

From: Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.org 

Subject: met with david castillo and d kakashiba

Date: August 2, 2018 at 10:48 AM

To: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org, Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzales@gmail.com, rtorreslaw rtorreslaw@gmail.com

Need to share what the reason was in more detail but gist was

I reflected in july on the very late night meetings and the hours accumulated when we sit for all students and parents angry about some misguided charter issue,

it stuns me that this is not often going to affect board vote or change anything we believe about the topic since the parents or kids are being used as pawns

therefore underlying issue is how do we create a place for dialogue with some of the key stakeholders and leaders of charter orgs in oakland, and district staff like charter ofc and finance folks and others who need to connect THE DOTS of how charters growth touches all aspect of OUSD since

NO PLANNING OR ABILITY TO CONTROL THE SPRAWL

It seems we need to sit and meet at a table to begin to discuss BP 6006 issues that arose, around enrollment, ELL and SpEd students, and teachers as well as PD

then the other issue is facilities- WE ARE FIGHTING FOR LIMITED RESOURCES AND LAND David K said which is the real big issue today. but also the result of growth of charters and sadly, Castillo mentioned one more app coming soon he knows of and the reality is charters accept that need to discuss slowing down growth when it is clear that schools are online asking families to enroll as late as yesterday

All that means is schools not full and classes sit half empty so why MORE CHARTERS! they are now fighting each other for students

I am having a follow up mtg with both david's and will also ask Angelica H about issues concerning budget transparency that charters should be following but our district has NEVER DONE PROPER OVERSIGHT too many too fast sadly

I will share this with kyla in person with notes from Castillo and Kakashiba but one take away was that KYLA IS NOT CUTTING FROM THE TOP and therefore not have fans out there

her performance leads much to be desired is what i hear often

if wanna talk more call me around 1-230 in the car ok

we need coordination and trust and honesty even if we have no solutions yet, so we can have normal board meetings without hours and hours of kids parents screaming with scripts that are missing the mark on reality.


i want board mtg to be effective and sharper, but they run away with the time and it burns all out.

best

Rosie

ROSIE TORRES, DISTRICT 5
OUSD BOARD DIRECTOR

Thank you for your email. FYI the start of the new school year is August 13, 2018 which is earlier than past years, so please mark your calendars.

From: James Harris james@mmgsf.com 
Subject: Re: use this one
Date: June 27, 2018 at 3:15 PM
To: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org
Cc: info@mmgsf.com, Edgar Rakestraw edgar.rakestraw@ousd.k12.ca.us, OuFin Saechao oufin.saechao@ousd.k12.ca.us

Here is the final "friendly" with formatting edits.

On 6/27/18 3:01 PM, Aimee Eng wrote:

Will do! Am cross checking now.


On Wed, Jun 27, 2018 at 2:59 PM, James Harris <james@mmgsf.com> wrote:
there was a typo in the other one.

--

Aimee Sueko Eng
School Board Director, District 2
Oakland Unified School District
aimee.eng@ousd.org (510) 747-8393



BP-6006 -
fv5jh.pdf

From: David Weintraub dweintraub02@gmail.com 
Subject: RE: Policy 6006 Amendment by Director Gonzalez
Date: June 27, 2018 at 1:35 PM
To: Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.org
Cc: Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzaless@gmail.com

Thank you Roseann
Shanthi – I assume you have the same position.

From: Roseann Torres [<mailto:roseann.torres@ousd.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 1:22 PM
To: David Weintraub <dweintraub02@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Policy 6006 Amendment by Director Gonzalez

thank you for your email and if amendments will win 4 votes i support that or else i am a NO vote on the original 6006 policy

best
Rosie Torres

ROSIE TORRES, DISTRICT 5
OUSD BOARD DIRECTOR

Thank you for your email. FYI the start of the new school year is August 13, 2018 which is earlier than past years, so please mark your calendars.

On Tue, Jun 26, 2018 at 3:57 PM, David Weintraub <dweintraub02@gmail.com> wrote:

To the OUSD Board and Superintendent
Again on behalf of the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club and it Education Committee I urge you to vote for the amendments to Policy 6006 which will be proposed by Director Gonzalez tonight.
The reason I am writing for a second time in the same day is that a response is needed to the GO letter just sent to you by Mirella Rangel. GO, which has been a major funnel of funds from the Charter industry and outside billionaires to local Oakland Board of Education elections, is now unsurprisingly supporting prior versions of 6006 which are much more supportive of unrestrained charter growth. The objection she makes to the proposed amendments we support is “The language creates further division between the two communities. Additionally, their version places the district board’s fiduciary duties as the north star instead of quality..” She is incorrect. The proposed amendment does not “create” division. There is already division. There is an existing division as to whether this board should be clear that it has a fiduciary duty to its students. And a division as to whether the district should use the little legal clout it does have to push the charters to do the right things: not discriminate, be accountable and share best practices. The issue is not whether to have the “north star” be quality OR fiscal responsibility. You cannot have quality if you do not have sufficient resources and you are driving the district into bankruptcy. If the resources are being given away

you are driving the district into bankruptcy. If the resources are being given away which could allow the quality which all agree is needed.

GO and other opponents of a policy that clarifies the no-brainer that OUSD has a fiduciary duty to itself and the students and community it serves are simply using “quality” as a cover for the reality that they favor a transfer of public funds to private and largely uncontrolled and unaccountable hands who have thus far been guilty, minimally, of disability discrimination.

The victims of a policy which does not clarify OUSD’s fiduciary duty to its students are the 37,000 students—those at the bottom of our socio-economic system- left behind by the charters.

As a Democratic Club we are highly aware this debate between charter supporters and public school advocates is both a state and national political issue, not limited to Oakland. We are convinced that the nation-wide agenda of the well-funded pro-charter and voucher movement whose political leadership includes the Trump/DeVos administration, is undermining our democratic public school system as well as protections for those who work in schools across the country. At its core is a virulent anti-union position just as is the case for a larger pro-privatization of public institutions campaign sponsored by corporate interest and driven by corporate greed. And although some charters help educate some of those people of color and in most financial distress, the long term consequence is the furtherance of racial and economic discrimination. Please read the attached study and report published by the Network for Public Education This is why the NAACP and Black Lives Matter have called for a moratorium on any more charters.

If any policy is needed in our school district it is one that supports that call. But a good first step would be support of the proposed amendments to 6006.

David Weintraub

Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club Education Committee

From: David Weintraub [mailto:dweintraub02@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 1:13 PM

To: james.harris@ousd.org; shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org; roseann.torres@ousd.org; nina.senn@ousd.org; jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org; aimee.eng@ousd.org; jody.london@ousd.org; gema.quetzal@ousd.org; Enasia.McElvaine@ousd.org

Subject: Policy 6006 Amendment by Director Gonzalez

To the Board of Directors of the Oakland Unified School District and Superintendent Kyla Trammel-Johnson

I am writing on behalf of the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club and its Education Committee to encourage you to vote for the amendment to be proposed policy 6006. The amendment to which I refer is that which I understand will be offered by Director Gonzalez. I have attached that version.


We support the proposed amended version for several reasons. It is a long overdue policy statement which addresses the overwhelming proliferation of charter schools in our community. As is now clear from the study published by In The Public Interest charter schools are now costing the District 57 million dollars a year. This when we are in a

schools are now facing the possibility of closure every year. This when we are in a severe economic crisis causing you to cut back essential services and possibly close schools. This when we are facing the possible loss of our democratic control over our school district if the state again places us in receivership.

We are encouraged with the amendment's inclusion of both recognition that the Board has a primary fiduciary responsibility to the students in the school district (not charters removed by state law from district control) and its recognition of much needed changes in the Charter School Act. Such as the need to make fiscal impact a criteria for authorizing charters. And we are encouraged by the amendment's willingness to use the limited power our district does have over charter schools to make them be transparent in their practices and in particular stop their discriminatory admissions policies which result in not having their fair share of students with disabilities, especially severe disabilities. Please vote for this amended version of proposed Board Policy 6006.

David Weintraub

Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club Education Committee

From: Jumoke Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org 
Subject: Re: Quality Schools and BP 6006
Date: June 26, 2018 at 5:10 PM
To: Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzales@gmail.com
Cc: Shanthi Gonzales shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org, Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org, James Harris James.Harris@ousd.org

Thanks.

JHH

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 26, 2018, at 5:08 PM, Shanthi Gonzales <shanthigonzales@gmail.com> wrote:

Some of the language is lifted from my draft charter policy and some is original. Aimee and Jody have been consulted more by the community groups than I have.

Shanthi

On Tue, Jun 26, 2018 at 4:58 PM, Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org> wrote:

Hi

So I'm getting mixed messages about these amendments. Are they coming from you Shanthi or two different Community groups?!

I'd love the courtesy of knowing if you are negotiating / debating different language.

If these emails represent your language and intent, have you forwarded this to Aimee or James and I'm out of the loop?

This feels like you are organizing against the BOE. Just seeking some transparency.

Please advise

JHH

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gabrielle Zwain <gabrielle.zwain@gmail.com>
Date: June 26, 2018 at 4:04:07 PM PDT
To: james.harris@ousd.org, shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org, roseann.torres@ousd.org, Nina Senn <nina.senn@ousd.org>, Jumoke HintonHodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org>, Aimee Eng <aimee.eng@ousd.org>, jody.london@ousd.org, gema.quetzal@ousd.org, Enasia.McElvaine@ousd.org
Subject: Quality Schools and BP 6006

As you consider policy (BP 6006), put forth by Director Harris, (previously called the "System of Schools Policy"), I hope you will adopt the recommendations of Parents United For Public Schools to make amendments (see attached). I am a parent in Oakland with a soon-to-be kindergartener in Oakland. I am very concerned about the impact of charter schools on the public schools in Oakland and think that the common sense amendments suggested by Parents United for Public Schools would strengthen our local schools.

The amendments would accomplish the following:

- affirm that the OUSD Board of Education is committed to fulfilling its fiduciary duty to the students of OUSD
- use existing leverage (as charter school authorizer and land-owner) to hold charter schools to the Board's expectation that they will

provide high quality education to all Oakland students at all levels of need

--remove divisive language that contributes to distrust between the Board and parents (and other stakeholders)

I am concerned that BP 6006 as it is currently written would be a massive give away of to the charter school industry and not in the best interest of all Oakland students. Please adopt the recommended amendments.

Thank you,

--

Gabrielle Zwain
7603 Circle Hill Dr
Oakland, CA 94605
cell: [408-726-2953](tel:408-726-2953)
gabrielle.zwain@gmail.com

--

Shanthi Gonzales
Oakland School Board Director, District 6
www.gonzalesforschools.com
(510) 629-9379

From: Nilofer Ahsan nilofer33@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Board Policy 6006--Mark-up for your consideration

Date: June 24, 2018 at 4:42 PM

To: Aimee Sueko Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org, Jody London jody.london@ousd.org, Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.org, Shanthy Gonzales shanthigonzaless@gmail.com, james.harris@ousd.org, jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org, Nina Senn nina.senn@ousd.org

Cc: Jessica Gray jsgray1204@gmail.com, Hilary Bunlert hilarysunflower@yahoo.com, Jonathan Osler jonathan.osler@gmail.com, Marie-Christine Fox mariechristinefox@gmail.com, Rachel Latta ray1120@gmail.com, Diana Casanova dianavcasanova@gmail.com

NA

My apologies,

The mark-up didn't work on the PDF I sent. This version has the mark-ups highlighted.

N

Nilofer Ahsan
nilofer33@gmail.com
[312-493-3278](tel:312-493-3278)



OUSD BP 6006
Mark-u...V3.pdf



BP6006
Cover.pdf

On Jun 24, 2018, at 4:07 PM, Nilofer Ahsan <nilofer33@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Directors,

We are writing regarding the proposed board policy 6006. We commend the board for taking on the difficult and charged question of how, through its policies and practices, OUSD can work toward a unified plan that will prioritize quality, equity and sustainability across all public schools. Given the deep divides within our community, the current fiscal crisis within the district schools, and the policy landscape that currently exists we feel that it is important for any policy that is put forward to recognize certain tensions (detailed in the letter attached). In addition we are attaching a suggested mark-up of the proposed policy.

Again, we appreciate that the board has taken on this difficult conversation and respectfully offer the following amendments to the proposed policy.

Equity Allies

<OUSD BP 6006 Mark-up red-line V2.pdf>
<BP6006 Cover.pdf>

From: Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.org 

Subject: Re: Amendments to Board Policy 6006

Date: June 24, 2018 at 2:33 PM

To: Jody London jody.london@ousd.org, Parents United parentsunitedforpublicschools@gmail.com, Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzales@gmail.com

RT

Thank you for suggested changes of which i agree

I do not wish to vote for 6006 but with changes that enforce who our duty is to protect from further erosion as in the district, i would vote for it.

Best
Rosie

On Sun, Jun 24, 2018 at 2:26 PM Parents United <parentsunitedforpublicschools@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Directors:

As we have communicated before, we have grave concerns that Board Policy 6006 was not designed to assure a high-quality public education for all Oakland students, but to serve as a transfer of OUSD resources to charter schools which we know are not serving all children, and is really just the policy embodiment of GO's 1Oakland initiative.

We have heard from multiple members of your body that that is not the intention, and we want to take you at your word. As written, however, the policy is not complete and we therefore ask that you consider the attached amendments to Board Policy 6006, developed in collaboration with other community partners, which we believe would better meet the Board's stated outcome of assuring high-quality public schools for all Oakland students.

