



# PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN PARAMOUNT SCHOOLS



## Board Study Session – April 28, 2020 USC College Advising Corps

Dr. Ruth Pérez, Superintendent

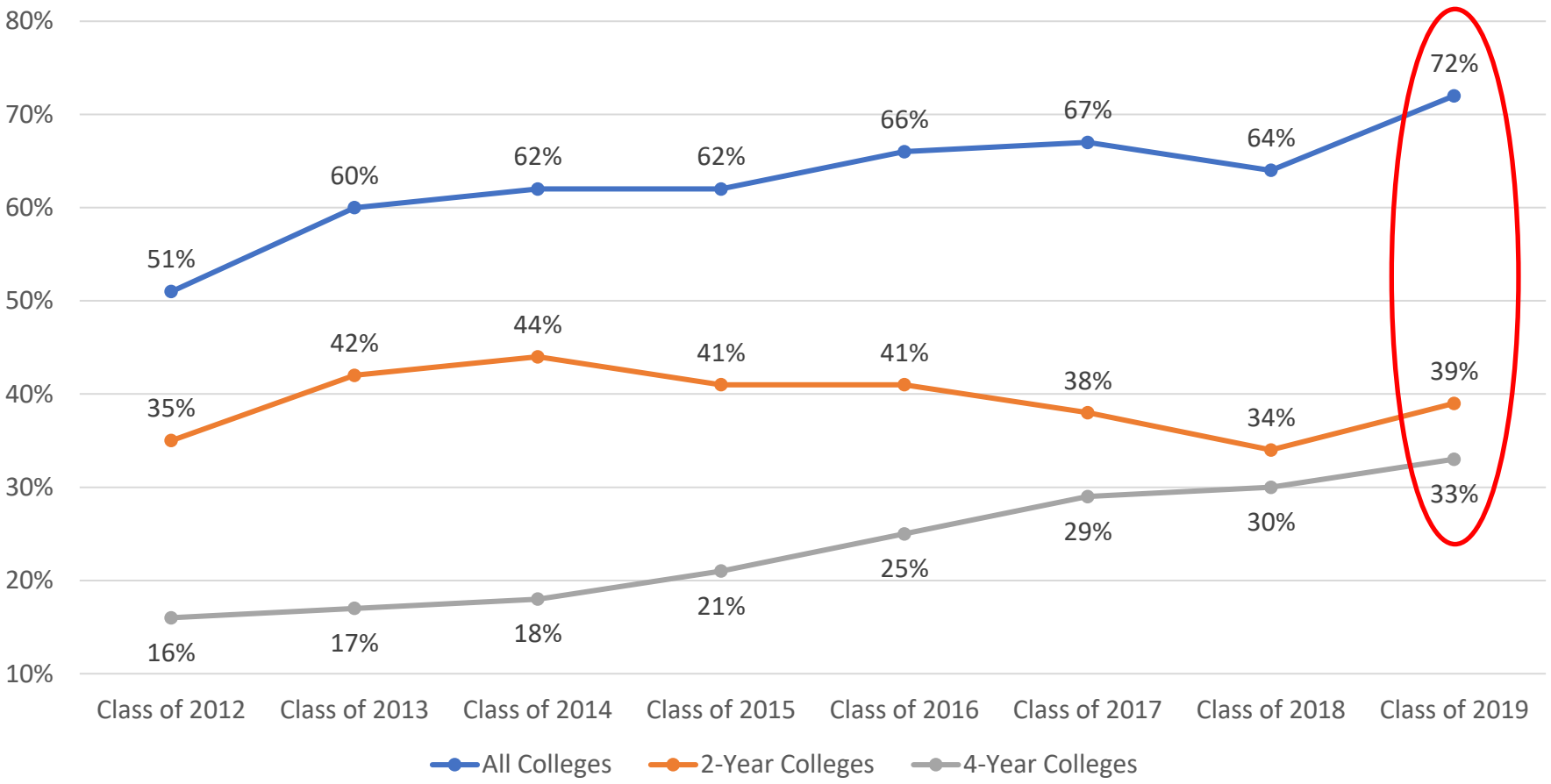
Dr. Ryan D. Smith, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Educational Services

