

**Ballot Simplification Committee**

**APPROVED Digest – 10:15 a.m. on Thursday, August 4, 2011 – Packard, Fraps, Fasick, Jorgensen, Unruh**

**School District Student Assignment System** *(working title only, subject to change)*

**Any Requests for Reconsideration due Friday, August 5, 2011, at 10:15 a.m.**

**The Way It Is Now:**

The San Francisco Unified School District (School District) has established an assignment system for its students.

Parents may apply for their children to attend any school in the School District. If a school does not have space for all applicants, the School District admits students based on certain priorities.

For elementary schools, the School District considers, in order of priority, whether:

- older siblings attend the same school,
- the student lives in the school's attendance area and attends a School District pre-kindergarten school in the area,
- the student lives in an area of the City where students have the lowest average test scores, and
- the student lives in the school's attendance area.

For middle school assignments, parents may apply for their children to attend any school in the School District. If a school does not have space for all applicants, the School District admits students based on certain priorities.

For the 2012-2013 through 2016-2017 school years, the School District has adopted a policy that considers, in order of priority, whether:

- older siblings attend the same school,
- the student's elementary school is a designated feeder school for the middle school, and
- the student lives in an area of the City where students have the lowest average test scores.

For the 2017-2018 and following school years, the School District has adopted a policy that assigns students from each elementary school to a designated middle school. If parents prefer a different middle school, they may request one. For such requests, the School District will consider, in order of priority, whether:

- older siblings attend the same school, and
- the student lives in an area of the City where students have the lowest average test scores.

For high schools, the School District does not make any initial assignments. Parents may apply for their children to attend any school, and the School District considers, in order of priority, whether:

- older siblings attend the same school, and
- the student lives in an area of the City where students have the lowest average test scores.

Parents may apply for their children to attend schools with language immersion or other special programs. In some cases, the School District imposes additional eligibility requirements for those programs.

The School District is not a City agency and is governed by an independent Board of Education.

### **The Proposal:**

Proposition \_\_\_ would make it City policy to encourage the School District to ensure that:

- all students have the opportunity to attend a quality neighborhood school;
- after assigning siblings to the same school, the highest priority should be to assign each student to the school closest to home; and
- the School District should provide students with the opportunity to attend schools with language immersion or other special programs, even if those schools are not close to their homes.

**A "YES" Vote Means:** If you vote "yes," you want to make it City policy to encourage the School District to give the highest priority to assigning each student to the school closest to home, after placing siblings in the same school.

**A "NO" Vote Means:** If you vote "no," you do not want to adopt this as City policy.

word count: 512 [suggested word limit: 300]