The amendments we are suggesting would accomplish the following:

- Affirm that the OUSD Board of Education is committed to fulfilling its fiduciary duty to the students of Oakland Unified School District - something that is missing from both the language and the tone of Board Policy 6006 as written;
- Affirm that it is the intention of the OUSD Board of Education to use its existing leverage as both a charter school authorizer and a land-owner to hold charter schools to the Board's expectation that they provide a high-quality public education to ALL Oakland students at ALL levels of need, but especially those with the highest needs; and
- Remove divisive language that contributes to distrust between the Board and diverse stakeholder groups.

We respectfully request that you make the attached amendments to Board Policy 6006. We strongly believe that doing so will demonstrate your commitment to a meaningful Citywide vision for improving educational outcomes for all children. Alternatively, failing to do so will show that Board Policy 6006 is, indeed, what the community has repeatedly expressed we fear: the first step towards a massive give-away of District resources to charter schools, disguised in meaningless feel-good rhetoric.

Sincerely,

Parents United for Public Schools

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.org 

Subject: Great info from voter- fBoard Policy discussion

Date: June 4, 2018 at 2:12 PM

To: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org, Jody London jody.london@ousd.org, Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzaes@gmail.com

RT

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jan Malvin <janmalvin@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jun 3, 2018 at 9:05 PM

Subject: Board Policy discussion

To: <roseann.torres@ousd.org>

Dear Rosie,

I went to the System of Schools board study session with Derek Mitchell and appreciated all of your comments. I've been reading the education reform literature supporting charter schools and have run into "system of schools" ideas in various articles. I have concerns about implementation of the proposed Board Policy 6006.

"System of Schools" is a term of art which has a specialized meaning in the charter sector. It was popularized in a book by [Andy Smarick](#) (2012) which assumes the urban school system is irreparably broken and must be replaced by a set of charter schools.

The "system of schools" frame provides the charter sector the rationale to build "compacts" across sectors to break down barriers to district facilities and assets. The pro-charter [Center for Reinventing Public Education](#) promotes this strategy to jump-start the slowdown of charter school growth in [cities such as Oakland](#).

By using "system of schools" terminology as well as "portfolio" language the Board is buying into the [vision of the future](#) urban school district conceived by pro-charter/corporate education reformers.

I've looked at all versions of BP6006 and don't believe the Board can wordsmith its way to a meaningful policy with practical implications that benefit OUSD. The district and charter sectors are competitors and they play by different sets of rules. Does the Board really want to divert staff resources to implement this proposed policy?

GO, with their 1Oakland campaign, is positioned to become central to the configuration of this new "system." They will use the opportunity to leverage their demands for common enrollment, specific facilities, and local tax funds.

GO is primarily concerned with the health and growth of the charter sector. Last time I checked in 2016, GO's political action committee received 94% of its funding from school privatizers outside of Oakland such as CCSA, Michael Bloomberg, and Arthur Rock.

I realize it may be hard for you to criticize GO publicly because they are local and have resources for community organizing, social media, and political campaigns. But they are part of the problem, not part of the solution.

Thank you for your consideration of these ideas.

Sincerely,

Jan Malvin

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: James Harris james@mmgsf.com

Subject: Re: With edits from this am...

Date: June 3, 2018 at 12:58 PM

To: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org, Jumoke Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org

Cc: hintonhodge4oakland@gmail.com, Jumoke Hodge jumoke.hodge@ousd.k12.ca.us

JH

Yes. You're right. Made the edit on the first sentence. Attached with that revision.

On your second comment, what suggestions do you have? Removal or revision?

Would it be more clear if it read, **"it's our responsibility to ensure public funds and assets are managed and allocated equitably."**

In terms of the feedback from Kyla:

I agree with you that that's already in the policy. I have no problem additional clarifying language. I will review review it with her when we meet this week. Could incorporate her feedback on the floor.

The ask around policies is that she use the policies to guide the work and work with the board to revise the policies that need it. Why would we restrict her from using some version of the Asset Management or Facilities or Enrollment policies as she's developing a "city-wide" plan. Wouldn't she want to reference those policies?

Let me know! Thanks for taking the time on a Sunday!

On 6/3/18 12:34 PM, Aimee Eng wrote:

Hi James -

I think there is a word missing in this sentence: **The Board of Education no longer leaves how we will increase access to high quality schools or our role as a governing body as it relates to our system of schools.**

I also still take issue with this sentence as it relates to the policy: Where the public dollar is concerned, it is our responsibility to ensure the equitable management and allocation of all funds and assets within our purview.

Feedback from Kyla:

Kyla had suggested we include in the first paragraph something along the lines of -- "Although we may operate as separate governing boards, we are unified in our commitment to ensuring access to high-quality schools." -- or something to that effect that recognizes that although we are distinctly different, we are committed to the same goal of education ALL of our students. I think this is already included in the first paragraph. She had also talked about pulling out Facilities and Enrollment separately as part of the "How" we do this work. For Facilities, we could ask staff to create criteria or guiding principles for long-term facility lease agreements (and Prop 51) which would prioritize how charter partners who are operating high quality and inclusive schools. The Enrollment piece would be important to ensure stable enrollment patterns where there is more predictability around feeder patterns and takes into account neighboring schools.

Not sure how to best incorporate this feedback at this point.

Aimee

On Sun, Jun 3, 2018 at 12:15 PM, Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org> wrote:

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 3, 2018, at 12:14 PM, James Harris <james@mmgsf.com> wrote:

>

> Hello and Happy Sunday!

> Here is the latest version that came as a result of the meeting Nina and I had yesterday morning. She is making some final minor edits, but not sure if she will have time to finish before this evening. I'm good to go for Weds if ya'll are.

>

>

>

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> <System of Schools Policy - June 2 - v4 .doc>

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Aimee Sueko Eng
School Board Director, District 2
Oakland Unified School District

| aimee.eng@ousd.org (510) 747-8393



System of
School...v4 .doc

From: **Hae_Sin Thomas** hthomas@efcps.net

Subject: YOUR LEADERSHIP!

Date: January 25, 2016 at 11:33 PM

To: James Harris james@mmgsf.com, James Harris james.harris@ousd.k12.ca.us

HT

Thanks. I appreciate you. A LOT. Your speech at the end - well, it was the right closing note. So don't TELL me you aren't returning to the school board. Because you know your leadership is INTEGRAL to move some shit forward and to retain our superintendent.

NOW, some feedback...

I am worried about "who" gets engaged in these engagements. Can you please send me all of the board engagement dates for the remainder of the school year so I can bring some less "white" voice to the engagements? How many d7 voices? Hmm... I appreciate they came out, but the army of white women talking serious shit about my schools was getting on my nerves... I called Nikki and told her to find the angry "colorful" voices... cause we have some. Ask an 8th grader about the number of applications they are filling out right now... Ask a parent at Cox about their middle school options. Ask an ASCEND or Lazear parent about paying "rent" or suddenly not getting parcel tax dollars because they switched "allegiance". I need some notice to get the people in the room. And WHENEVER you need me or my folks, you email/call and we will come. Real folks (not the "charter" folks...)... like Olis, like Jeff Andrade, like kids and teachers and families...

Thanks. Don't go anywhere. I mean it. We got some shit to do.

Hae-Sin



Education for Change
Public Schools


Chief Executive Officer

c: [510-759-1331](tel:510-759-1331)

www.efcps.org

COX ACADEMY was recently renewed at Alameda County Office of Education.

[Check out all that is happening at COX!](#)

From: Lakisha Young lakisha@theoaklandreach.org 
Subject: Re: Please pass a balanced budget that supports and educates our kids
Date: May 22, 2018 at 7:41 PM
To: Mirella Rangel mirella@gopublicschools.org
Cc: Jumoke Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org, Lakisha Young lakisha@theoaklandreach.org

LY

He's not in Oakland equity allies

Sent from my iPhone

On May 22, 2018, at 5:36 PM, Mirella Rangel <mirella@gopublicschools.org> wrote:

This looks like the work of the Equity Allies. I'll see if I can learn more about their priorities now.

Mirella

On Tue, May 22, 2018 at 5:14 PM Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org> wrote:
FYI

Do you know who organizes this campaign!?

Gotten a few emails.
Expect many more.
But they always roll anonymously.

I actually saw a format out of Denver I'd love to share with y'all get your thoughts. Budget transparency.

Best
JHH

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mike Pitler <mike@workshop1.com>
Date: May 22, 2018 at 12:26:22 PM PDT
To: Rachel Pomerantz <rachelkpomerantz@gmail.com>, Aimee Eng <aimee.eng@ousd.org>, Jumoke HintonHodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org>, Nina Senn <nina.senn@ousd.org>, roseann.torres@ousd.org, shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org, james.harris@ousd.org
Subject: Please pass a balanced budget that supports and educates our kids

Dear Board Members,

-

Stop spending money that is not effective in educating our children!

I am writing to demand that you take accountability for your mistakes as a Board and prioritize our children for the 2018-19 budget.

Develop a new budget process that is transparent, prioritizes equity, and authentically engages community

Publish detailed Central office budgets. We have a right to know where over \$200M dollars (that is not going to schools) is being spent and whether it is effective year after year in educating our students.

Hold public hearings where every Central dept must present their budget, report on outcomes and justify their level of spending. If an expenditure doesn't result in a measurable improvement in student learning, we simply can't afford it.

Establish internal controls and accountability mechanisms to stop a culture of over-spending throughout OUSD.

Put Resources in the Hands of School Communities:

Comply with your own policy passed in 2014, which requires you to put 88% of our resources in schools and classrooms and have no more than 12% in Central office (this includes Central, Infrastructure, and Central Supports to Schools). Keep staff (paid for by Central) that work directly with kids in schools such as nurses, counselors, restorative justice staff, etc. We need to be budgeting for student learning impact.

Put resources in the hands of school communities. Decisions need to be made by those closest to the kids and those most impacted.

Your most important job as an elected School Board Director is to pass a balanced budget that supports and educates our kids. It's time for you to do it.

Thank you,

Mike Pitler, A Peralta Parent and Oakland Business Owner

mike pitler | principal

[953 w. macarthur blvd. | oakland ca 94608](#)

cell | [510.368.1499](#)

phone/fax | [415.523.0304](#) x2

[<image001.png>](#)

[1. development, architecture and brokerage in one practice](#)

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Mirella Rangel

Director of Community Organizing

GO Public Schools Oakland

GO Public Schools Advocates Oakland


Office: [\(510\) 868-8800](#) | Cell: [510-390-3404](#)

134 Linden Street Oakland, CA 94607

www.gopublicschoolsoakland.org

[Become a GO Advocate. Give Monthly.](#)



From: Jumoke Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org 
Subject: Re: Charter School Backers Threat to Oakland's Public Schools
Date: May 11, 2018 at 6:38 PM
To: Mirella Rangel mirella@gopublicschools.org

JH

Yes

I really think we can play at the same game.
And maybe in a way to teach.

Let's talk soon

Bless
JHH

Sent from my iPhone

On May 11, 2018, at 6:34 PM, Mirella Rangel <mirella@gopublicschools.org> wrote:

Hi Jumoke,
Thank you for sharing. Demonizing and "othering" folks who are dedicated to working for Oakland's students won't get us far and it looks like it's the only tool their toolkit.

We should distinguish ourselves from them.

It is time we strategized a collective narrative and work together to re-focus the conversation on students, especially those least served by the system now. Dirk, David, Max, Lakisha, Isaac, and Charles, are you down to join us in this effort? I really don't think we can do this without you.

Email me directly if you are up game.

Thanks,

Mirella Rangel
Director of Community Organizing
GO Public Schools Oakland
GO Public Schools Advocates Oakland
Office: (510) 868-8800 | Cell: 510-390-3404
134 Linden Street Oakland, CA 94607
www.gopublicschoolsoakland.org

Become a GO Advocate. Give Monthly.



On Fri, May 11, 2018 at 5:41 AM, Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org> wrote:
FYI

So this is on the Fake News network.
The strategy is consistent. Create your own narrative build your base stir over and over again!

I trust our individual efforts but wondering about the collective narrative we might create.

Important work and hard work ahead.

Thoughts

Best
JHH

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Begin forwarded message.

From: jim mordecai <jim2812@hotmail.com>

Date: May 10, 2018 at 11:17:54 PM PDT

To: "mgotalk@yahoogroups.com" <mgotalk@yahoogroups.com>, Keith Brown <kb6core@yahoo.com>, Ben Visnick <benvisnick@sbcglobal.net>, Bethany Meyer <bethanynmeyer@gmail.com>, CHASITY GARCIA <mz_chaz@hotmail.com>, Janet Lau <serenemovement@yahoo.com>, Trish Gorham <oaklandeapresident@yahoo.com>, Ismael Amendariz <ismael.armendariz@gmail.com>, Shanthi Gonzales <shanthigonzales@gmail.com>, Nina Senn <nina.senn@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Aimee Eng <Aimee.Eng@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Jody London <Jody.London@ousd.k12.ca.us>, "James Harris" <james.harris@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Roseann Torres <roseann.torres@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Jumokey Hodge <jumokey.hodge@ousd.k12.ca.us>

Cc: Trish Gorham <oaklandeapresident@yahoo.com>, Becky <musicfan4005@gmail.com>, John Green <jgreen@cta.org>, Jeremy Wolff <jliebermanwolff@gmail.com>, Keith Brown <kb6core@yahoo.com>, Ben Visnick <benvisnick@sbcglobal.net>, Bethany Meyer <bethanynmeyer@gmail.com>, "CHASITY GARCIA" <mz_chaz@hotmail.com>, Janet Lau <serenemovement@yahoo.com>, "Trish Gorham" <oaklandeapresident@yahoo.com>, Ismael Amendariz <ismael.armendariz@gmail.com>

Subject: Charter School Backers Threat to Oakland's Public Schools

TULTICAN

Newest Existential Threat to Oaklands Public Schools

10 May

A “Systems of Schools” plan has been introduced by the destroy public education (DPE) forces in Oakland, California. The plan basically posits that with 30 percent of students in charter schools, the system has become inefficient. Therefore, the school board needs to review resources and close schools in areas with too many seats and overlapping programs.

