

# Oakland Unified School District

Board of Education  
Paul Robeson Building  
1025 2nd Avenue, Suite 320  
Oakland, CA 94606-2212  
(510) 879-8199 Voice  
(510) 879-8000 Fax

**DRAFT**



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## **Minutes (Long)**

**Wednesday, May 18, 2011**

**6:00 PM**

**Special Meeting (Revised)**

**Board Room, Paul Robeson Building, 1025 2nd Avenue, Oakland, CA  
94606-2212**

## **Board of Education**

***President Gary Yee, Ed.D.***

***Vice President Jody London***

***Directors: Jumoke Hinton Hodge, David Kakishiba, Noel Gallo, Christopher Dobbins,  
Alice Spearman***

***Student Directors: Nikita Mitchell and Lashae Robinson***

***Staff: Edgar Rakestraw, Jr., Secretary, Board of Education***

**A. Call To Order**

*President Gary Yee called the meeting to order at 6:12 P.M.*

**B. Roll Call**

**Roll Call:** Present: Nikita Mitchell, Noel Gallo, Alice Spearman, Jody London and Gary Yee  
Absent: Lashae Robinson, David Kakishiba, Jumoke Hodge and Christopher Dobbins

**C. New Business**

*Director Spearman requested the the Board to consider New Business items in the following order:*

*11-1280 - Motion to Discharge*

*11-1281 - District Grant Application, U. S. Department of Justice, Community Based Violence Prevention*

*11-1232 - District's Five Year Plan*

*The Board agreed as requested.*

**Board of Education****Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)**

*Jumoke Hodge present at 6:15 P.M.*

**Roll Call:** Present: Nikita Mitchell, Jumoke Hodge, Noel Gallo, Alice Spearman, Jody London and Gary Yee  
Absent: Lashae Robinson, David Kakishiba and Christopher Dobbins

**Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)**

*Christopher Dobbins present at 6:28 P.M.*

**Roll Call:** Present: Nikita Mitchell, Jumoke Hodge, Noel Gallo, Christopher Dobbins, Alice Spearman, Jody London and Gary Yee  
Absent: Lashae Robinson and David Kakishiba

**Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)**

*Student Director Nikita Mitchell absent at 8:21 P.M.*

**Roll Call:** Present: Jumoke Hodge, Noel Gallo, Christopher Dobbins, Alice Spearman, Jody London and Gary Yee

Absent: Lashae Robinson, Nikita Mitchell and David Kakishiba



**11-1232 District's Five Year Plan - Community Schools, Thriving Students - May 2011 - May 2016 (First Reading)**

Adoption by the Board of Education of District's Five Year Plan - Community Schools, Thriving Students - May 2011 through May 2016.

**Attachments:** [11-1232 - Draft Strategic Plan - Part 1 \(May 2011\).pdf](#)  
[11-1232 - Draft Strategic Plan - Part 2 \(May 2011\).pdf](#)  
[11-1232 - Draft Strategic Plan - Part 3 \(May 2011\).pdf](#)  
[11-1232 - Draft Strategic Plan - Part 4 \(May 2011\).pdf](#)  
[11-1232 - Draft Strategic Plan - Appendices A-C \(May 2011\).pdf](#)  
[11-1232 - Draft Strategic Plan - Cumulative \(All Parts\) Copy.pdf](#)  
[OUSD Draft Strategic Plan v1 0 - Presentation \(May 2011\).ppt](#)  
[11-1232 - Draft Strategic Plan Presentation.wmv](#)

*President Yee stated this is the First Reading of the Five-Year Plan and the intent of this meeting is to receive public comments and engage in the process of better understanding the protocols, the intent and the details of the Plan. He introduced Junious Williams, Director, Urban Strategies Council, who has been serving as a facilitator for the Board's Study Sessions. Mr. Williams said Superintendent Smith would give an overview of the draft Strategic Plan, followed by questions on the Plan by Board Members.*

*Superintendent Smith stated he is presenting the results of a whole year of work. The Board has previously approved the Strategic Plan framework. There will be follow-up meetings with Board Members, additional community meetings, and meetings with students and youth leaders. Superintendent Smith said the 14 Task Forces are the mechanisms for continuing the work.*

*Superintendent Smith used a Power Point for his presentation on Draft Version 1 of the Five-Year Strategic Plan Summary.*

*Video #1 was shown - A Full Service Community District*

*Superintendent Smith said the landmarks on the journey are a most important part of the plan along with the appendices, and the one-three- and five-year goals. We have created a model that includes the whole community to care for the whole child.*

**OVERVIEW**

*In July 1, 2009 we embarked on the seven-year project. The Board has regained local control. Superintendent Smith said this is all of our responsibility and the inequity in Oakland is everybody's problem. Quality and the solution to those problems are everybody's responsibility. Everybody has a role to play.*

