



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item 9.3

**Meeting Date:** March 15, 2018

**Subject:** Approve Father Keith B. Kenny Grade Restructuring

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Division:** Academic Office

**Recommendation:** Approve a grade restructuring recommendation for Father Keith B. Kenny, from K-8 to K-6.

**Background/Rationale:** 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades were added to FKBK in the fall of 2012, and the enrollment has remained low since its implementation. This low enrollment has impacted the school's ability to provide the rich educational experiences described below for its middle school students. Allowing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to enroll in their feeder middle schools, or the middle school of their choice in SCUSD, will afford these students the array of opportunities that will prepare them to be successful in high school and beyond.

Research tells us that a rich middle school experience includes high-quality instruction, with a wide array of opportunities that students can access to explore interests and prepare them for success in high school. Those opportunities include:

- electives, such as art, second language, music or culinary
- enrichment and intervention to meet the needs of advanced learners and those in need of additional academic support
- extracurricular activities, like robotics, sports, coding

**Financial Considerations:** None

**LCAP Goal(s):** College, career and Life Ready Graduates; Safe, Emotionally Healthy and Engaged Students; Family and Community Empowerment; Operational Excellence

**Documents Attached:**

1. Executive Summary

**Estimated Time of Presentation:** 5 minutes

**Submitted by:** Iris Taylor, Chief Academic Officer

Mary Hardin Young, Instructional Assistant Superintendent

**Approved by:** Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent



## **I. Overview of the Instructional Materials Adoption**

Father Keith B. Kenny was opened in the fall of 1993 as a K-6 school. In the spring of 2012, the decision was made to convert the school to a K-8, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade was added that fall with 17 students attending. 8<sup>th</sup> grade was added the following year. Enrollment in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades has remained low since its implementation, with the current total enrollment of 33 middle school grade students. With its small student body and staff, Father Keith B. Kenny is not able to provide a rich educational experience to students in the middle grades.

## **II. Driving Governance**

SCUSD's Equity, Access and Social Justice Guiding Principle calls for all student to be given an equal opportunity to graduate with the greatest number of postsecondary choices from the widest array of options. The middle school experience plays a pivotal role in assisting students to meet this goal. Research tells us that a rich middle school experience includes high quality instruction, with a wide array of opportunities that students can access to explore interests and prepare them for success in high school and beyond, including

- Electives, like art, culinary, music, second language acquisition
- Enrichment and intervention to meet the needs of advance learners and those in need of additional support
- Extracurricular activities, like sports, robotics, journalism, coding

## **III. Budget**

NA

## **IV. Goals, Objectives and Measures**

Our goal is for Father Keith B. Kenny 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to attend one of SCUSD's middle schools where they will be afforded the rich educational opportunities so necessary for them to be successful in their high school years.

**Board of Education Executive Summary**  
**Approve Father Keith B. Kenny Grade Restructuring**  
**March 15, 2018**



## **V. Major Initiatives**

All families were personally contacted and advised of the recommendation coming before the Board of Education on March 15<sup>th</sup>. A meeting was held for all Father Keith B. Kenny staff to learn of the recommendation personally from Superintendent Aguilar and Board President Ryan, and to gather input and answer questions they may have. A community meeting was held on March 7<sup>th</sup>, to answer any questions they may have prior to Board action, to provide information to families in learning about the options they have for middle schools and to provide support in the enrollment process. Families were able to engage with the middle school leaders individually, and assisted in the enrollment process. Middle school visits were scheduled for families to ensure a good fit for their students.

## **VI. Results**

Bring the recommendation for grade restructuring for Father Keith B. Kenny to the Board of Education on March 15, 2018, for a vote.

## **VII. Lessons Learned/Next Steps**

The district's next steps include the following:

- Maintain personal contact with the families to assist in decision making
- Provide priority placement in the Open Enrollment process for current Father Keith B Kenny 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Continue monitoring to ensure a smooth transition for all students/families
- Update all district and site communication with the new grade configuration, and communicate the change throughout the district
- Update all signage, the website and letterhead