However, since Oakland’s school board has no authority over charter schools it is only public schools that can be closed or downsized unless charter schools voluntarily cooperate.

Continuing the Big Lie

A memorable line from “A Nation at Risk” reads,

“If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose on America the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might well have viewed it as an act of war. As it stands, we have allowed this to happen to ourselves.”

Yesterday (May 7, 2018) Steve Hinnefeld writing about this report for the blog School Matters noted,

“As Anya Kamenetz of NPR reported recently, its authors were sure the education system needed change and set out to create a report that justified what they thought. Remarkably, they cited falling SAT scores as

evidence of decline – at a time when many more college-bound students were taking the test, leading to lower average scores.

“The authors ‘were hell-bent on proving that schools were bad,’ Lynn University professor James Guthrie told Kamenetz. ‘They cooked the books to get what they wanted.’

“A 1990 report produced by the Energy Department’s Sandia National Laboratories broke down the flaws in the “A Nation at Risk” analysis but got little attention.

“‘It was great stuff,’ Golarz [former Indiana school administrator] said. ‘I remember, when it came out, thinking, ‘Finally, somebody’s unraveled this damn thing and showed all the flaws.’ But nobody read it.’”

“Nation at Risk” set the model for the DPE movement. Public education was so popular that to privatize it required denigrating it. Over the last 35 years, the DPE movement has developed an approach using local money in concert with national money to promote charter schools, denigrate public schools and campaign for privatization friendly policies like unified enrollment. The local money in Oakland is provided by the Rogers Family Foundation.

The article “[Oakland is California’s Destroy Public Education Petri Dish](#)” describes the [Rogers Family Foundation](#) and its relationship to [GO Public Schools Oakland](#), [Educate78](#) (previously New Schools Venture Fund) and the [Oakland Public Education Fund](#). The late T. Gary Rogers foundation is like the queen bee of DPE Oakland with the other organizations carrying out various political and financial activities including spawning AstroTurf organizations.

The well-financed and robustly staffed DPE-oriented GO is leading the ground assault. 1Oakland, a GO led AstroTurf organization, bashes public schools and promotes the “Systems of Schools” legislation. The [1Oakland](#) web-page states, “In September of 2017, GO Public Schools Oakland brought together community, family, and student leaders to launch 1Oakland, a campaign that is working for an exceptional, equitable, and sustainable education system that reflects our commitment to all Oakland students.”

On the GO web site a [statement](#) from Boris Aguilar, a 1Oakland Leader

On the GO web-site a [Statement](#) from Boris Aguirre, a Oakland Leader, is accompanied by typically misleading statements denigrating Oakland Unified School District (OUSD). It claims,

“In the 1990s and early 2000s, families organized and established charter schools and [small schools](#) as alternatives to OUSD’s overcrowded, low-performing schools. These schools often times provided creative and culturally responsive curricula in contrast to OUSD’s one-size-fits-all, “teacher-proof” scripted curriculum.”

The organizing for charter schools in Oakland did not come from local families. It came from billionaires and politicians including Bill Gates, Reed Hastings, Eli Broad, Carrie Walton-Penner, Jerry Brown and several other elites. The small-schools initiative was Bill Gates’s first big failed education reform idea. Small-schools generated many headlines like this one [from the Washington Post](#), “How Much Bill Gates’s Disappointing Small-Schools Effort Really Cost.” The one-size-fits-all philosophy and scripted curriculum promoted by “education reformers” from the Bush and Obama administrations are far more prevalent in charter schools than public schools. When properly adjusted for poverty, OUSD testing outcomes reflect a high-quality steadily improving public school system.

[Oakland Reach](#) is another AstroTurf organization with GO fingerprints on it. The Oakland citizens involved with this organization appear sincere and to have well-founded grievances. Unfortunately, they are being used to steal high-quality public schools from their own neighborhoods.

This new initiative’s [executive director, Lakisha Young](#), also paid staff at GO. Sources say that some Oakland Reach leaders traveled to Memphis, Tennessee to be trained by Memphis Lift. Memphis Lift is an AstroTurf parent organization that has enough [money to pay \\$15](#) an hour for parent “volunteers” to knock on doors. Teach for America [promotes Memphis list](#) on their web site.

The new message by these organizations is “we only want quality education and don’t care whether it comes from charter schools or public schools. People in our neighborhoods deserve to choose what is right for their children and grandchildren. ‘System of Schools’ will enable managing our portfolio of schools more efficiently.” A public school advocate, Jane Nylund commented, “Essentially, the campaign is designed to embrace what I would call a Kumbhava moment: a way to deal

designed to embrace what I would call a rainy-day moment, a way to deal with what CRPE calls ‘toxic local politics.’”

CRPE is the Bill Gates financed [Center for Reinventing Public Education](#) on the campus at the University of Washington. CRPE is leading the charge for portfolio districts which means managing a portfolio of schools like a stock portfolio; close the losers and open new schools. This theory ignores the [well-known damage](#) that instability causes students; especially those living in poverty.

The article “[Education Cities is the National Organizer for the Destroy Public Education \(DPE\) Movement](#)” relates how this national umbrella organization is providing leadership for privatizing public education across America. A recent Education Cities [update says](#),

“Educate78 has started an #OUSDBudget blog series to delve into the Oakland Unified School District budget crisis. Most recently, the series has been tackling the question of whether [Oakland has too many schools](#). Educate78 is also excited to celebrate the launch of two initiatives from one of its major grantees, GO Public Schools. The new [Oakland REACH](#), a parent-led advocacy group and [1Oakland](#) – a community-driven campaign working with educators and elected officials to advocate for policies that promote partnership and creatively re-design the school system in service of all students.”

The Citizens United Decision Effect on Oakland’s Schools

John Dunbar writing for Public Integrity [explained](#),

“The Citizens United ruling, released in January 2010, tossed out the corporate and union ban on making independent expenditures and financing electioneering communications. It gave corporations and unions the green light to spend unlimited sums on ads and other political tools, calling for the election or defeat of individual candidates.

“In a nutshell, the high court’s 5-4 decision said that it is OK for corporations and labor unions to spend as much as they want to convince people to vote for or against a candidate.”

The first year that the Citizens United ruling effected Oakland’s school board election was 2012. It is now apparent that corporations and the billionaires who control them have a lot more money than labor unions or

CHALLENGERS WHO BELIEVE THEY HAVE A LOT MORE MONEY THAN MOST AREN'T AS
anyone else. James Harris, who proposed the “System of Schools”
legislation, was the only 2012 challenger to unseat an incumbent.
Reporting on that election, the [East Bay Times said](#),

*“This year’s school board elections have involved vigorous campaigning
and far more money than usual — and, unlike recent election years, all
four races were contested.*

*“GO Public Schools, a group of parents, teachers and community
members that formed in 2008, is more charter school-friendly than the
union’s leaders, and it has promoted changes to traditional union staffing
rules, which the union has opposed. The GO Public Schools PAC has
received three large donations of \$49,000 or more, including — most
recently — the California Charter Schools Association, bringing its
fundraising total to nearly \$185,000.*

*“The group threw its weight behind Hinton Hodge, Torres and Harris,
mostly through independent expenditures and the organizing of
volunteers. By contrast, the Oakland teachers union PAC, which is
backing Pecot, Fuentes and Hutchinson, expected to raise about
\$20,000.”*

The big money from billionaires was mostly funneled through Great
Oakland Public Schools which is GO’s independent expenditure
committee registered under tax code 501 C4. The following tables are
based on [data from](#) the City of Oakland Public Ethics Commission.

In 2012, the support of GO helped Harris defeat incumbent board
member Spearman in a close race. In addition, several well-known
wealthy people gave maximum contributions to Harris, Hodge and
Torres.

2012 Harris, Hodge and Torres

Received Max \$700 Contributions from

Bloomberg	Michael	New York	NY
Bradley	Katherine	Washington	DC
Penner	Greg	Atherton	CA
Rock	Arthur	San Francisco	CA

GO-PAC		Oakland	CA
Sponsored			
Tepper	David	Short Hills	NJ
Fournier	Alan	Far Hills	NJ
Fournier	Jennifer	Far Hills	NJ

Michael Bloomberg is the famous billionaire and former mayor of New York city. Katherine Bradley was the publisher of the Washington Post. Laurene Jobs Powell was Apple founder, Steve Jobs, wife. Stacy Schusterman inherited the Schusterman fortune and runs the \$2-billion Schusterman Family Foundation. Greg Penner married into Walmart money. His wife Carrie is one of the richest women in the world. Arthur Rock is Silicon Valley royalty. He had a hand in founding several famous companies including Intel. David Tepper is a billionaire hedge fund manager from New Jersey as is Alan Fournier.

The table above is of money contributed by a few wealthy elites compared to the total that GO's independent expenditure committee recieved.

In 2016 Go spent a quarter of a million dollars to insure Harris and Hodge stayed on the board. In 2012 they had freely spent to elect Roseann Torres to the board, but in 2016 they spent \$121,000 failing to have her unseated. Go has verbally supported London and Eng but provided them with little actual support. Go spent \$65,000 to oppose Shanthi Gonzales.

The Board Discussed “Systems of Schools”

Board member James Harris proposed the “Systems of Schools” legislation. At the [April 25th Board meeting](#), he said that Oakland had too many district and charter school programs. Because Oakland is the first California city to reach 30% charter penetration, he claimed Oakland had a unique need for his “Systems of Schools” plan. He rebutted the idea that the plan cannot work because the state law does not give the Board any power over charter schools. He compared that to accepting segregation and not taking any action just because it goes against unjust laws.

Board Vice President Jamoke Hinton-Hodge said she likes the “Systems of Schools” concept and that she was for charter schools because

“traditional schools haven’t served black people well.” She also called for unity saying that GO, Oakland Education Association and “Diane Ravitch’s funded organization” need to find a way to work together.

I am guessing that Diane Ravitch is surprised to learn that she is funding an organization.

Director Roseann Torres said she did not see how “Systems of Schools” could work. She asked, “How do we enforce something if charters don’t come to the table?” She also noted that she was getting “100’s of emails” opposing the plan.

Board members Eng, London and Senn were non-committal but they all called for dialog and encouraged VP Hodge, Director Harris and Director Shanthi Gonzalez to sit down together and try to find some points of agreement.

I attended a presentation given by Shanthi Gonzales last fall and was favorably impressed. I wrote asking for her opinion. She was forthcoming and unambiguous. Her email response said,

“Director Harris is not wrong that there are areas in which we need to work together more, and special ed is the major one. As a result of the consistent dumping of high-needs students, we have a seriously unsustainable situation in OUSD, which is one of the drivers of our current budget crisis.

“But there is nothing stopping charter schools from ceasing their discriminating against SPED and high-needs students; they do not need a policy to do what they are legally required to do. The real goal is access to one of our parcel taxes, Measure G, and for us to kick OUSD students out of their own buildings to make more space for their students (they don’t like the split-site offers that we are legally forced to provide because we don’t have any more vacant sites).

“A recent [report from GO](#), the main supporters of this policy, found that OUSD spends \$1400 on average more per student than charter schools in Oakland do, and they see that as unfair. Given that the same report also found that we have more SPED students, with more severe learning differences, and the students with the most severe academic challenges, it seems entirely appropriate to me that we would have more funding per

student – serving higher needs students is expensive.

“Until there is evidence to demonstrate what charters are saying, that they want to serve students more equitably, I do not see a need for this policy. Charter schools can simply do what they are legally required to do until they have evidence to demonstrate that they are serving students equitably. Then we can talk about a system of schools.

“That is how I see it.”

Gordon Lafer, Ph.D., University of Oregon Labor and Education Researcher, has written a startling new paper for In the Public Interest called [Breaking Point: The Cost of Charter Schools for Public School Districts](#). One of the tables in the paper demonstrates the special education issue Director Gonzales mentioned.


This graphic shows how Oakland’s charter schools not only take fewer special education students but avoid high cost students leaving them to district schools.

Professor Lafer documents the debilitating costs for public schools caused by charter school expansion. Costs for which they cannot easily adjust. He reports,

“In a first-of-its-kind analysis, this report reveals that neighborhood public school students in three California school districts are bearing the cost of the unchecked expansion of privately managed charter schools. In 2016-17, charter schools led to a net fiscal shortfall of \$57.3 million for the Oakland Unified School District, \$65.9 million for the San Diego Unified School District, and \$19.3 million for Santa Clara County’s East Side Union High School District.”

Oakland may be close to losing their public schools but cities like San Diego and Los Angeles are not far behind. We desperately need a charter school moratorium and for all publicly financed schools to be put under elected board control.

Tags: [Bill Gates](#), [citizens united](#), [education](#), [NCLB](#), [OUSD](#), [philanthropy](#), [Politics](#), [Public education](#), [Public Schools](#), [reform](#)

From: Mirella Rangel mirella@gopublicschools.org 
Subject: Re: Meeting about the System of Schools
Date: May 3, 2018 at 3:10 PM
To: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org

MR

Hi Aimee,
Yes, that works. I just sent you a calendar invitation.

Thank you!

