

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Roskruge Boundary Proposal

What is the boundary proposal and when will it happen? To make Roskruge an application-only school. Currently, grades 6-8 are application only (no-neighborhood boundary); the proposal would also make grades K-5 application only for SY 2020-21.

If approved, who will this impact and how?

- **Current students** (including those applying for 2019-20) are grandfathered –this will not affect their enrollment.
- **Future K-1st graders from Roskruge/Richey** will have enrollment preference –this will not affect their enrollment.
- **Future 2–8 graders from Roskruge/Richey** can open enroll by passing a screener, with priority over other students
- **Future 2–8 graders** can open enroll if they are transferring from another TWDL program or by passing a language screener.
- **Current 5th grade students enrolled in a TWDL elementary school** will have priority to enroll in 6th grade at Roskruge.

What is Two-Way Dual Language (TWDL)? A dual language immersion model where native English and Spanish speakers serve as both language models and language learners to develop bilingualism and biliteracy, high academic achievement, and cross-cultural competency. Research shows the TWDL “90:10 model” is the best for creating high achievement and bilingualism.

What is the 90:10 model? The first number refers to the amount of instructional time in Spanish in kindergarten and first grade (90%); the second refers to English instruction (10%). Spanish decreases yearly as English increases until there is a 50:50 balance by fifth grade. Students are on a pathway to achieve the Arizona State Seal of Biliteracy on their high school diploma.

How will this proposal improve academic achievement for my student? Neighborhood students now can enroll in Roskruge even if they have no interest in dual language. The proposal strengthens academic rigor for 600+ students by enrolling only students interested in dual language. Research shows TWDL students outperform peers on academic assessments.

Aren't you excluding students in 2-8 grade who don't speak Spanish? All students, regardless of language ability, can enter the program at Kindergarten and 1st grade. In grades 2-8, a screener will be used to identify students who are prepared to handle academic instruction in Spanish at grade level.

Are you “moving” the Richey neighborhood – again? Richey students will have the same right to enroll at Roskruge as they have now at Kinder or 1st grade and have the option to enroll in their new “home” school if they do not want dual language.

How will Richey students get to their new “home” school? The District provides free transportation to Roskruge and to the new designated “home” school. One school under consideration (Tully) is closer to the Richey neighborhood than Roskruge; the other school under consideration (Cragin) is the same driving distance as Roskruge – about ten minutes away.

How were stakeholders notified of this proposal? Letters and ParentLink calls to parents of K-5 children in the Roskruge/Richey areas; notices at potentially-affected schools; press release for neighborhood meetings; online landing pages on school websites with links to survey (in English and Spanish). The District has participated in 12 meetings over two months:

- Mon Jan 28 530pm Meeting with PTA
- Wed Jan 30 130-3pm Discussion with Mendoza Plaintiffs’ counsel and representative
- Wed Feb 6 415pm Meeting with Roskruge Site Council
- Sat Feb 9 10am Meeting with Roskruge parents and community at large
- Mon Feb 11 6-8pm Boundary Cmtee meeting w/ reps from Roskruge, Safford, Tully, Cragin, Howell, Plaintiffs
- Wed Feb 20 130-3pm Discussion with Fisher Plaintiffs’ counsel and representative
- Mon Feb 25 6-8pm Boundary Cmtee mtg w/ reps from Roskruge, Safford, Tully, Cragin, Howell, Manzo, Hughes, Plaintiffs
- Wed Feb 27 3-430pm Meeting with Roskruge leadership, teachers, and staff
- Mon Mar 4 6-8pm Roskruge Neighborhood Meeting
- Tues Mar 5 6-8pm Richey Neighborhood Meeting
- Thurs Mar 7 630-7pm Meeting with the West University Neighborhood Association
- Mon Mar 11 5-6pm Meeting with Roskruge parents and community at large
- Mon Mar 11 6-8pm Boundary Cmtee mtg w/ reps from Roskruge, Safford, Tully, Cragin, Howell, Manzo, Hughes, Plaintiffs

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Roskruge Magnet Proposal

What is the magnet proposal? The District is proposing to change “Roskruge TWDL Magnet” to “Roskruge TWDL Academy” by removing the “magnet” status and retaining all of the benefits of being a magnet, including:

- **Improving integration:** continue to diversify its student body (school went from 85% to 77% Latino in five years)
- **Improving academic achievement:** strengthen the TWDL program through an application-only model; implementation of a TWDL framework and site handbook; and the development and application of a comprehensive TWDL plan (due Sept 1, 2019)
- **Free transportation:** continue to provide “dual-language” transportation rather than “magnet” transportation
- **Desegregation funding:** continue to fund Roskruge as a TWDL program (the District funds nine non-magnet TWDL programs)
- **Enrichment opportunities (sports, mariachi, etc.):** continue to provide enrichment activities to support the TWDL program
- **Two-Way Dual Language:** continue to offer, and strengthen, the TWDL program that was the school’s “magnet” theme
- **Family Engagement:** continue to engage families through Cafecito parent meetings, PTA/Site Council, parent conferences, etc.
- **Professional Development:** continue to support staff through the Language Acquisition department and TWDL training

How can the District support the school and the program with desegregation funding if it removes the magnet? The District has been supporting bilingual education with desegregation funding for more than 40 years and will continue to do so. Desegregation funding for bilingual education has never been dependent on magnet status (the District funds nine non-magnet TWDL programs)

The word “magnet” means something to parents, won’t Roskruge lose enrollment if the word “magnet” is removed? The District is proposing to change “Roskruge TWDL Magnet” to “Roskruge TWDL Academy” to highlight the unique attractiveness of its program. Moreover, we will continue (and perhaps increase) marketing, outreach, and recruitment efforts. Roskruge currently has a waitlist and the District is implementing several initiatives to boost enrollment districtwide in the face of declining enrollment.

What are the potential benefits or consequences to removing magnet status?

Potential Benefits	Potential Consequences
Certainty for students and families: no ongoing threat of “losing” the magnet status every 1-2 years. The Court has ordered the District to maintain accountability for academic achievement and integration even if it removes the magnet.	Reduce accountability: as a magnet, Roskruge is held to strict academic and integration criteria *however, if the District removes magnet status, the Court has <u>ordered</u> the District to continue to work towards improving academic quality and integration
The District can move in a new, different direction rather than continuing down a path that has not worked to significantly improve integration or achievement	The District may find that removing the boundary helps integration and would have helped the magnet *however, if the District removes magnet status, the Court has <u>ordered</u> the District to reconsider magnet status be reinstated in the future

Isn’t the District only doing this to avoid accountability? As evidenced by the increased focus on District efforts to “build and expand” dual language over the past five years (from the Court, the Special Master, the Mendoza Plaintiffs), there is little to no chance that the District will “avoid” accountability by attempting to make Roskruge its flagship TWDL program. Moreover, the Court has ordered the District to continue to work to improve academic quality and to improve integration if it removes the magnet.