State of the Schools

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Superintendent

Introduction

- **Very Excited to be part of the District**
- **Thank you for your support.**
- **The future is very bright for TUSD #1**



My Vision for the District

- TUSD #1 will be a district that attracts parents and students because we possess:
 - High quality teachers who enjoy teaching in our school district.
 - Excellence in our staff, whatever they may do, who enjoy and take pride in their work.
 - Well rounded educations for students with Full Time Music, Art, and PE.
 - An expanded CTE/Vocational education program that goes into the Jr. High.
 - A well balanced offering of upper level courses provided by our teachers or by distance learning.
 - Current technology available and staff trained in utilizing it.
 - Facilities that our students, staff, and community members will be proud of.
 - A teaching staff that stays here and gets to know our students and their parents

Here's What I've Learned

- ◆ Strengths
- ◆ Eager, high quality teaching staff; they are willing to go the extra mile for their students and they have brought in new ideas to our school system.
- ◆ Highly effective Special Education Staff at all schools; they have responded to the requirements needed for a successful program.
- ◆ Excellent administrative team; we work well together and many decisions have our team input.
- ◆ High quality staff at the schools and the district office; they all work very hard for the betterment of TUSD #1.
- ◆ Supportive governing Board; willing to make decisions based on students' needs.
- ◆ Supportive parents/community members; they want what is best for their students and children in the community.

■ Weaknesses

■ Personnel

1. Need FT music, Art, and PE at all three schools *(Currently, TUSD #1 has ½ time Art and PE at WJM and THS; plus FT PE at HC. None of our schools have music at this time.)*
2. High Turnover of staff *(40% new teaching staff this year)*

■ Facilities

1. Athletics – Fields, equipment, *(Our football field at the new high school needs to be finished with the field itself, lights, scoreboard, home and visitor bleachers, snack bar, ticket booth, and storage area. We also need a new baseball field, tennis courts, and softball field all at the new high school campus. Our Jr. High athletics programs are in need of solid playing fields and equipment as well.)*

■ Buildings

1. Our school buildings need to be renovated and updated for the betterment and greater success of our students and our staff.

■ Technology

1. Computers – *(Most of our computers in the district are at least two years old and sometimes, much older than that. TUSD #1 has a great need to get new labs at HC and WJM with the latest computers for our students and have more computers available in every class district wide.)*
2. Equipment – *(New server, wireless internet district wide, new backup system)*
3. Training – *(Our staff needs to be trained in the latest technology to teach our students how to utilize it.)*

- CTE Courses – we need to expand our courses. We have a good start, but there is a definite need for more vocational classes in our district, going all the way to the Jr. High students. *(Currently we offer wood science, business application, culinary arts, industrial technology, and agriculture science. But there is so much more to offer: early childhood development, nursing, welding, automotive shop, metal fabrication, graphic arts, and other areas we need to explore. The Jr. High vocational courses need to be researched and the ones that fit with us need to be initiated.)*
- Curriculum/Textbooks
 1. Need to work internally to align our thinking around curriculum *(We need to complete “Curriculum Maps” for every one of our classes, Pre-K-12. This will allow us to teach more efficiently and align all classes to the curriculum and thereby, to the standards.)*
 2. Many of our textbooks need to be replaced/updated *(Instead of lockers and all the problems they can cause, we need to replace our older textbooks with a classroom set of books and a home set. This will allow our students to have the books at home and not have to carry them around all day thus eliminating the need for lockers.)*
- Equipment
 1. Maintenance Equipment *(Much of our equipment only operates due to our fixing them and bandaging them many times. It is time to get new equipment for our staff to assist them with grounds, maintenance, repair, etc.)*
 2. Buses/transportation vehicles *(As many of you are aware, many of our buses are older and need replacing. It is difficult to continually fix buses that should be used as backups rather than our primary buses. TUSD #1 needs new buses to transport our students..)*

Where Do We Go From Here?

- Think of Education as a chair; the four legs make up all of what TUSD #1 is:

1. Facilities and equipment
2. Technology
3. Instructional Items
4. Personnel

We can make great strides due to voter confidence on Nov. 6, 2007 on three of the legs: 1, 2, & 3. Personnel is where TUSD #1 needs to focus for improvement.

- We have outstanding teachers and staff, but we are lacking in many areas such as Music, Art, and PE plus expanding the CTE/Vocational education programs. There is a definite need for these positions for our students to have a well rounded education, and to make classes available teaching job skills for students not going to college. It is our responsibility to make them as ready for the larger, more important game of life.

- Turnover – What is the result of high turnover?

1. Teaching knowledge lost
2. Intricate knowledge of students and families
3. Our experienced teachers leave and benefit another district and students
4. It's a circle for TUSD #1
5. Classified staff it means job training, lack of efficiency, and other variables.

How Do We Achieve Our Personnel Goals?

- Open Discussions with parents and community members
 - Many of our investors may not know the extent of the educational difficulties and needs of our students.
 - Many students connect via sports, music, extracurricular, etc. TUSD #1 currently has no way to offer some of these programs to our students. When we can't offer a program, it becomes a need for our district.
 - We need to address our students' needs, but we must also listen to what the community has to say. We may not agree or we may agree to disagree, but discounting a concern is no way to have an open dialogue.

Closing

We all want what is best Physically, Intellectually, Emotionally, and Socially for all of our students. I don't know any who would disagree with this or say otherwise. But, I believe our communities and their members may not know what our students' academic needs are or how to attain them. Going to the parents and community members with an open dialogue is the first step towards understanding and support.