Mirella Rangel
Director of Community Organizing
GO Public Schools Oakland
GO Public Schools Advocates Oakland
Office: (510) 868-8800 | Cell: 510-390-3404
134 Linden Street Oakland, CA 94607
www.gopublicschoolsoakland.org

[Become a GO Advocate. Give Monthly.](#)



On Thu, May 3, 2018 at 1:34 PM, Aimee Eng <aimee.eng@ousd.org> wrote:

Can we do 1:30? Just in case my earlier meeting runs late. Can you meet at Peets on Lakeshore? It's newly renovated with more seating.

On Tue, May 1, 2018, 8:43 PM Mirella Rangel <mirella@gopublicschools.org> wrote:

Hi Aimee,
I can meet Friday afternoon. Does 1 PM work? I can also do later. Let me know.

Thank you. I know that you are super busy and appreciate you taking the time.

Mirella Rangel
Director of Community Organizing
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On Tue, May 1, 2018 at 4:53 PM, Aimee Eng <aimee.eng@ousd.org> wrote:

I'm sorry for the delay!! I should have time Friday afternoon if that works? I am leaving town next Wednesday. Thanks!

On Fri, Apr 27, 2018 at 1:45 PM, Mirella Rangel <mirella@gopublicschools.org> wrote:

Dear Aimee,
Do you have time to meet next week to discuss the System of Schools policy? I'd like to hear more about your concerns and think them through. Since the things are moving quickly, can we talk within the next week? I'd be happy to come to you if that works.

Let me know.

Thank you,
Mirella Rangel
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--
Aimee Sueko Eng
School Board Director, District 2
Oakland Unified School District
aimee.eng@ousd.org (510) 747-8393

From: Jumoke Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org 

Subject: Fwd: Proposed Board Policy 6006

Date: April 24, 2018 at 6:26 AM

To: Lakisha Young lyoung@gopublicschools.org, Mirella Rangel mirella@gopublicschools.org, ash@gopublicschools.org

JH

Well

The debate has begun!

Probably no way to meet in this but would love to get some feedback

Hope you have the policy and have reviewed.

We are not ready for vote. This will be another reading.

Best

Jumoke

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bethany Meyer <bethanynmeyer@gmail.com>

Date: April 23, 2018 at 9:28:51 PM PDT

To: James Harris <james.harris@ousd.org>, Aimee Eng <aimee.eng@ousd.org>, Nina Senn <nina.senn@ousd.org>, Jody London <jody.london@ousd.org>, Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org>, Roseann Torres <roseann.torres@ousd.org>, Shanthi Gonzales <shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org>

Cc: Kyla Johnson-Trammell <kyla.johnson@ousd.org>

Subject: Proposed Board Policy 6006

Dear Directors,

I am writing to you regarding Board Policy 6006, which is put forth by Director Harris. I urge you to vote no.

I don't know what is meant by the "reallocation of all OUSD resources, facilities and assets", or what would be involved in the "decision-making matrix for determining how many and how big schools will be" in this "hybrid" system of schools, and I don't see how this will "increase the quality of education across both district and charter sectors and ... provide the highest quality education at every school site in each Oakland neighborhood."

Oakland residents elected each of you to represent them in leading our public schools, not to promote charter schools or to distribute OUSD assets to them. It is your responsibility as elected representatives to manage our district's finances and operations, which you have not been successful in doing, and this has created a situation where parents are deeply concerned about the stability of the schools available to their children.

Oakland residents didn't elect you to give them access to great schools. They elected you to provide great schools

They elected you to provide great schools.

In the current budget climate, caused by a combination of the board's poor fiscal mismanagement and the rampant proliferation of charter schools, this is not the solution.


Here are three ways you can improve our public schools-

1. Lower class sizes and caseloads, so our students can receive more 1:1 attention
2. Allocate more resources for our highest-need schools, for our most vulnerable students
3. Offer professional pay, so we can attract and retain great teachers for Oakland's children

This will involve re-prioritizing the budget, spending less on consultants, and shifting the focus to the classroom, where the students are.

Sincerely,

Bethany Meyer

From: Jumoke HintonHodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org 
Subject: Systems of Schools Policy
Date: April 20, 2018 at 6:23 AM
To: Mirella Rangel mirella@gopublicschools.org



Hi

Sorry for my delay in response. We have decided to bring it back for another read.
The policy needs a lot of work in my opinion.

I want the policy to be accompanied with a commitment and reaffirmation of our responsibility as authorizer.

The BOE even wanted us to consider the policy Gonzales brought forward. I have serious questions about her policy rework. General Counsel needs to review it for legal feasibility.

Loved to speak with you more about Systems of Schools and where I think that should lead us.


Best

--

Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Director
Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District (OUSD)
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Email: jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org
www.ousd.org

Every Student Thrives!

!Cada Estudiante Progres!

From: Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.org 
Subject: Is it possible to find time for mtg with elected
Date: March 28, 2018 at 11:34 PM
To: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org, Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzaless@gmail.com

RT

The fact that our supt went rogue and met with Dept of Finance in Sac is disturbing

It seems that still this board has not been able to make it clear to the one employee we can hire and fire, that there is a process of balancing things and to that end

Meeting with local elected is urgently needed to find out what they can learn about the fact that we may be taken into state receivership.


Sorry to say this is likely what the "fraud" comment is referring to and we do not want to be surprised

Let me know thoughts and comments

Rosie

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: Maxwell Daigh mdaigh@ccsa.org 
Subject: Quality Authorizing
Date: March 13, 2018 at 12:54 AM
To: Jumokey Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org

MD

JHH—

So sorry that this is just now getting to you. I was ready to go earlier and then got a little carried away with my suggestions (I added four and a half pages). Again—I got carried away. I love authorizing! Unfortunately, I had to push this back to put out all of the other fires that have been burning since this weekend. Please let me know what you think about the comments and also the suggestion for resolution vs. board policy.

Excited to talk through this with you. Happy to meet or jump on the phone. Let me know what you think. Thanks!

-Max

Max Daigh

Regional Director, Bay Area
California Charter Schools Association
Email: mdaigh@ccsa.org
Cell: [\(415\) 314-3612](tel:(415)314-3612)

The 25th Annual California Charter Schools Conference is now less than two months away. [Register today!](#) Our complete [breakout and poster session lineup](#) is now available on the conference website. The conference will be held March 26-28, 2018 at the San Diego Convention Center.



Best Practices
in Auth...2.docx

From: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org
Subject: Fwd: Semi-final of Agenda for Wednesday, February 28th
Date: February 25, 2018 at 2:38 PM
To: Marc Tafolla (Google Drive) marc@gopublicschools.org, Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzales@gmail.com

AE

Hi Marc and Shanthi-

FYI - I misunderstood protocol ie I need to coordinate better with B and F Committee going forward so that we are aligned and coordinated in timeline when makes sense. For example, I had GFOA resolution coming to BOE on 3/14 to align with all the budget/fiscal updates and to reemphasized the need (and commitment) for improved systems. I think Marc/Nima were also working with that day to bring out a few folks to speak in support, but since the B and F Committee didn't specify which date it will go to the Board, the default is that it will go at the next Board meeting which is this Wed. Two and possible 3 board members (James, Jumokey for sure, Jody for part) will not be at the 2/28 meeting. To ensure education and buy-in, I would recommend we wait until 3/14, but it will have to come as a formal motion. **Shanthi, do you feel strongly about it coming on Wednesday 2/28 or are you okay to suggest we postpone from the floor?**

Aimee

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Edgar Rakestraw <edgar.rakestraw@ousd.org>
Date: Sun, Feb 25, 2018 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Re: Semi-final of Agenda for Wednesday, February 28th
To: Aimee Eng <aimee.eng@ousd.org>
Cc: Jumokey Hinton Hodge <jumokey.hintonhodge@ousd.org>

Coalition typo fixed

Item 8 must be continued/postponed at Board. The Committee voted to send matter to Board, next meeting (February 14) w/o specifying a different date. With Agreement of the Committee, or majority of Board, on the record, the Board can then roll the item to March 14th. Otherwise, the Committee needs to specify at time of the vote in Committee a different date certain for referral to Board. The action by Committee, w/o a different date, is a motion, second plus 1 for immediate referral. Postponing the matters from Committee while Shanthi was out of town previously was incorrect; it should have been referred and then postponed at Board, if that was the will. Not making that mistake again. (Lack of respect for rules, and off the record actions not consistent with Bylaws, parliamentary procedure is what contributed to the downfall of your officer predecessors.)

Edgar Rakestraw, Jr.
Executive Assistant & Parliamentarian, Governing Board
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<http://www.ousd.org>
Edgar.Rakestraw@ousd.org

On Sun, Feb 25, 2018 at 2:06 PM, Aimee Eng <aimee.eng@ousd.org> wrote:

Hi Edgar -

Thank you for this!

Only additional changes I saw:

- K-137 - I think there is a typo and it should read "Coalition Letter" in the title heading and attachment rather than " Coalition Leter"
- Unfinished business - we are already discussed and you confirmed reordering so the Calendar item is first and then Blueprint, then Enrollment
- Finally, item 8 by the Budget and Finance Committee should come on 3/14 instead of 2/28 to coordinate with the budget updates and also interested parties (including staff) are coming to speak in support of the item.

Let me know if you have any questions or issues with above. Again, **THANK YOU SO MUCH** for your help and assistance as always but in particular on this agenda. I know there was a lot of last minute work and prep -- particularly in ensuring that the school safety plans were all uploaded. Always appreciate your help!

Best,

Aimee

On Sun, Feb 25, 2018 at 10:42 AM, Edgar Rakestraw <edgar.rakestraw@ousd.org> wrote:

On Sun, Feb 23, 2016 at 10:42 AM, Edgar Rakestraw <edgar.rakestraw@ousd.org> wrote:

Attached is revised Agenda with School Safety Plans. The following schools listed in the Agenda are pending upload of documents (meantime there is a placeholder.)

18-0388 Parker Elementary School
18-0415 Skyline High School
18-0436 Urban Promise Academy
18-0437 Montera Elementary School
18-0438 Claremont Middle School
18-0441 Fruitvale Elementary School
18-0443 Oakland School Of Language
18-0423 Immersing Elementary School
18-0452 Emiliano Zapata Street Academy

The deadline for submission of the all schools Safety Plans to CDE is Thursday, March 1. By noticing the items on the Agenda though the Plan for the school is not attached only (placeholder) you - Board -can act on it if it comes in between now and Wednesday. (This is not the preferred practice but I am trying to help out here - given Safety is a practical and political issue. Trying to minimize potential embarrassment if Word got out about our deficiency in this area given the heightened concern about safety on school campus at any time and in particular in light of recent events. If Plan not received between now and Wednesday, the particular ones not submitted can be removed from Consent during modification. (It still may be embarrassing to extent we have not insured each school has submitted plan - no excuses. There comes a time when we have to stop giving excuses. Duties can be two fold - affirmative duty- we are required to act otherwise negligent) or refrain from doing something - e.g., unlawful, wrong, etc. District is negligent - so far - for failure to have each and every school develop and submit timely its mandatory Safety Plan.

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Aimee Sueko Eng
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Aimee Sueko Eng
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aimee.eng@ousd.org (510) 747-8393

From: Carolyn Gramstorff CGramstorff@educate78.org 
Subject: Preliminary Preparation and Agenda: Autonomies Working Group - Denver Study
Date: January 31, 2018 at 11:28 PM

CG

To: Carolyn Gramstorff CGramstorff@educate78.org, Moyra Contreras moyra.contreras@ousd.org, Katherine Carter Katherine.Carter@ousd.org, Cliff Hong clifford.hong@ousd.org, Anita Iverson-Comelo anita.comelo@ousd.org, Isaac Kos-Read isaac@kosreadgroup.com, sara.stone@ousd.org, shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org, Ashley Martin ashley.martin@ousd.org, David Phillips DPhillips@educate78.org, leroy.gaines@ousd.org, charles.wilson@ousd.org
Cc: Sheila.Loarca@ousd.org, AliciaPenaMedina@ousd.org, veronica.delrio@ousd.org, Sandy.lascon@ousd.org, wilma.enriquez@ousd.org, lindaf.floyd@ousd.org, jacqueline.garcia@ousd.org, claudia.robles@ousd.org, Rachel Garcia James Rjames@educate78.org, Anne Soto asoto@educate78.org

Greetings Denver Study Trip Participants –

We are getting very excited to travel to Denver in a few weeks as we continue the learning journey and research agenda initiated by our Autonomies Working Group.

This is a preliminary email to help you to prepare for our trip. It includes the following:

- Objectives
- Attendees, Contact, and Flight Information
- Logistics
- Preliminary Agenda
- Resources

Study Trip Objectives

- Build community among all participants through informal networking and a powerful shared learning experience
- Deepen our individual and collective knowledge about autonomies, accountability, and structures to both achieve and sustain them
- Connect with counterparts (school site leaders, central office leadership, board members, partners/funders) from another ecosystem in order to (1) learn more about their context, theory of action, and approach relative to systems of autonomy and accountability, (2) inform our thinking about applicability to our work in Oakland

Attendees (as of 1/31)

NOTE – if you would like to update any of this information, please use [THIS FORM](#).

