**Section VI.Y. - UHS ~~Student~~ SENIOR Instructor Program.**

Every year, students,with teacher approval**,** who have distinguished themselves in their command of a certain subject area, may be allowed to assume limited teaching capacities under the auspices of and in concert with a teacher in their area of choice. The responsibilities of a ~~student~~ **SENIOR** Instructor (S.I.) could include individualized in-class tutoring, constructing homework problems, and facilitating small group discussions and test reviews.

**VI.Y.1.** ~~Student~~ **SENIOR** Instructors (S.I.s) must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. ~~11~~~~th~~ ~~and~~12th grade students may be considered with teacher recommendation and administrative approval.

2. Minimum unweighted 3.0 cumulative GPA, with no “D” or “F” on the student’s high school transcript.

4. History of academic integrity.

5. Students must be on track for graduation and have successfully completed the Health and PE requirements.

**VI.Y.2.** The ~~student~~ **SENIOR** Instructor program shall not be construed as serious competition to other UHS elective offerings. A student may only be an SI or a student aide once during his/her tenure at UHS.

**VI.Y.3.** A student may be assigned as a student aide by administration more than once if the purpose of the assignment is to help support the student to meet graduation requirements.

**VI.Y.4.** The exact responsibilities of an SIstudent will be stipulated in a written syllabus that has been approved by administration. The syllabus will act as a contract between the student and the teacher at the outset of the teaching period. However, this contract must include the responsibilities outlined above. The duration of an SI scholar’s duties is one year unless his/her performance deems re-evaluation at the semester. **THE UHS PRINCIPAL MUST APPROVE THE SI SYLLABUS FOR EACH TEACHER AND COURSE THAT WISHES TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE SI. THE PRINCIPAL MAY DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF SI’S FOR EACH SECTION OF EACH COURSE.**

**VI.Y.5.** If an SI receives a D or an F in any class at the semester grading period, ~~they~~ **THAT SI** will be removed from ~~their~~ **HIS/HER** SI position ~~for~~ **TO RECEIVE** academic support services.

**VI.Y.6.** As such, SI students will receive credit as a two (2) semester elective course. UHS administration shall ensure that the SI class has an appropriate TUSD course number.

**VI.Y.7. SENIOR INSTRUCTORS SHALL RECEIVE A PASS/FAIL GRADE, NOT A LETTER GRADE FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE COURSE.**

**VI.Y.8. AS PER FERPA GUIDELINES AND TUSD GOVERNING BOARD POLICY, NO SENIOR INSTRUCTOR OR STUDENT/OFFICE AIDE WILL HAVE ACCESS TO OTHER STUDENT’S GRADES OR RECORDS NOR WILL THEY BE PERMITTED TO GRADE OR ASSIGN GRADES.**

**Rationale for the Proposed Changes**

**Why does the School Council need to approve and adopt the proposed policy changes?**

1. **When originally created, the SI program was for seniors only. The expansion of the SI program from “Senior Instructor” to “Student Instructor” has caused a number of unintended consequences.**
2. **If one combines the number of SIs with the number of Teacher Aides this school year, UHS loses the equivalent of one FTE. Therefore, it is in the best interest of UHS to restrict the number of students serving as SIs.**
3. **Some students have been an SI or TA more than once, in violation of the policy. Enforcement of the policy has been made more difficult with the expansion of the SI program beyond the Senior year.**
4. **Section VI.Y.2 of the policy states that the SI program shall not be construed as a serious competition with elective courses at UHS. Expansion of the program beyond the Senior year has threatened the viability of some elective offerings at UHS.**
5. **Expansion of the SI program has caused issues of equity in grading and in enrollment as an SI. Since there has been no consistent curriculum for the SI from course to course, verification of what students have done to earn a grade for the course has been difficult. Therefore, until clarification and consistency of the SI curriculum takes place, the administration wants to be able to approve the SI syllabus for each course, determine the number of SIs for each section of each course, and mandate a pass/fail grade rather than a letter grade for the SI program.**
6. **Issues concerning potential FERPA violations have occurred in some courses that have used SIs. As the supervisors responsible for the enforcement of federal law, state statute, and board policy, the UHS administration needs the ability to prevent potential violations by making the SI program more uniform from course to course.**
7. **If UHS wants to make the SI program part of the capstone program or make it a course that counts toward the UHS FTE allotment in the foreseeable future, it must “clean up” some of the perceived defects that exist in the current program. The course must have a clear curriculum of student expectations and student performance, consistency in practice from teacher to teacher and subject to subject, and no perceived violations of FERPA or any other law or policy.**