

Ramona Unified School District

Board of Trustees

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE Ramona Unified School District URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA TO REINSTATE STANDARDIZED MATH ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR STEM ADMISSIONS

WHEREAS, the University of California suspended standardized testing requirements beginning in 2020 and adopted a fully test-blind admissions policy by the 2023–24 admissions cycle, permanently eliminating consideration of SAT and ACT scores in undergraduate admissions; and

WHEREAS, a November 2025 report from a UC San Diego Senate–Administration Workgroup on Admissions found that the share of incoming freshmen requiring math remediation has increased over 20-fold, from approximately 0.5% of the incoming class in 2020 to nearly 12% in 2025, since the University of California first suspended standardized testing requirements; and

WHEREAS, UC faculty report that instructors must now reteach middle school mathematics concepts while simultaneously delivering college-level coursework in STEM fields, placing at risk the academic success and degree completion of students admitted without adequate preparation; and

WHEREAS, the same November 2025 UCSD report further found that among students placed into remedial math, 25% had earned a perfect 4.0 high school math GPA, demonstrating that high school grades alone do not reliably predict college math readiness; and

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology reinstated standardized test requirements in 2022 after its own research demonstrated that standardized test scores, particularly in mathematics, substantially improve the assessment of academic preparedness across all programs — a finding that has since been cited repeatedly in the national debate over test-blind admissions; and

WHEREAS, College Board research (2023) found that SAT math scores improve prediction of first-year STEM grade-point averages by 38% beyond what high school GPA alone can predict, confirming that standardized math assessment provides a strong, independent signal of college readiness that grades do not capture; and

WHEREAS, more than 3,000 UC faculty members — including more than 2,300 UC STEM faculty (among them seven of nine UC Mathematics Department Chairs and more than 50 STEM department chairs) and more than 900 additional humanities, social science, law, and education faculty who joined in June 2026 — have signed open letters urging the UC Board of Regents and Academic

Senate to reinstate standardized math score requirements for STEM applicants beginning with the 2027–28 admissions cycle; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2026, the UC Academic Senate’s Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) adopted a Policies and Partnerships Roadmap establishing two faculty-led workgroups — one on standardized tests and one on A-G course requirements — with any resulting recommendations subject to UC Regents approval; and

WHEREAS, UC Regents Policy 2102: Policy on Undergraduate Admissions states that the University’s entrance requirements “are designed to ensure that all eligible students are adequately prepared for University-level work,” and the current test-blind admissions policy has demonstrably failed to meet this standard, as evidenced by the over 20-fold increase in incoming students requiring math remediation; and

WHEREAS, Regents Policy 2102 further directs the University to “enroll the largest possible number of qualified students consistent with the maintenance of the quality of instruction,” and the admission of students requiring remediation in middle school mathematics compromises both the quality of STEM instruction and the academic prospects of underprepared students; and

WHEREAS, meaningful equity in college outcomes requires matching students with academic programs for which they possess the foundational preparation to succeed; admitting students into STEM programs without verified math readiness does not advance equity - it increases the risk of course failure, academic difficulty, and degree incompleteness; and

WHEREAS, Ramona Unified School District is committed to preparing all students for rigorous, successful post-secondary education and has a direct interest in ensuring that the University of California’s admissions standards accurately reflect the preparation required for STEM academic success;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Ramona Unified School District hereby expresses its strong support for the reinstatement of SAT or ACT math score requirements as a component of the University of California’s admissions process for undergraduate STEM programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board calls upon the UC Board of Regents and the UC Academic Senate to act on the faculty’s recommendation before the 2027–28 admissions cycle, prioritizing student preparedness and long-term academic success over admissions criteria that have demonstrably failed to identify students prepared for STEM coursework; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs the Superintendent to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the UC Board of Regents, the UC Office of the President, the Academic Senate’s Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools, and the Governor of California; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board encourages all California public school districts to consider adopting similar resolutions in support of evidence-based admissions standards that serve the genuine long-term success of all students.

ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of Ramona Unified School District
on September 10, 2026, by unanimous voice vote.

The motion carried unanimously.

Rodger Dohm, Clerk of the Governing Board
Ramona Unified School District