


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