Concerns that have been raised in regard to embedding Fullerton College classes into the schedule at Buena Park High School.

1. Why do Fullerton College (FC) and Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHSD) want to pursue this endeavor?

> There is already in place a widely accepted procedure for high school students preparing for college Students in many high schools can currently take AP and be cleared for college freshman composition or even given credit for it once they take the AP test at the end—so why the redundancy of college courses?

The target audience for these courses is students that would traditionally not consider college as an option after high school. The thought is that allowing them the opportunity to take college classes while enrolled in high school will help them to realize that college is obtainable and continuation after graduation from high school should be considered as a real possibility.

Students completing the embedded FC courses will earn college credit. This will have benefits for students including a better position in the registration queue, the possibility of accelerating the completion of their educational goal, and a better understanding of the difference in expectations in college as compared to high school classes. Possible benefits to FC include the possibility of increasing completion rates, and helping to better serve under-represented students.

2. Will the fact that a class is made up of high school students impact the contents of the course?

If a course is embedded in the high school day what will be the expectation in regard to material or topics that might be deemed by some to be of a controversial nature?

The courses offered in the high school will be FC courses that are taught according to the COR. Students (and their parents) will understand going into these courses that the courses will be run and taught as a college course. They will agree upon entire that this might mean controversial topics or material. If a student or parent is uncomfortable with the material they have the option not to participate. FJUHSD understands this and will support the College in offering classes that do not compromise the level of instruction.

3. Will the structure of the course, the curriculum, and control be impacted by embedding FC courses in the high school day?

The FC courses offered at Buena Park High School will be FC classes. This means the curriculum will follow the COR, the class size will be governed by the size indicated in the curriculum, instructors will be hired by FC utilizing the standard hiring practices, and student behavior issues will be dealt with according to college procedures. Students (and their parents) will understand this going in and the FJUHSD has already indicated that they will support the college in caring out courses in this indicated fashion.

4. How will courses be structured to fit the high school scheduling pattern and what impact will this have on the instructor of record, etc.?

The determination of exactly how classes will be scheduled has not been finalized so I will use one of the suggestions to illustrate how this might look. If we are scheduling a 3 unit lecture course that meets 54 hours per semester the students would have a 1.5 hour block in their schedule Monday through Friday. For the FC course they would meet on Monday and Wednesday during this block of time. During this three hour time period each week they would receive instruction from their FC professor who is the instructor of record for this three unit course. On Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday the student is on high school time and what happens during this time is the concern of the high school and the student, not the college. It has been suggested that during this time the student might be involved in supplemental instruction, or tutoring. Activities that a student that takes classes on the FC campus could receive through services provided by ASC and other support services. Although what a student is doing during the time they are not in the FC class is the concern of FJUHSD and not FC, the College should encourage that activities that occur during this time should support student success in the same way that we encourage students on campus to utilize the various programs that exist to support student success (e.g., SI, use of ASC, etc.).

5. Courses embedded in the high school day taught at the high school does not allow a student to experience a typical college experience.

This comment has been made throughout the current conversation about offering FC courses at Buena Park High School. I ask the reader to describe a typical college experience. That experience will be different depending if one goes away to a four-year institution far away from home or drives to a four-year or two-year institution that is close to home. Does the student live at home or on their own? Is the student married or single, have kids, and work. Is the student coming to college right out of high school or returning after many years of absence from the educational environment. I could go on with the different variable that impact what is a “typical” college experience. My point is that it is different for most of us. The idea that is being proposed in regard to embedding FC courses into the high school schedule at Buena Park High School will be different but it will be a different college experience.