

TUSD Kids First – For Immediate Release

Why a Functional, Efficient and Growing TUSD is good for our Kids and for the City of Tucson.

September 28, 2016, Tucson, AZ – TUSD Kids First, a non-partisan and Independent Expenditure Committee, has a specific goal to make the Tucson Unified School District a functional, efficient and growing school district. This simple and much desired positive change would greatly impact the Kids within TUSD and the City of Tucson.

For the Kids of TUSD...

A functional Governing Board would provide a focus on the children attending TUSD schools and the teachers that are doing miracles in the classroom. Simply by moving the \$11M in excess administrative costs into the classroom would provide a great start. To empower the principals and those closest to our children would bring TUSD to the next level. The results would be school openings rather than school closures as parents would choose their neighborhood schools rather than distant alternatives. As Jim Lovelace, CPA and co-chair of TUSD Kids First stated last week, "Growing TUSD enrollment while having minimal teacher vacancies are two successful measurements of the Governing Board. The Board, now and in the future, should be held accountable to these standards."

For the City of Tucson...

As Robert Sarver (Phoenix Suns, Alliance Bank) stated recently, for Tucson to be a city attracting good businesses it needs a highly rated and positively performing public school system. When a company such as Caterpillar looks at Tucson they must get past the underperformance of TUSD in order to relocate here. They often look at schools in Vail, Catalina Foothills or Amphi to address this issue with their employees. The dysfunction at TUSD also shows itself in the price of our own homes. It is common for a home in TUSD to be as much as \$20,000 cheaper than a similar home in an adjoining district such as Vail. Kathy Campbell, a homebuilder and co-chair of TUSD Kids First, states, "As a community we need our school district healthy and growing to attract great companies and to eliminate the housing penalty that exists for all of us living within the Tucson Unified School District".

It is time for us to think about the kids of TUSD and for the community as a whole. Let's put aside partisan politics and do the right thing for our children and for the City of Tucson.

PLEASE VOTE FOR RUSTAND / STEGEMAN / BETTS !!!

About TUSD Kids First

TUSD Kids First is a non-partisan and Independent Expenditure Committee dedicated to improving the Tucson Unified School District for all children and teachers while providing a safe learning environment that is relentlessly focused on student achievement. More information at <http://tusdkidsfirst.org>

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