Participant Name	Participant Title/Position	Participant Email	Participant Phone	Flight Information
Carolyn Gramstorff	Director of Schools	cgramstorff@educate78.org	(510) 435-2565	Departing OAK to DEN #5187 6:10 to 9:45 Departing DEN to OAK #1244 7:55 to 9:45
Moyra Contreras	Principal	moyra.contreras@ousd.org	(510) 406-3870	Feb 14th, SW# 6470 at 1:15 Feb. 16th SW#5831 at 10:20 pm to Seattle
Katherine Carter	Principal	katherine.carter@ousd.org	(510) 812-8903	Departing OAK to DEN #6470 1:15 to 4:40 Departing DEN to OAK #764 10:00 to 11:45
Cliff Hong	Principal, Roosevelt Middle School	clifford.hong@ousd.org	(510) 590-7664	Southwest; OUTBOUND OAK-DEN #6470 2/14/18 115PM-440PM; RETURN DEN-OAK #1592 2/16/18 855PM-1030PM
Anita Iverson-Comelo	Principal	anita.comelo@ousd.org	(510) 755-9790	Departing OAK to DEN #6470 1:15 to 4:40 Departing DEN to SD #1320 3:20
	Educate78			Departing OAK to DEN #6470

Isaac Kos-Read	Educate78 Communications & Advocacy Consultant	isaac@kosreadgroup.com	(510) 292-5715	Departing OAK to DEN #5338 1:15 to 4:40 Departing DEN to OAK Flight 532 departing at 12:55.
Sara Stone	Network 2 Superintendent	sara.stone@ousd.org	(510) 499-6574	February 14 - SFO - Denver Virgin America Flt 1868. dep 12:35 - arr 3:53; February 16 - Denver - SFO Virgin America Flt 1867 dep 4:45 - arr 6:40
Shanthi Gonzales	School Board Member	shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org	(301) 529-6890	United 223 2/14 landing DEN 2:32 pm; 2/18 United 737 leaving DEN 5:51 pm
Ashley Martin	Principal	ashley.martin@ousd.org	(860) 729-9237	Departing OAK to DEN #5338 11:00 to 2:45 Departing DEN to OAK #5399 6:55 to 10:45
David Phillips	Chief of Staff	dphillips@educate78.org	(202) 577-8776	Departing SFO to DEN 6:10am on 2/14. SW 5222 Departing DEN to SFO 12:00pm (noon) on 2/16.
Leroy Gaines	Principal	leroy.gaines@ousd.org	(413) 210-9786	
Charles Wilson	Executive Director, Enrollment and Portfolio Management	charles.wilson@ousd.org	(415) 794-3837	

Logistics

Hotel	The CURTIS: Doubletree by Hilton 1405 Curtis Street Denver, CO 80202 tel: 303.571.0300 Room, tax, and breakfast voucher paid for by Educate78
Dress	To be updated
Dinner on 2/14	To be updated
Dinner on 2/15	To be updated
Reimbursement for Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Save (and photograph or PDF) copies of all travel receipts for airfare, ground transportation, travel meals • When the trip is complete, complete <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ THIS FORM (word version) ◦ THIS FORM (google version) • Email reimbursement form and all receipts to cgramstorff@educate78.org

Preliminary Agenda

Wednesday, February 14th

Time	Activity	Notes
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<i>Varies</i>	<p>Travel to Denver</p> <p>(Optional) Early Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Flight: Southwest Airlines; Flight 5187; Departs Oakland @ 6:10 AM; Arrives Denver 9:45 AM <p>Early PM Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Flight: Southwest Airlines; Flight 6470; Departs Oakland @ 1:15; Arrives Denver 4:40 <p>* NOTE: School Board and Central Office Team Members will likely need to travel on Thursday morning as there is a board meeting on Wednesday Night</p>	
11:30 - 3:00	<p>(Optional)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit and Learn from the DPS Imaginarium Travel to hotel 	<i>To be confirmed</i>
4:00 - 7:00 (varies)	<p>Hotel Check-In</p> <p>Free Time</p>	
7:00	Meet in hotel lobby to travel to dinner	
7:30	Dinner and Networking	

Thursday, February 15th

Time	Activity	Notes
	<p>Travel to Denver:</p> <p>School Board and Central Office Team Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Flight: Southwest Airlines; Flight 323; Departs Oakland @ 6:10 AM; Arrives Denver 9:45 AM Travel to lunch location (see 11:00 agenda item) 	
7:00 - 11:00	<p>Breakfast & Study Trip Kick-Off</p> <p>School Visits to LLM School 1/2</p>	
11:00 - 1:00	<p>Lunch</p> <p>Networking</p> <p>Overview of DPS/LLM's History, Theory of Action, Results to Date</p>	
1:00 - 5:00	LLN School Visits -OR- Counterpart Meetings/Presentation	
Evening	Dinner & Networking	

Friday, February 16th

Time	Activity	Notes
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7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast & Overview of the Day	
8:00 - 12:00	Visits to LLN School(s) -&/OR- Counterpart Meetings/Presentation	
11:00 - 1:00	Lunch with Counterparts or Presenters	
1:00 - 4:00	Visits to LLN School(s) -&/OR- Counterpart Meetings/Presentation Discussion: What have we learned? How might these lessons be applied to Oakland? Next Steps?	
<i>Varies</i>	Travel to Oakland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Flight: Southwest Airlines;1244; Departs Denver 7:55 PM; Arrives Oakland 9:45 PM 	

Resources

Background Information and Case Studies of Innovation Zones (Denver LLI & Springfield SEZP)

- [School District Innovation Zones \(Bridgespan White Paper\)](#)
- [Denver Innovation Zone Profile \(Bridgespan Report\)](#)
- [Case Study: Denver's Luminary Learning Network \(Gates Family Foundation\)](#)
- [Webcast: Denver's First Innovation Zone: How It Got Built & Early Lessons](#)
- [Essay: Denver's Luminary Learning Network Shows How Innovation Zones Can Work for Teacher's Students, and Families](#)
- Video: [Springfield's Empowerment Zone Partnership](#)
- [The Springfield Empowerment Zone Partnership](#) (The Progressive Policy Institute's Case Study of the SEZP)

Research and Background Information about Theories & Models of Autonomy and Accountability

- [Theory of Action: Summary of Prevailing Archetypes](#)
- [The Road to Autonomy](#)

We'll send out additional information in the coming week as we continue to develop and confirm our agenda. In the meantime, if there is anything you need to help you to prepare for our trip, please feel free to email me.

Best.

c.

Carolyn Gramstorff

(C): (510) 435-2565

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[Sign up here](#) to get the scoop on Oakland's public education system!

From: Patrick Walsh pwalsh@ccsa.org 
Subject: Re: Reject Aspire ERES application for Measure G1 money
Date: August 22, 2017 at 4:27 PM
To: Jumoke Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org

PW

Thanks.

Also, I think Nina is playing games again. The Commission approved some county-authorized proposals but they were not included in this distribution. It really upsets me that she's going back on her word again.

Thanks,

Patrick

From: Jumoke Hinton <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 4:18 PM
To: Patrick Walsh <pwalsh@ccsa.org>
Subject: Fwd: Reject Aspire ERES application for Measure G1 money

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: jim mordecai <jim2812@hotmail.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2017 at 4:10 PM
Subject: Reject Aspire ERES application for Measure G1 money
To: Shanthi Gonzales <shanthigonzales@gmail.com>, Nina Senn <nina.senn@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Aimee Eng <Aimee.Eng@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Jody London <Jody.London@ousd.k12.ca.us>, James Harris <james.harris@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Roseann Torres <roseann.torres@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Jumoke Hodge <jumoke.hodge@ousd.k12.ca.us>
Cc: Trish Gorham <oaklandeapresident@yahoo.com>, Becky Flanigan <bflanigan@cta.org>, Doug Appel <dappel@cta.org>

Board Members:

Wednesday night, 8/23/17, ou should vote no to reject Aspire ERES Academy application for \$16,769 of Measure G1 parcel tax funding because they did not follow the template that the Measure G1 Commission created.

Community's assessment of a school's curriculum and the Community's priority in improving a school curriculum is suppose to be important basis for Measure G1 spending decisions. And, the Board values Community being involved in assessment of instruction.

But. the onlv minutes and dates provided by ERES application regarding Community

involvement was a single meeting with the ERES Community in March called the Chat with the Principal. Keep in mind that the Commission did not become active and organized until May, yet ERES application was referencing a single Community Meeting from March. The minutes show no indication that the Community was asked to assess the school's instructional program and set priorities for instructional improvement.

Measure G1 requires the Board only to approve education improvement plan that include, at minimum:

- Completion of a diagnostic self-evaluation of the school's curricular and safety needs, including an assessment of community demand for arts, music, and language education.
- Annual and Three-Year accountability indicators toward achieving one or more of the stated goals of this Measure.
- Evidence-based strategies designed to meet the accountability indicators.

Clearly ERES application Community meeting did not assess Community priorities for arts, music and language education as a minimum required above and therefore the Board must vote to reject this application.

Keep in mind that the funding according to Measure G1 was not suppose to begin until the end of this fiscal year. ERES has plenty of time to hold Community meeting and do the right kind of assessment called for by Measure G1.

Mohammad Mordecai

Sent from [Outlook](#)

--

Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Director

Board of Education

Oakland Unified School District (OUSD)

Suite 300, 1000 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94607-4099

Phone: (510) 918-4403 (c)

Email: jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org

www.ousd.org

Every Student Thrives!
!Cada Estudiante Progresa!

From: Jumoke Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org
Subject: Re: Beware Billionaires Scheming to Redesign Public Schools
Date: August 24, 2017 at 11:26 AM
To: Patrick Walsh pwalsh@ccsa.org

JH

Our Mark Triplett?! Ewww.
She screwed up.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2017, at 11:16 AM, Patrick Walsh <pwalsh@ccsa.org> wrote:

Hilarious. Mark from staff just called. He's livid.

From: Jumoke Hinton <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org>
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 11:10 AM
To: Patrick Walsh <pwalsh@ccsa.org>
Subject: Fwd: Beware Billionaires Scheming to Redesign Public Schools

Ummmm even he humbled himself.

#Resist. The madness

Best
JHH

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: jim mordecai <jim2812@hotmail.com>
Date: August 24, 2017 at 10:37:23 AM PDT
To: Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org>
Subject: Re: Beware Billionaires Scheming to Redesign Public Schools

Jumoke:

You are right that at 50% the Measure G1 funding is zero. And, my misreading of the Epic charter school application may negatively impact all the students: 14% AA; 1% American Indian/ Alaskan Native; 2% Asian; 79% Latino; 1% Filipino; 2% Caucasian.

However, I hope that will not be the case.

I'll request that James Harris place on the next Board meeting agenda the Epic charter school application request for Board approval.

And, I'll email Jody London that my concern that Measure G1 money would be used inappropriately didn't apply to the Epric charter school application because there would be zero Measure G1 funding at 50% of request funding.

M. Mordecai

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 10:02 AM
To: jim mordecai
Subject: Re: Beware Billionaires Scheming to Redesign Public Schools

Nope.
That was privilege all day long.
Under cut staff Superintendent. Based on wrong information- but in whiteness paradigm you're always right!

In this case the position is supporting retention what the measure ask for.

And the zealousness over looked the facts. \$0. If the proposal is funded at 50%. The motion is mute.

So busy Stoping opportunity for brown kids and saving the status quo- didn't even read.
Deplorable.

SMH
JHH
Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2017, at 9:50 AM, jim mordecai <jim2812@hotmail.com> wrote:

Jumoke Hinton Hodge:

We were both shocked by Jody's motion calling for reconsideration of acceptance of the Board's vote for the Measure

G1 recommendations.

I think what happened was my charge that the Board had approved Measure G1 funding for a position that according to #4 5th to 6th Grade Enrollment Retention Narrative involved recruiting students for the school lead Jody to review the document and Jody therefore felt that using Measure G1 funding for that purpose was inappropriate. In other words it wasn't what I, an old white man (an getting older by the minute) said, but what Jody read lead to her surprising action.

Check with Jody as to her motivation and timing.

It would have been ideal if Jody had read the Epic Charter School narrative prior to the Commission report and clarified what was the Commission stance. She could have let the decision stand or use parliamentary procedure and revisit the decision. You and James voted to let the decision stand. I don't think that was unreasonable position. On the other hand correcting what is perceived by Jody as the Board endorsing misuse of Measure G1 funding is reasonable but still surprising.

M. Mordecai

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 7:50 AM
To: jim mordecai
Subject: Re: Beware Billionaires Scheming to Redesign Public Schools

This all gets placed in my new folder Trumpian. The Left

Progressive White saviors of black folk have been using the same tactic that white supremacy has been allowed to surface covertly. Your propaganda if you disagree or have not found your way how to profit of under education students you do not like and idea. Write about circulate get a following and then their your experts. And your millionaires Unions are not that different when it comes to support.

Re think schools. WE Better do something we literally are killing poisoning our students and families. When I spoke on lead when leaders on campus spoke on it we were fighting for black kids - there is a difference response when white middle class family suggest we have to have a playing field. And it gets put in the works and prioritize. Angry old men get space. And now we will consider 2 Million to fix.

This is not the time for white folks to be using Trump Alt Right tactics with me. Keep your news

Talk about this traditional system since you are so invested. And the trick last night. Classic - your white male privilege was astounding. The language speaks to Retention and engagement and a parent support holding that space. You could interrupt the process. Jody went right along. You want a Superintendent to stay. Stop doing that!

Filed. In Fame News Emails #wakeup #priviledgenotfoolingme

JHH

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2017, at 7:26 AM, jim mordecai
<jim2812@hotmail.com> wrote:

[\[I think Antwan Wilson leaving town delayed L. P. Jobs' plans for Redesigning OUSD--M. Mordecai\]](#)

Laura Chapman: Here Comes the Billionaires' Latest Scheme to Redesign Public Schools

by [dianeravitch](#)

Laura Chapman noted a major promotion that is scheduled for September, when Laurence Powell Jobs tells the world how to fix public schools. What is the source of her expertise? Well. she is surrounded by

...and the experience of the ill-fated Obama Department of Education, which managed to blow away \$5 billion and accomplish nothing other than to create a teacher shortage and enrich the testing and charter industry. Arne Duncan, mastermind of the failed Race to the Top, advises Jobs. She is also extremely rich, and we know from "Fiddler on the Roof" that "When you're rich, they think you really know."

