

# TJAAG's Positions in Support of TJHSST Admissions Process Changes

## Remove Test & Follow Data

- Remove *all* components of the admissions exam requirement—including the problem-solving essay. Transition to a more equitable application process.
- Track detailed applicant and admissions process data for a minimum of four (4) years to provide adequate data for a complete study of the process and culture change impacts.
- Studies have shown that classroom performance is a better predictor of academic success than performance on standardized tests.<sup>1</sup>

## Remove Teacher Recommendations

- Remove teacher recommendations, as they reflect biases. FCPS's teacher demographics are vastly different from the demographics of its students. These biases are also reflected in the recommendations for AAP data.

## Accelerate the Timeline

- Historically, this is an issue that has been studied, and all other incremental changes attempted have failed to have significant impact. **Bolder changes are required now.**

“

"If not us, then who?  
If not now, then **when?**"

”

—John Lewis

## Fund Support Programs

- Funding for additional support programs (e.g., Young Scholars and Visions) and FCPS roles (e.g., Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee and its Equity Staff positions) should be restored expeditiously.

## Merit Lottery is Critical

- The Merit Lottery will improve both the representative diversity and the culture of TJ; a two-tier system will do the opposite.

## Don't Require Private Tutoring to Succeed

- Private tutoring services are frequently leveraged for success at TJ. The system should not reward access to those resources so much that students without get left behind.

## Public Education Should Empower Students

- Public school education is not about accelerating the most advantaged but about how to enable the most opportunity.
- Just as no one judges the quality of a hospital by the condition of its patients being admitted, TJ's excellence should be judged by the growth and development of its students.

## Additional TJHSST Admissions Changes Support From



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<sup>1</sup> [Test Scores Do Not Equal Merit: Enhancing Equity & Excellence in College Admissions by Deemphasizing SAT and ACT Results](#). Rooney, Charles. September 1998. FairTest.org