Dr. Greg Francois, Director, Secondary Educational Services



# College Enrollment for PHS Graduates

Enrolled During First Fall Immediately After High School

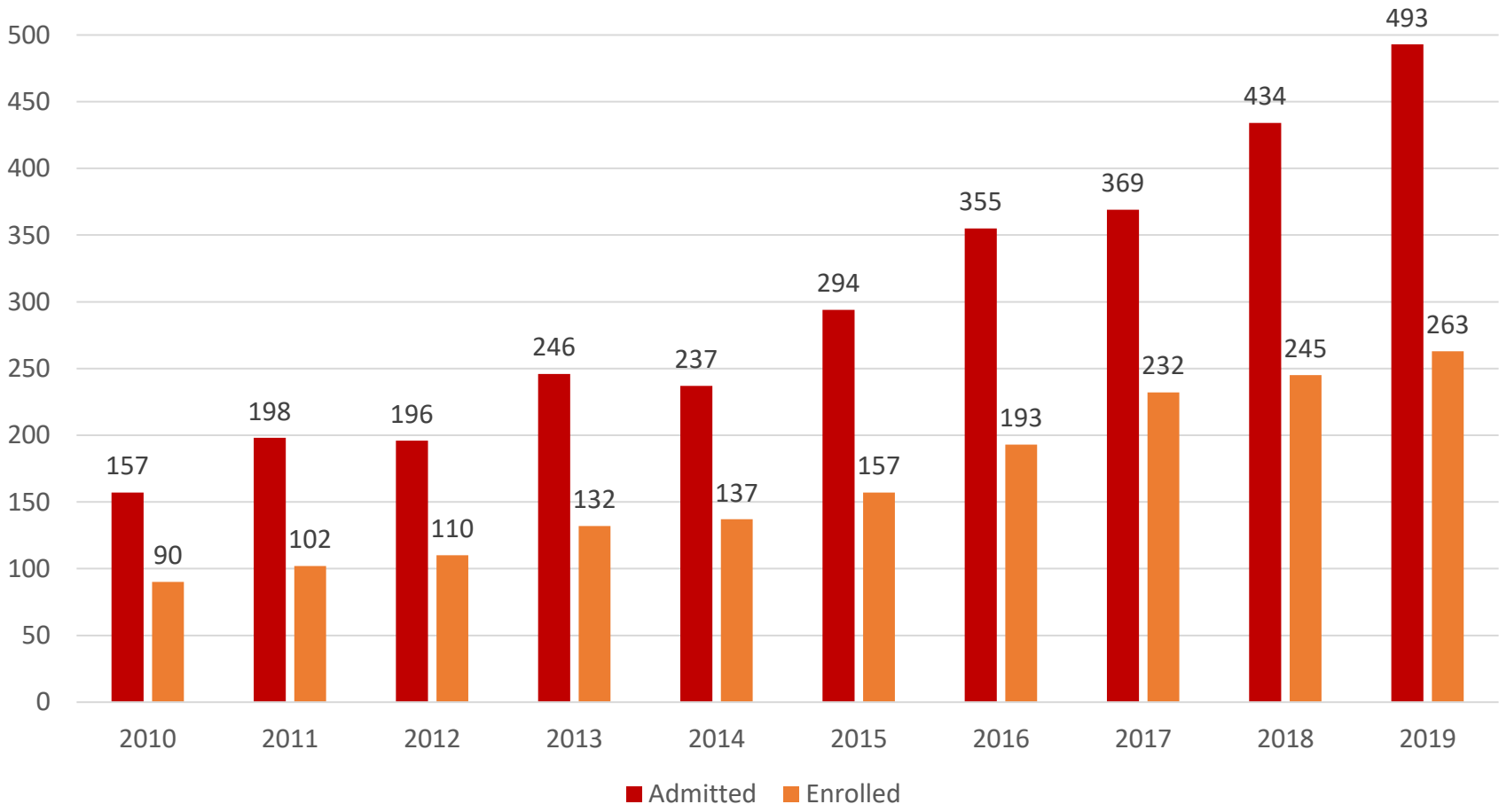


Source: National Student Clearinghouse



# California State University Admissions

Paramount High School

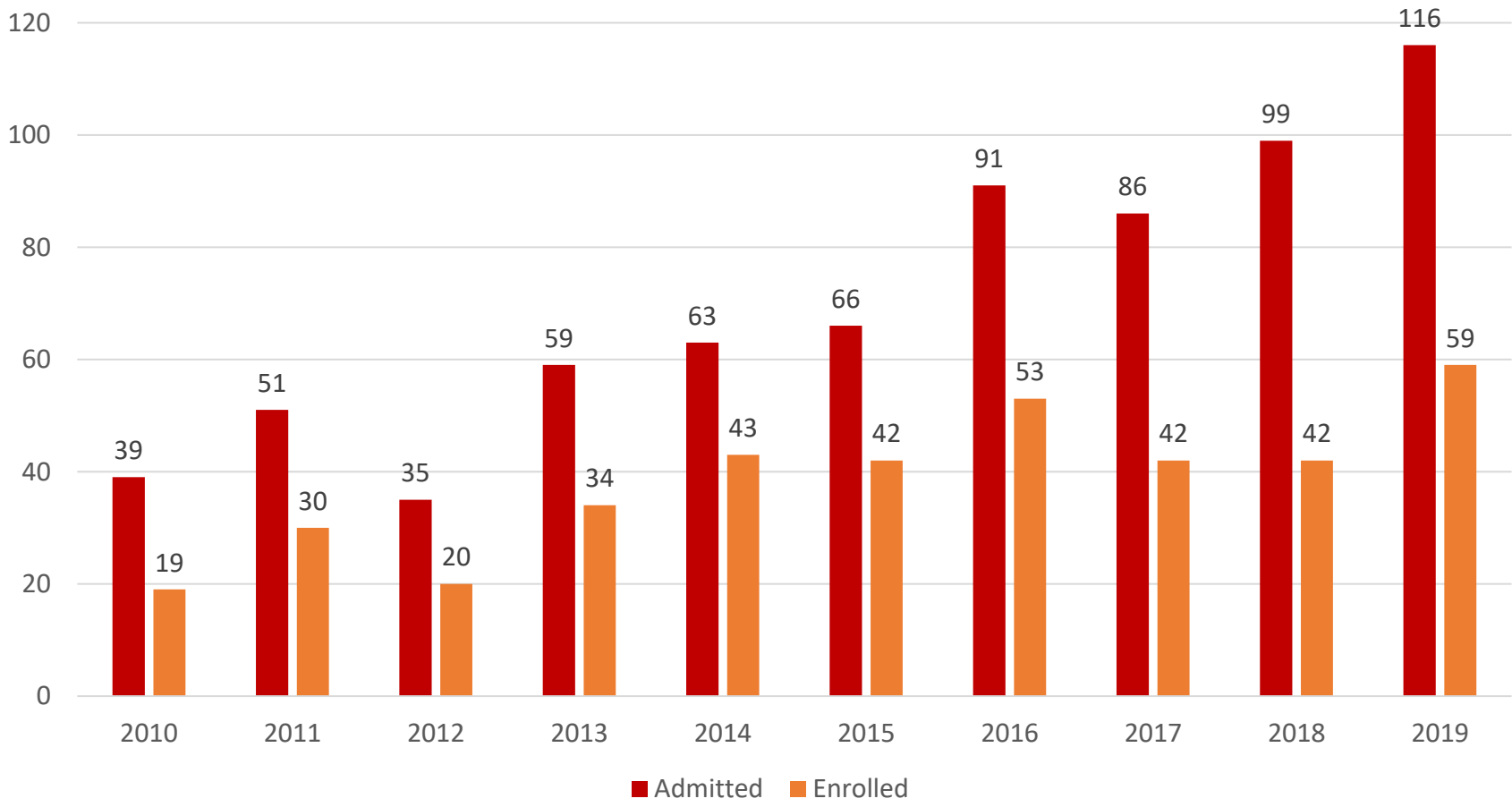


Source: California State University



# University of California Admissions

Paramount High School



Source: University of California



## Some of the Steps We've Taken to Drive College Enrollment to New Heights

- Addition of College and Career counselors
  - Dedicated College and Career Center
  - College application workshops and support
  - Scholarship application workshops and support
  - FAFSA workshops and support
- AVID
- College-Going Culture
  - District-wide emphasis
  - "Every student has a landing spot after high school"
  - College field trips



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

## Some of the Steps We've Taken to Drive College Enrollment to New Heights

- Naviance College and Career Planning Software
- College-signing celebrations
- "Summer Melt" Initiative
- Partnerships with local colleges and universities
  - Compton College – Paramount Promise
  - Cerritos College – Cerritos Complete
  - Long Beach City College – Viking Advantage
  - UC Irvine - EOP



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## An Opportunity for More Support: USC's College Advising Corps

- Established in 2013-2014
- The mission of the USC College Advising Corps is to improve college outcomes for low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented students
- The goal of the program is to raise the number of California students who attend and complete college by encouraging and assisting high school students with their college searches, college applications, financial aid, and making the transition to post-secondary education