The Billionaires who think they have the answers to high school redesign are planning a big splash in early September.

Premise: "While technology and society have rocketed forward, high school has used the same model since 1900. We can't prepare our nation's students for the 21st century with this outmoded system. Let's rethink high school."

On September 8, 2017, ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox New will be marketing the Emerson Collective's "XQ: The Super School Project," at 8 pm (7pm Central)

"XQ: The Super School Project was launched in September 2015 as an open call to rethink and design the next American high school. Thousands of school builders, and tens of thousands of supporters from towns and cities across all 50 states united to take on this important work. Nearly 4,000 teams of students, teachers, parents, community leaders and many more came together to conceptualize innovative models for 21st century learning. To date, XQ has pledged more than \$100 million to a growing number of the most promising ideas, actively supporting these teams on their journeys to become Super Schools." Here are some of the leaders of the project.

Laurene Powell Jobs. Chairs XQ's board of directors, President of Emerson Collective. "Her two decades in the education field have convinced her that America is

ready for a sea change to overhaul the system.” Widow of Steve Jobs.

Russlynn Ali, Chief Executive Officer. Former assistant secretary of civil rights at the U.S. Department of Education. Also serves as managing director of education at Emerson Collective.

Alexandra Berry, Chief of Staff. Designed professional development products for teachers at Amplify, Instructional faculty and operations team at Relay Graduate School of Education. Teach for America, middle school math learning specialist at Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP) in Houston, Texas.

Matt Lorin, President: Former Executive Director of Honolulu-based, The Learning Coalition. Experience in philanthropy and civic engagement in public education.

Monica Martinez. Senior School Support Strategist. Expert in school redesign, policy, and philanthropy. Senior Fellow to the Hewlett Foundation, President of New Tech Network, VP of KnowledgeWorks Foundation, an associate at the Institute for Educational Leadership.

Dr. Linda Murray, Superintendent-in-Residence. Former senior advisor to the Education Trust-West and Superintendent of Schools for the San Jose Unified School District. Advises XQ on practice work ...to help all students in XQ high schools reach college and career ready goals.

Sebastian Turner, Special Projects Lead: Worked as a personnel management consultant for Fortune 500 companies, human capital consultant and talent recruiter for charter management organizations. Former elementary school teacher.

Deen collaborators (role not clear) include:

Deep collaborators (not yet clearly included).

Yo-Yo Ma, the globally accomplished musician and creator;

Marc Ecko, Chief Brand and Creative Officer of COMPLEX, youth and justice advocate;

Geoffrey Canada, education advocate, founder of the Harlem Children's Zone;

Michael Klein, global strategic and financial adviser and Managing Partner of M Klein,


Leon Wieseltier, Isaiah Berlin Senior Fellow in Culture and Policy at the Brookings Institution, listed as the philosopher for the Emerson Collective.

More information about the high school project go to <https://xqsuperschool.org>.

For more about the people and projects of the Emerson Collective go to <http://www.emersoncollective.com/our-team/>

My generation would label many of these efforts variants of the 1960s alternative school movement with a lot more tech. I hope that someone or some group (other than the promoters) will track the longevity of these school, transformations, and what happens when the grant money and glow of publicity fades. Notice how some of the recruits to lead the project are "formers" ... of TFA, of Relay (not) Graduate School of Education, the Education Trust, and active in pushing tech. Almost forgot: Arne Duncan is a Partner in the Emerson Collective

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: **Jumoke Hinton Hodge** jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org 
Subject: Re: End Commenting on Public Comment
Date: May 14, 2016 at 2:20 PM
To: jim mordecai jim2812@hotmail.com



Cc: Aimee Green mlleaimee@aol.com, Betty Olson-Jones bolsonjo@yahoo.com, Chaz Garcia mz_chaz@hotmail.com, Janan Apaydin janan.apaydin@gmail.com, Kei Swensen kei1116@comcast.net, Keith Brown kb6core@yahoo.com, MANNY LOPEZ moveonit@sbcglobal.net, Mark Airgood mairgood@gmail.com, Relena Ellis2 relenaellis@sbcglobal.net, Rodney Brown rodneyebrown@gmail.com, Steve Miyamoto stevenmiy@gmail.com, Steve Neat steveneat78@gmail.com, Toni Morozumi tonimorozumi@gmail.com, Trish Gorham oaklandeapresident@yahoo.com, Vince Tolliever vincetollieverviola@gmail.com, Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.k12.ca.us, James Harris james.harris@ousd.k12.ca.us, Jody London jody.london@ousd.k12.ca.us, Jumoke Hodge jumoke.hodge@ousd.k12.ca.us, Nina Senn nina.senn@ousd.k12.ca.us, Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.k12.ca.us, Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzales@gmail.com, Joe Trapp mgotalk@yahoogroups.com, Mary Hill hillmarye@hotmail.com

Whiteness at Work

Thanks Jim Mordecai

I wonder, is it appropriate to respond to the never ending flow of emails, personal attacks and character assassinations. I realize that they come as an attempt to control the narrative and allow white supremacy mentality to dictate the arena. I realize it's drama. And it would be just as easy to let it slide chalk it up to ignorance. Practice tolerance. Shark fin posture.

However, and I would never speak for the Superintendent, but I have felt more compelled to respond to bias and incorrect information at our business meetings. They are public record and I am committed to interrupting mis information. You are correct Public comments on the business items are important and gladly welcomed and we can't or shouldn't restrict contributions by the public - however - the slandering of individuals and leadership actually goes against our Agreements - Code of Conduct and very specifically - 'We will be Hard on Issues and Soft on people.' I believe we all have a responsibility to uphold these agreements.

Secondarily, I have always been a freedom fighter and truly made it my practice to stand up to injustice. Trust me as a Blk woman raised in this country with the constant covert racist acts and micro aggressions I must endure - there are times when you are fatigued, fearful and sometimes too angry and numb to even respond or resist white supremacist culture.

So, regularly I must recommitment to interrupt, whenever possible, racist, unconscious biases and downright demeaning associations that lead us a far from our mission and vision for this school district. Also, as a youth worker I am deeply committed to modeling courage respectful behavior and dialogue. I preface always that I am growing in Skill to interrupt Whiteness and Racist behaviors and comments. So, I must always practice.

Please don't take it personal Mr Mordecai your behavior and privilege is common place but I am compelled to speak out when comments that would accuse and contrast leaders of color as having the same behavior as white imperialist colonizers in their treatment of Native People. I'm not even sure if you know the impact your words as a white privileged male speaking to all of us, in that way, has on our psyche. Maybe you don't care - your point to be correct is most important. That was like screaming Bomb in the middle of an airport. Freedom of your Speech oppresses!

So, this administration and board have made commitments to equity and Changing the culture of OUSD. It goes beyond paper it must be evident in our behavior. It will be work that requires ongoing patience and attention. So I'll continually call these things out.

If it is in violation of your laws and rules - I apologize here. In a whiteness paradigm I understand there is far more attention paid to the rules and regulations and less on valuing a moral stature that honors all humans. Again, you will probably find me in opposition to white supremacist speech and courageously speaking to ensure you and others that share the Trump sentiment - you can say anything to and about people of color and it is okay. Also, that somehow your school district of the past actually served students of color better. Just like its hard to hear, Lets make amerikkka great again - the thought of us lifting up the school district of the past as better or great for ALL - creates a pit in my stomach.

I'm committed to interrupting Racist behavior and creating a world the is Anti Racist with all due respect to your privilege.

Sorry for breaking the rules! My ancestors require it!

Sent from my iPhone
Jumoke Hinton Hodge
[510.918.4403](tel:510.918.4403)
Please excuse brevity,typos and autocorrect!

On May 14, 2016, at 9:00 AM, jim mordecai <jim2812@hotmail.com> wrote:

Oakland School Board President James Harris should halt his practice of permitting during School Board meetings Superintendent Antwan Wilson and Board Member Jumoke Hinton Hodge to

comment on public comments that they disagree with.

Free speech has limits according to the context; and in an airport one can't shout "Bomb!"

School boards' speech is limited by law to topics listed on boards' publicly posted agenda.

Commenting on public comment can be understood as "regulating" content of public "testimony".

California Attorney General's opinion is school boards can "regulating the time and manner, as distinguished from the content, of testimony by interested members of the public. (§ 54954.3(b).)

Oakland School Board should stop commenting on the public's comments. And, be careful what they can say in airports.

Jim Mordecai

63 El Patio Street

Oakland, Ca. 94611

[510/205-4635](tel:5102054635)

From: Carolyn Gramstorff CGramstorff@educate78.org
Subject: Autonomies Working Group - Denver Study Trip: Prepare for Blast Off
Date: February 12, 2018 at 10:45 PM

CG

To: Moyra Contreras moyra.contreras@ousd.org, Katherine Carter Katherine.Carter@ousd.org, Cliff Hong clifford.hong@ousd.org, Anita Iverson-Comelo anita.comelo@ousd.org, sara.stone@ousd.org, shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org, Ashley Martin ashley.martin@ousd.org, David Phillips DPhillips@educate78.org, leroy.gaines@ousd.org, charles.wilson@ousd.org, ash@gopublicschools.org, atobin@chabotspace.org
Cc: David Phillips DPhillips@educate78.org, Isaac Kos-Read isaac@kosreadgroup.com, Kyla Johnson kyla.johnson@ousd.org, Sondra Aguilera sonda.aguilera@ousd.org, Sarah Robb SRobb@empowerschools.org, Mary Seawell mseawell@gatesfamilyfoundation.org, Claire Fisher claire.fisher@ousd.org, Bela Bhasin BBhasin@educate78.org, Daneen Keaton DKeaton@educate78.org, Gloria Lee Gloria@educate78.org, Rachel Garcia James Rjames@educate78.org, Curtiss Sarikey curtiss.sarikey@ousd.org, Carolyn Gramstorff CGramstorff@educate78.org

Greetings Study-Trippers!

I am so excited to see all of you on Wednesday in Denver.

Here is our [TRIP AGENDA](#).

Here are the basic logistics you'll need to get to the hotel:

Hotel	The CURTIS: Doubletree by Hilton 1405 Curtis Street Denver, CO 80202 tel: 303.571.0300 Room, tax, and breakfast voucher paid for by Educate78
Dress	Thursday: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business Casual• We will be traveling to three different locations and touring schools so wear appropriate footwear Friday: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Casual to Business Casual• Feel free to show your hometown pride - feel free to wear your Oakland gear
Drinks & Dinner on 2/14	6:30 PM Drinks at Curtis Hotel Bar 8 PM The Corner Office <i>NOTE: Apologies for the late reservation -- it's hard to book a group of 30 on Valentine's Day</i>
Dinner on 2/15	7 PM Earls 1600 Glenarm Place Unit 140, Denver CO DIRECTIONS LINK (11 minute walk from the Curtis)
Reimbursement for Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Save (and photograph or PDF) copies of all travel receipts for airfare, ground transportation, travel meals• When the trip is complete, complete<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ THIS FORM (word version)◦ THIS FORM (google version)• Email reimbursement form and all receipts to cgramstorff@educate78.org

Our [Trip Roster](#) contains flight information for all participants so that you can coordinate rides to and from the airport as many of you are traveling on the same flight.

Please note that we will be joined in Denver by another group of educators, school/systems leaders, and community members from Austin, TX. Like us, they are interested in learning more about how Denver's LLN functions in order to see what they may apply to their district in order to improve outcomes for their students.

See you all soon.

Finally, if you run into any problems, please feel free to text me. My cell is [510.435.2565](tel:510.435.2565).

c.
Carolyn Gramstorff
(C): [\(510\) 435-2565](tel:510.435.2565)
[Educate78](#) || [Facebook](#) || [Twitter](#)

[Sign up here](#) to get the scoop on
Oakland's public education system!

From: Jumoke Hinton Hodge jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org
Subject: Re: Charter School Backers Threat to Oakland's Public Schools
Date: May 12, 2018 at 11:21 AM
To: Mirella Rangel mirella@gopublicschools.org

JH

Sure. Either day works.
Monday before 2 pm

Tuesday open as well

Happy Mothers day! Fierce Mama!

Best
JHH

Sent from my iPhone

On May 11, 2018, at 6:43 PM, Mirella Rangel <mirella@gopublicschools.org> wrote:

Let's talk soon. I have an update for you. We are starting to move in this type of direction. :)

Do you have time to talk on Monday or Tuesday?

Mirella Rangel
Director of Community Organizing
GO Public Schools Oakland
GO Public Schools Advocates Oakland
Office: (510) 868-8800 | Cell: [510-390-3404](tel:510-390-3404)
134 Linden Street Oakland, CA 94607
www.gopublicschoolsoakland.org

[Become a GO Advocate. Give Monthly.](#)



On Fri, May 11, 2018 at 6:38 PM, Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org> wrote:
Yes

I really think we can play at the same game.
And maybe in a way to teach.

Let's talk soon

Bless
JHH

Sent from my iPhone

On May 11, 2018, at 6:34 PM, Mirella Rangel <mirella@gopublicschools.org> wrote:

Hi Jumoke,
Thank you for sharing. Demonizing and "othering" folks who are dedicated to working for Oakland's students won't get us far and it looks like it's the only tool their toolkit.

We should distinguish ourselves from them.

