

STEM High School Project Fact Sheet

Project Summary

- The proposed RUSD STEM High School will likely serve about 800 students in grades 9-12.
- Funding for the STEM High School facilities will come entirely from RUSD. Other financial assumptions are noted below:
 - RUSD is responsible for all planning, logistics, design, CEQA, land preparation, construction, and operations of STEM High School.
 - UCR is responsible for land (pending lease approval by Board of Regents) and possible replacement of current land usage (e.g., intramural fields, parking); UCR already has developed plans to increase/improve parking and intramural fields in upcoming construction projects and LRDP (e.g., construction of new parking structure is set for Lot 13 and in North District; plan for better-quality intramural fields in closer proximity to campus in the North District).
- UCR has had a strong relationship with the Riverside STEM Academy (RSA) since its inception in 2011, but RSA moving within one mile of UCR strengthened this partnership.
- Consistent with the 2015 MOU, UCR plans to lease an appropriate campus site for \$1 to RUSD for the construction of a STEM High School to further strengthen this partnership and confer benefits on both RUSD and UCR.
- RUSD has reviewed at least four sites on the UCR campus, and will be reviewing the Blaine/Canyon Crest site in the near future as well. However, no site has been selected and there is no defined schedule as to when a site will be selected.
- RUSD would be responsible for addressing all parking needs on the site they will use for the high school. They will not be using UCR parking inventory (except in some exceptional cases – like a special weekend event).
- The STEM High School will be a “closed campus” in the sense that students will have to remain on the campus for the academic day. Therefore, STEM High School students will not come to the UCR campus for lunch or other activities during the school day. The STEM High School will have a full cafeteria.
- RUSD students may take classes on the UCR campus, but in the exact same way such enrollments are now allowed for high school students in the area.
- No UCR faculty or staff resources and workload effort will be directed to the STEM High School.
- It is important to note that any decision on a STEM High School site must go through required steps in order to be evaluated and approved. Even when RUSD selects a site, a CEQA process is required for that site and this typically requires at least one year to complete. Further, locating the STEM High School on the UCR campus requires action by the Board of Regents at a public meeting to approve a ground lease and the CEQA document.

Benefits

- **Riverside is in our name:** There is an inextricable connection between UC Riverside and the region. Our reputations and futures are linked.

- **Mission:** This partnership aligns with the university's values of research, teaching, and service and aligns with the UCR 2020 Strategic Plan. This partnership also furthers UCR's mission to provide opportunities for the highest-quality education to people of all backgrounds and income levels.
- **Research:** Increasingly, grant-makers require evidence of broader impacts for research proposals. An on-campus high school would provide many opportunities for the kinds of societal outcomes that grant-makers require and that UCR values.
- **Recruitment and Retention:** Guaranteed slots in a National Blue Ribbon middle school are a powerful tool for recruiting and retaining faculty and staff. UCR will lose these guaranteed spots without co-location on UCR land.
- **Student Teaching:** UCR students training to be teachers (in GSOE or the SMI program) will benefit from the opportunity to student teach and receive mentorship at the STEM High School. Additionally, our undergraduates will have the opportunity to mentor high school students.
- **Growing our Region:** Excellent schools encourage community growth and cohesion. This partnership is an active step toward the betterment of Riverside and the Inland Empire region.
- **High School Space:** UCR will have access to certain spaces in the high school after hours.
- **Proximity:** Locating the STEM High School on campus will allow for easy access for our Graduate School of Education students, SMI students and other UCR students who want to be involved with the school as well as for interested faculty members. The current STEM Academy location is not suitable for future anticipated growth and RUSD has agreed to build a new high school. If that high school is not located on the UCR campus, it is not likely to be in close proximity.

Ongoing Communication

- **UCR STEM High School Advisory Committee**
 - The Provost established an advisory committee comprised of faculty, staff, and students to improve the process, communication, and transparency with UCR stakeholders.
 - Four students joined the committee after the June 6 town hall, for a total of five student representatives on the advisory committee.
 - The advisory committee will work with the student committee members to help assure we meet with appropriate student groups to address their questions and consider their input.
- **Website:** A website has been created exclusively for the STEM High School project. <https://stemhighschool.ucr.edu/> (includes all project information and an FAQ).
- **Campus Stakeholder Meetings:** Members of the Advisory Committee will regularly meet with campus stakeholder groups including ASUCR, GSA, Academic Senate, and Staff Assembly.
- **Community Meetings:** Additional town halls for the UCR community and in partnership with RUSD will be held as more information is available including to gather community input if/when RUSD does wish to formally consider a site.