- Partnership provides schools with a full-time college advisor
- Advisors are recent college graduates, trained and monitored by USC in partnership with school/district staff



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## An Opportunity for More Support: USC's College Advising Corps

- 44 USC college advisors currently serve 39 local high schools in 8 partner districts
- Local partner districts in Los Angeles County include:
  - Alhambra USD
  - Compton USD
  - Downey USD
  - El Monte USD
  - Long Beach USD
  - Los Angeles USD
  - Lynwood USD
- Application process to join that included:
  - Meeting with Dr. Francois and Dr. Smith
  - Meeting with PHS Administration
  - Meeting with PHS Counselors





## Benefits

- Additional college counseling/advising support from highly trained individuals is always welcome
  - Currently, 2 college/career counselors support this work at PHS ( $\approx 3,200$  students)
- Expands ability to improve college enrollment outcomes for student groups:
  - African Americans
  - Students with Disabilities
  - Males
- CAC pays 40% of the advisor's salary
  - PUSD's share of the cost would be \$36,000 per year
- Establishes our first partnership with a major private Southern California university
- Timeliness of a Partnership with USC
  - Recent announcement of free tuition for families earning  $< \$80,000$



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## Next Steps

- If accepted to participate in the program, an agreement will be brought to the Board for consideration in May
- CAC will work with PUSD to hire a college advisor
- Advisor will be trained by USC over the summer
- Advisor begins working at PHS by the first day of school