It is time we strategized a collective narrative and work together to re-focus the conversation on students, especially those least served by the system now. Dirk, David, Max, Lakisha, Isaac, and Charles, are you down to join us in this effort? I really don't think we can do this without you.

Email me directly if you are up game.

Thanks.

Mirella Rangel
Director of Community Organizing
GO Public Schools Oakland
GO Public Schools Advocates Oakland
Office: (510) 868-8800 | Cell: 510-390-3404
[134 Linden Street Oakland, CA 94607](http://134.Linden.Street.Oakland.CA.94607)
www.gopublicschoolsoakland.org

Become a GO Advocate. Give Monthly.



On Fri, May 11, 2018 at 5:41 AM, Jumoke Hinton Hodge <jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org> wrote:
FYI

So this is on the Fake News network.
The strategy is consistent. Create your own narrative build your base stir over and over again!

I trust our individual efforts but wondering about the collective narrative we might create.

Important work and hard work ahead.

Thoughts

Best
JHH

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: jim mordecai <jim2812@hotmail.com>
Date: May 10, 2018 at 11:17:54 PM PDT
To: "mgotalk@yahoogroups.com" <mgotalk@yahoogroups.com>, Keith Brown <kb6core@yahoo.com>, Ben Visnick <benvisnick@sbcglobal.net>, Bethany Meyer <bethanynmeyer@gmail.com>, CHASITY GARCIA <mz_chaz@hotmail.com>, Janet Lau <serenemovement@yahoo.com>, Trish Gorham <oaklandeapresident@yahoo.com>, Ismael Amendariz <ismael.armendariz@gmail.com>, Shanthi Gonzales <shanthigonzales@gmail.com>, Nina Senn <nina.senn@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Aimee Eng <Aimee.Eng@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Jody London <Jody.London@ousd.k12.ca.us>, "James Harris" <james.harris@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Roseann Torres <roseann.torres@ousd.k12.ca.us>, Jumoke Hodge <jumoke.hodge@ousd.k12.ca.us>
Cc: Trish Gorham <oaklandeapresident@yahoo.com>, Becky <musicfan4005@gmail.com>, John Green <jgreen@cta.org>, Jeremy Wolff <jliebermanwolff@gmail.com>, Keith Brown <kb6core@yahoo.com>, Ben Visnick <benvisnick@sbcglobal.net>, Bethany Meyer <bethanynmeyer@gmail.com>, "CHASITY GARCIA" <mz_chaz@hotmail.com>, Janet Lau <serenemovement@yahoo.com>, "Trish Gorham" <oaklandeapresident@yahoo.com>, Ismael Amendariz <ismael.armendariz@gmail.com>
Subject: Charter School Backers Threat to Oakland's Public Schools

TULTICAN

Newest Existential Threat to Oaklands Public Schools

10 May

A "Systems of Schools" plan has been introduced by the destroy public

A [Systems of Schools](#) plan has been introduced by the district public education (DPE) forces in Oakland, California. The plan basically posits that with 30 percent of students in charter schools, the system has become inefficient. Therefore, the school board needs to review resources and close schools in areas with too many seats and overlapping programs.

However, since Oakland's school board has no authority over charter schools it is only public schools that can be closed or downsized unless charter schools voluntarily cooperate.

Continuing the Big Lie

A memorable line from "[A Nation at Risk](#)" reads,

"If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose on America the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might well have viewed it as an act of war. As it stands, we have allowed this to happen to ourselves."

Yesterday (May 7, 2018) Steve Hinnefeld writing about this report for the blog [School Matters](#) noted,

"As [Anya Kamenetz of NPR reported](#) recently, its authors were sure the education system needed change and set out to create a report that justified what they thought. Remarkably, they cited falling SAT scores as evidence of decline – at a time when many more college-bound students were taking the test, leading to lower average scores.

"The authors 'were hell-bent on proving that schools were bad,' Lynn University professor James Guthrie told Kamenetz. 'They cooked the books to get what they wanted.'

"A 1990 report produced by the Energy Department's Sandia National Laboratories broke down the flaws in the "A Nation at Risk" analysis but got little attention.

"'It was great stuff,' Golarz [former Indiana school administrator] said. 'I remember, when it came out, thinking, 'Finally, somebody's unraveled this damn thing and showed all the flaws.' But nobody read it.'"

“Nation at Risk” set the model for the DPE movement. Public education was so popular that to privatize it required denigrating it. Over the last 35 years, the DPE movement has developed an approach using local money in concert with national money to promote charter schools, denigrate public schools and campaign for privatization friendly policies like unified enrollment. The local money in Oakland is provided by the Rogers Family Foundation.

The article “[Oakland is California’s Destroy Public Education Petri Dish](#)” describes the [Rogers Family Foundation](#) and its relationship to [GO Public Schools Oakland](#), [Educate78](#) (previously New Schools Venture Fund) and the [Oakland Public Education Fund](#). The late T. Gary Rogers foundation is like the queen bee of DPE Oakland with the other organizations carrying out various political and financial activities including spawning AstroTurf organizations.

The well-financed and robustly staffed DPE-oriented GO is leading the ground assault. 1Oakland, a GO led AstroTurf organization, bashes public schools and promotes the “Systems of Schools” legislation. The [1Oakland](#) web-page states, “In September of 2017, GO Public Schools Oakland brought together community, family, and student leaders to launch 1Oakland, a campaign that is working for an exceptional, equitable, and sustainable education system that reflects our commitment to all Oakland students.”

On the GO web-site a [statement](#) from Boris Aguilar, a 1Oakland Leader, is accompanied by typically misleading statements denigrating Oakland Unified School District (OUSD). It claims,

“In the 1990s and early 2000s, families organized and established charter schools and [small schools](#) as alternatives to OUSD’s overcrowded, low-performing schools. These schools often times provided creative and culturally responsive curricula in contrast to OUSD’s one-size-fits-all, “teacher-proof” scripted curriculum.”

The organizing for charter schools in Oakland did not come from local families. It came from billionaires and politicians including Bill Gates, Reed Hastings, Eli Broad, Carrie Walton-Penner, Jerry Brown and several other elites. The small-schools initiative was Bill Gates’s first big failed education reform idea. Small-schools generated many

1Oakland is a GO organization. From the Washington Post, “Takes a Major Push

headlines like this one [from the Washington Post](#), "How Much Bill Gates's Disappointing Small-Schools Effort Really Cost." The one-size-fits-all philosophy and scripted curriculum promoted by "education reformers" from the Bush and Obama administrations are far more prevalent in charter schools than public schools. When properly adjusted for poverty, OUSD testing outcomes reflect a high-quality steadily improving public school system.

[Oakland Reach](#) is another AstroTurf organization with GO fingerprints on it. The Oakland citizens involved with this organization appear sincere and to have well-founded grievances. Unfortunately, they are being used to steal high-quality public schools from their own neighborhoods.

This new initiative's [executive director, Lakisha Young](#), also paid staff at GO. Sources say that some Oakland Reach leaders traveled to Memphis, Tennessee to be trained by Memphis Lift. Memphis Lift is an AstroTurf parent organization that has enough [money to pay \\$15](#) an hour for parent "volunteers" to knock on doors. Teach for America [promotes Memphis list](#) on their web site.

The new message by these organizations is "we only want quality education and don't care whether it comes from charter schools or public schools. People in our neighborhoods deserve to choose what is right for their children and grandchildren. 'System of Schools' will enable managing our portfolio of schools more efficiently." A public school advocate, Jane Nylund commented, "Essentially, the campaign is designed to embrace what I would call a Kumbaya moment; a way to deal with what CRPE calls 'toxic local politics.'"

CRPE is the Bill Gates financed [Center for Reinventing Public Education](#) on the campus at the University of Washington. CRPE is leading the charge for portfolio districts which means managing a portfolio of schools like a stock portfolio; close the losers and open new schools. This theory ignores the [well-known damage](#) that instability causes students; especially those living in poverty.

The article "[Education Cities is the National Organizer for the Destroy Public Education \(DPE\) Movement](#)" relates how this national umbrella organization is providing leadership for privatizing public education across America. A recent Education Cities [update says](#)

across America. A recent Education Cities [update says](#),

“Educate78 has started an #OUSDBudget blog series to delve into the Oakland Unified School District budget crisis. Most recently, the series has been tackling the question of whether [Oakland has too many schools](#). Educate78 is also excited to celebrate the launch of two initiatives from one of its major grantees, GO Public Schools. The new [Oakland REACH](#), a parent-led advocacy group and [1Oakland](#) – a community-driven campaign working with educators and elected officials to advocate for policies that promote partnership and creatively re-design the school system in service of all students.”

The Citizens United Decision Effect on Oakland’s Schools

John Dunbar writing for Public Integrity [explained](#),

“The Citizens United ruling, released in January 2010, tossed out the corporate and union ban on making independent expenditures and financing electioneering communications. It gave corporations and unions the green light to spend unlimited sums on ads and other political tools, calling for the election or defeat of individual candidates.

“In a nutshell, the high court’s 5-4 decision said that it is OK for corporations and labor unions to spend as much as they want to convince people to vote for or against a candidate.”

The first year that the Citizens United ruling effected Oakland’s school board election was 2012. It is now apparent that corporations and the billionaires who control them have a lot more money than labor unions or anyone else. James Harris, who proposed the “System of Schools” legislation, was the only 2012 challenger to unseat an incumbent. Reporting on that election, the [East Bay Times said](#),

“This year’s school board elections have involved vigorous campaigning and far more money than usual — and, unlike recent election years, all four races were contested.

“GO Public Schools, a group of parents, teachers and community members that formed in 2008, is more charter school-friendly than the union’s leaders, and it has promoted changes to traditional union staffing rules which the union has opposed. The GO Public Schools

staying rates, which the union has opposed. The GO Public Schools PAC has received three large donations of \$49,000 or more, including — most recently — the California Charter Schools Association, bringing its fundraising total to nearly \$185,000.

“The group threw its weight behind Hinton Hodge, Torres and Harris, mostly through independent expenditures and the organizing of volunteers. By contrast, the Oakland teachers union PAC, which is backing Pecot, Fuentes and Hutchinson, expected to raise about \$20,000.”

The big money from billionaires was mostly funneled through Great Oakland Public Schools which is GO’s independent expenditure committee registered under tax code 501 C4. The following tables are based on [data from](#) the City of Oakland Public Ethics Commission.

In 2012, the support of GO helped Harris defeat incumbent board member Spearman in a close race. In addition, several well-known wealthy people gave maximum contributions to Harris, Hodge and Torres.

2012 Harris, Hodge and Torres

Received Max \$700 Contributions from

Bloomberg	Michael	New York	NY
Bradley	Katherine	Washington	DC
Penner	Greg	Atherton	CA
Rock	Arthur	San Francisco	CA
GO-PAC Sponsored		Oakland	CA
Tepper	David	Short Hills	NJ
Fournier	Alan	Far Hills	NJ
Fournier	Jennifer	Far Hills	NJ

Michael Bloomberg is the famous billionaire and former mayor of New York city. Katherine Bradley was the publisher of the Washington Post. Laurene Jobs Powell was Apple founder, Steve Jobs, wife. Stacy Schusterman inherited the Schusterman fortune and runs the \$2-billion Schusterman Family Foundation. Greg Penner married into Walmart

Senastonian Family Foundation. Greg Fether married into Walmart money. His wife Carrie is one of the richest women in the world. Arthur Rock is Silicon Valley royalty. He had a hand in founding several famous companies including Intel. David Tepper is a billionaire hedge fund manager from New Jersey as is Alan Fournier.

The table above is of money contributed by a few wealthy elites compared to the total that GO's independent expenditure committee recieved.

In 2016 Go spent a quarter of a million dollars to insure Harris and Hodge stayed on the board. In 2012 they had freely spent to elect Roseann Torres to the board, but in 2016 they spent \$121,000 failing to have her unseated. Go has verbally supported London and Eng but provided them with little actual support. Go spent \$65,000 to oppose Shanthi Gonzales.

The Board Discussed “Systems of Schools”

Board member James Harris proposed the “Systems of Schools” legislation. At the [April 25th Board meeting](#), he said that Oakland had too many district and charter school programs. Because Oakland is the first California city to reach 30% charter penetration, he claimed Oakland had a unique need for his “Systems of Schools” plan. He rebutted the idea that the plan cannot work because the state law does not give the Board any power over charter schools. He compared that to accepting segregation and not taking any action just because it goes against unjust laws.

Board Vice President Jamoke Hinton-Hodge said she likes the “Systems of Schools” concept and that she was for charter schools because “traditional schools haven’t served black people well.” She also called for unity saying that GO, Oakland Education Association and “Diane Ravitch’s funded organization” need to find a way to work together.

I am guessing that Diane Ravitch is surprised to learn that she is funding an organization.

Director Roseann Torres said she did not see how “Systems of Schools” could work. She asked, “How do we enforce something if

charters don't come to the table?" She also noted that she was getting "100's of emails" opposing the plan.

Board members Eng, London and Senn were non-committal but they all called for dialog and encouraged VP Hodge, Director Harris and Director Shanthi Gonzalez to sit down together and try to find some points of agreement.

I attended a presentation given by Shanthi Gonzales last fall and was favorably impressed. I wrote asking for her opinion. She was forthcoming and unambiguous. Her email response said,

"Director Harris is not wrong that there are areas in which we need to work together more, and special ed is the major one. As a result of the consistent dumping of high-needs students, we have a seriously unsustainable situation in OUSD, which is one of the drivers of our current budget crisis.

"But there is nothing stopping charter schools from ceasing their discriminating against SPED and high-needs students; they do not need a policy to do what they are legally required to do. The real goal is access to one of our parcel taxes, Measure G, and for us to kick OUSD students out of their own buildings to make more space for their students (they don't like the split-site offers that we are legally forced to provide because we don't have any more vacant sites).

"A recent [report from GO](#), the main supporters of this policy, found that OUSD spends \$1400 on average more per student than charter schools in Oakland do, and they see that as unfair. Given that the same report also found that we have more SPED students, with more severe learning differences, and the students with the most severe academic challenges, it seems entirely appropriate to me that we would have more funding per student – serving higher needs students is expensive.

"Until there is evidence to demonstrate what charters are saying, that they want to serve students more equitably, I do not see a need for this policy. Charter schools can simply do what they are legally required to do until they have evidence to demonstrate that they are serving students equitably. Then we can talk about a system of schools.

"That is how I see it."

Gordon Lafer, Ph.D., University of Oregon Labor and Education Researcher, has written a startling new paper for In the Public Interest called [Breaking Point: The Cost of Charter Schools for Public School Districts](#). One of the tables in the paper demonstrates the special education issue Director Gonzales mentioned.

This graphic shows how Oakland's charter schools not only take fewer special education students but avoid high cost students leaving them to district schools.

Professor Lafer documents the debilitating costs for public schools caused by charter school expansion. Costs for which they cannot easily adjust. He reports,

"In a first-of-its-kind analysis, this report reveals that neighborhood public school students in three California school districts are bearing the cost of the unchecked expansion of privately managed charter schools. In 2016-17, charter schools led to a net fiscal shortfall of \$57.3 million for the Oakland Unified School District, \$65.9 million for the San Diego Unified School District, and \$19.3 million for Santa Clara County's East Side Union High School District."

Oakland may be close to losing their public schools but cities like San Diego and Los Angeles are not far behind. We desperately need a charter school moratorium and for all publicly financed schools to be put under elected board control.

Tags: [Bill Gates](#), [citizens united](#), [education](#), [NCLB](#), [OUSD](#), [philanthropy](#), [Politics](#), [Public education](#), [Public Schools](#), [reform](#)

From: Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.org
Subject: Re: Please Postpone Vote on Envision Expansion
Date: August 14, 2018 at 12:32 PM

RT

To: Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzaless@gmail.com

Cc: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org, Aisha Knowles aknowles@acoe.org, Amber Childress achildress@acoe.org, Eileen McDonald mamaeileen4@gmail.com, Joaquin J. Rivera jrivera@acoe.org, Ken Berrick ken.berrick@gmail.com, Yvonne Cerrato yvonnecerrato@gmail.com, fred.sims@acoe.org

I agree with Shanthi and would add that to effectively govern a county you must be taking into account how a school district is affected as a whole financially especially as more data is being presented on charter schools lack of serving special ed students when ousd has 20% population in SpEd and also lacking transparency on serving high needs/impoverished students as per LCFF funding.

These concerns must be at the top of your mind and no doubt worth investigating so you aren't held responsible later for having lacked the due diligence on serious financial matters that are greatly impacting students in Oakland.

Thank you for considering postponement
Rosie Torres

On Tue, Aug 14, 2018 at 11:12 AM Shanthi Gonzales <shanthigonzaless@gmail.com> wrote:

Esteemed Colleagues on the ACOE Board:

I hope you are well! I am writing to ask you to postpone your vote tonight on the expansion of Envision Academy. I think you all know that we are going through a process of figuring out how many schools we can continue to sustain in Oakland, through our Blueprint for Quality Schools.

This is hard work, and it's long overdue, but we are trying to do it. It is hard to do when there are constant shocks to the system and our enrollment because schools are allowed to expand or open, which disrupts our work.

We are serving kids better - our graduation rates are up 7% in just the last few years, and so are our reading and math scores. But that work is undermined when we aren't consulted about changes that have dramatic impacts on our district and our schools.

I would like our two systems to have a more collaborative relationship, where you consult with us about decisions that impact OUSD, and we do the same for ACOE.

Please postpone tonight's vote so that we can consult with our staff about what the impact of this decision will be on our overall system of schools.

Thanks,
Shanthi

--

Shanthi Gonzales
Oakland School Board Director, District 6
www.gonzalesforschools.com
(510) 629-9379

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: Aimee Eng aimee.eng@ousd.org
Subject: Re: [OUSD-BOE] Staff Responses to Board Member Questions about the May 29 Retreat
Date: May 28, 2018 at 7:09 AM
To: Shanthi Gonzales shanthigonzales@gmail.com
Cc: Roseann Torres roseann.torres@ousd.org

AE

Hey Shanthi,
Did you mean to include Jody?

Aimee

On Mon, May 28, 2018, 7:07 AM Shanthi Gonzales <shanthigonzales@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Jody. This agenda only reflects one perspective on this issue and is biased. I don't know who is behind this deck and agenda, but it doesn't feel like a sincere attempt to explore all the perspectives. I am hearing the same feedback from constituents.

My two cents.

Shanthi

Sent from my iPhone

On May 28, 2018, at 6:24 AM, Roseann Torres <roseann.torres@ousd.org> wrote:

Thank you for sending this email and sadly the first Response makes absolutely no sense to me in light of the question as it seems to side step and say nothing at all.

What would it mean to say that it is really above having the resources to DO what we need.?? This is a policy that i too agree means nothing since we need the law to change in Sac for us to have the ability to put a moratorium in place while we assess, rather we have a 600-1000 student school attempting to move near over a dozen other schools on Derby Street, and this district is a lame duck.

To also responde we don't have time for the data to execute is not acceptable sorry wrong answer in my view

On Thu, May 24, 2018 at 4:51 PM Jody Talkington <jody.talkington@ousd.org> wrote:
Dear Board Directors

Please see staff responses to questions from your colleagues about the May 29 Retreat.

Board Question: There is a lot of pushback in some parts of our community to the underlying notion of a system of schools. At a community meeting tonight on 1Oakland, many of the people in the room suggested that until we address the problem with State charter law it makes no sense for OUSD to be talking about a system of schools. They are concerned that OUSD will consolidate or close schools only to have charter schools move in. They want charter law to be modified so that the School District can take into account financial impact.

Response: This concern is real. But two very important points. 1) We're not doing this primarily from the perspective of system of schools, it is really about having the resources to DO what we need to do for our families and communities. 2) the OTHER part of their concern (for some of those folks) is the impact of an empowered district that is playing in their space, by prioritizing providers that meet expressed needs. We certainly can't wait.

Board Question: I have shared with Director Harris since this discussion began my concern that we need the same accountability and introspection by the charter schools as we are applying. However, we have no way to compel that. I don't think we can have this conversation without considering the role and responsibilities of the charter sector, and our ability to compel them to act responsibly.

Response: We agree with this and we didn't have the data not the time to execute that analysis in this timeframe. We would be more than willing to help make it happen though. Potentially **compelling them isn't the right frame though but **incentivizing** might be.**

Board Question: Has the cost model that is being presented considered the data in the Breaking

Point study produced by In the Public Interest? I know there are criticisms of that study. Even if it's off by \$20 million, that's still a cost to the District of \$37 million/year. I think we need to look at the methodology they used and determine how it fits with our analysis.

Response: The breaking point study is a powerful but gross measure (if all those kids came to OUSD instead). So in its purest form, it is a true measure of loss revenue.

Board Question: Also, I think the analysis of schools needs to indicate where campuses are physically constrained, and where we have empty seats. Is there a way to indicate that in the summary charts in Nana's presentation? I'm thinking, for example, of Kaiser, Peralta, and Claremont, all of which are limited by physical space and are at capacity.

Staff Response: The work the district leadership will do should absolutely do that, building by building (we have started this work with the analysis that Jacobs did). But then we need a solution for when a school that can't grow beyond 400 wants to be a FSCS. Do we say No, because the facilities can't support the number of kids that would produce the revenue to make that model sustainable?

Jody Talkington

Senior Director of Strategic Projects, Office of the Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District

Every Student Thrives!

www.ousd.org

jody.talkington@ousd.org

work: (510) 879-1350

cell: (510) 388-3304

NOTE: The first day of school for the 2018-19 school year is AUGUST 13.

Find out more at www.ousd.org/newfirstday



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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "OUSD-BOE@ousd.org" group.
To post to this group, send email to OUSD-BOE@ousd.org.

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD POLICY
BP 6006 Instruction

Quality School Development: Citywide Plan for Oakland's Publicly-Funded Schools

Deleted: Community of

The Board of Education (Board) is deeply committed to the vision of Oakland being home to high quality public education options for all students and families, no matter their race, ethnicity, zip code, or income and that all Oakland public school students shall receive a high quality equitable education based on what they need using Board-approved indicators and metrics to measure improvement and success. To realize this vision, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop a citywide plan that promotes the long-term sustainability of publicly-funded schools across Oakland that represent quality and equitable educational options.

The Board recognizes that it has some oversight over all Oakland publicly funded schools, both those run by the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) and those it authorizes which are run by various charter school operators. The OUSD Board of Directors takes its oversight and accountability role as a charter school authorizer seriously and also acknowledges that it has a fiduciary responsibility to maintain the fiscal health and well-being of OUSD and its schools in order to provide a high-quality education to its students. Consistent with that fiduciary duty, the OUSD Board of Directors shall prioritize the fiscal vitality of the school district in its relationship with charter schools.

Deleted: public

It is the Board's categorical expectation that all education providers operating or desiring to operate publicly funded school programs in Oakland - district or charter - will accept shared responsibility for the sustainability of our school system and embrace the idea that we: (i) do not operate in silos, (ii) are interdependent in our efforts to serve all students and families; and (iii) need to act with consideration of the larger Oakland community. We also recognize the challenging work ahead of building and rebuilding trust among the diverse members of our community in realizing this vision and the inherent conflicts created by limited resources and the fiduciary responsibilities of both the OUSD board and charter boards to their own schools and students.

Deleted: as well as families, staff, community members and labor unions,

Deleted: of schools

The Board is acutely aware of the legal constraints that limit its formal authority. Current state law does not allow the Board comprehensive authority on the location, authorization, oversight, and management of charter schools in Oakland. However, the Board is committed to using its existing levers as an authorizer and lease-holder to require charter schools in Oakland to live up to this board's vision of providing high-quality public education options for all students and families, including, but not limited to:

Deleted: currently

Deleted: establishing more high quality school programs and understands that this vision will not come without fiscal, legislative, and political challenges. The Board is prepared for the journey ahead and

- Serving all Oakland students, including our highest need students—including students with disabilities, English Language Learners, foster youth, low income students, unhoused students and students of color, including all the way that those categories intersect, and including the full spectrum of need that is present in each of these categories;
- Commitment to sharing successful, quality practices and models across the district;
- Agreement to collecting and acting upon a shared set of metrics;
- Creating and growing schools in ways that do not undermine the financial stability of the District as a whole, or individual OUSD schools; and
- Requiring greater transparency and oversight of enrollment, transfers (mid-year and between years), and expulsions to ensure that all students' rights are protected.

The Board is committed to advocating for legislative changes that will result in greater and more effective control of the regulatory environment in which the school district operates.

To this end, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to increase access to high quality public school options for the students and families of Oakland using quality, equity, utility, sustainability and community benefit as guiding principles and factors during the redesign and reconfiguration of OUSD that builds upon the current work of the Blueprint for Quality Schools process. This redesign should consider all OUSD schools and all Oakland charter schools authorized by OUSD and Alameda County.

The Superintendent shall:

1) Use, and work with the Board to modify where needed, the Asset Management, Accountability, Charter Authorization, Enrollment, Equity, Results Based Budgeting, School Governance, and Quality School Development policies as the guiding policies to create a city-wide plan by which all schools - both OUSD-run schools and charter schools authorized by OUSD and Alameda County - will be engaged, assessed, and leveraged to deliver more high quality school options in Oakland; and

2) Address specific issues in such city-wide plan that include, but are not limited to:

a. Facilities - how OUSD can best leverage vacant and surplus properties and utilize facility use agreements to strategically engage all Oakland public schools – district or charter - so that (i) high-quality publicly funded schools across Oakland are able to serve all of its students, (ii) as a general rule, district should seek to maximize revenues to enhance its fiscal vitality and ensure charter schools are serving a higher concentration of students with greater needs.(iii) a fiscally sound number of schools exist given Oakland's student population and (iv) schools are located where more high quality options are needed.

b. Enrollment – how OUSD can work with all Oakland public schools – district or charter - to better articulate feeder patterns across Oakland to ensure more predictability for families. This body of work should also include how charter schools will serve the same diverse populations of students as OUSD schools so that the highest need students are not concentrated only in OUSD schools, articulating a process by which charter schools may apply to rejoin the OUSD SELPA to facilitate the city-wide plan to provide an excellent, equitable education to all Oakland students.

c. Authorization and Oversight - how (i) OUSD can strengthen its role as authorizers to ensure that new schools are providing an innovative and high quality education to all students, including highest need students, and (ii) how OUSD can exercise oversight and accountability to ensure that all schools operating in Oakland are providing a high quality education and working to address inequities at their schools

d. Collaboration and sharing best practices – how best practices can be shared across all Oakland public schools, e.g., professional development, recruitment and retention of educators and other collaborative opportunities that improve equitable educational access for all Oakland students

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e. Innovative Schools - how OUSD can best support continued innovation within Oakland schools and accelerate the number of high-quality school options including assessing innovation of charters at inception and upon renewal and by providing district schools similar strengthened sited-based decision-making, while also maintaining the financial stability of the district.

3) Deliver such plan to the Board by October 1, 2018, which will be ultimately voted on by the Board in January 2019, after sufficient community engagement and input.

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