*The goals were reviewed:*

*Goal 1: Safe, Healthy & Supportive Schools*

*Goal 2: Prepared for Success in College and Careers*

*Goal 3: High Quality and Effective Instruction*

*Goal 4: Full Service Community District*

*Goal 5: Accountable for Quality*

*Video #2 was shown - Community Schools at Work*

*Superintendent Smith said Central organization needs to serve children and families, and a future that we want across the City for every child, and to hold a sense of equitable outcomes. The next step of the new structures is to fund on a needs basis rather than just on a student allocation. He said the development of social and emotional health of children is crucial.*

*Video #3 was shown - Oakland Unified Alumni - Preparing for Life After High School*

*Video #4 was shown - Looking Ahead*

*Superintendent Smith said our work this year included the establishment of the 14 Task Forces and receiving feedback from Board Members. The Strategic Plan engaged more than 5500 people in more than 350 community meetings and we look forward to the framework becoming the Strategic Plan and become the one-, three- and five-year goals that the Board would govern and lead by and set in motion the new kinds of relationships that would guide our agreements with our union partners and activities in the classroom.*

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

*Vice President London requested the Superintendent to condense the materials into a video and for the video to be shown in September when staff comes back to school.*

*Vice President London said she would like to see organizational charts. A different way of organizing the work is embedded in the Plan. The budget is on a different track and funding is important at least to our work next year. She requested information on costs. There are pieces missing relating to the Wellness Program (Nutrition Services, Physical Education), Gardening, Arts, Science, Music classes, and Facilities (Sustainability, Resource Conservation) and training our students to be stewards of the environment and the next generation.*

*Director Gallo stated the mission and vision have to be very compelling and simple enough for everyone to understand where we are going and how we are going to get there. The know-how has to be data driven and he does not see enough data in the report to drive where we are going. There are some good things happening in the District that we need to continue to build upon, but we must use the data in how we got there to continue to grow. That needs to be clearly spelled out in numbers, direction and timelines.*

*Director Gallo asked about the role of student assignments in the Strategic Plan? We*

presently have open enrollment, neighborhood schools, option schools, and youngsters are able to move from one city to another. Many of students choose to leave the District in the fifth grade. How do we reposition the District schools to attract and engage the 70,000 students that are eligible in Oakland?

Director Gallo said the plan talks about core curriculum and there is reference to alignment and differentiation which needs to be very clear.

Director Gallo asked about the cost for the Strategic Plan. A full service community is a noble thing, but there is a cost to it.

Director Gallo asked for data and goals for the high school performance reading and math levels: Where they are today and where do we want to be next year and the following years? There are many students who repeat the ninth grade level. What are those levels? What are those numbers? How do we want to improve each year? Director Gallo said the reading scores, generally, are low in the District. Where do we make the gains and at what grade level?

Director Gallo asked about assessments. He said the tools that we can provide our instructors and evaluation of staff has been missing for a long time. How do we build relationships with parents to ensure kids stay in the District beyond the fifth grade level?

Director Gallo referred to page 28 of the report on English Learners. He said when a child reaches the sixth grade that he/she and the parent understand what their program is and by the time they leave middle school, they are already on a track for ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade and be able to compete in math and science.

Director Gallo commented on the Quality School Office, the Transformation Office, and NEXO's. What are the differences?

Director Spearman asked how can we attempt to create something different and be a full service community of thriving students when we still subscribe to some of the old habits. We need to ensure that the curriculum is fluid and to ensure that college and/or career readiness classes are available to all students.

Director Spearman said as we move and change it is important that we start seeing leadership that expresses the change. She appreciates the emphasis on the African American males. She said there are African American females suffering just as greatly. .

Student Director Mitchell had the following questions on the roll-out plan: How will the community engagement piece fit into the New Strategic Plan model? Is there a shift to doing regional engagement? Will there be an evaluation process on the implementation of the Strategic Plan at each school? If so, what is that process? How will the school be evaluated? How will we work with the current restrictions--both fiscally--and on the standards for curriculum and test scores? How will we identify schools that have been affected by the options process? How will we compare them internally or externally to schools that have maintained students with different resources? If one school in a neighborhood has students leaving, are we going to identify resources at the receiving school which are lacking in the neighborhood school?

*Student Director Mitchell requested more information on the Early Childhood Education Program. How are we going to help the parents that do not have the support or the partner who does not have the support to educate their children in the household? What are our ideas?*

*Student Director Mitchell asked for information on the small schools and the number of small schools in Oakland. Is there a plan to limit the number of schools we have shut down? How are we going to fund the schools that are in existence? How are we going to identify skills within a neighborhood and what the young people want to learn in that neighborhood? How are we going to create academies or schools that focus or nurture the skills that each student has?*

*Director Hodge asked about the evaluation process under Effective Teaching and if OEA plans to participate in the Task Force? Information was requested from the Teacher Convention on survey information. She said an organizational chart would be useful as the plan refers to many new structures and she would like to visually be able to figure out what the moving parts are, including the community intermediary. She requested information about the interface of Special Education with the core curriculum, the African American Male Achievement work, and the impact in terms of facilities. Regarding Regional Governance, Director Hodge requested a better explanation of staffing and any new skill sets required? She asked about integration of community work into the Plan? Director Hodge had questions about cost and prospects for external resources?*

*Vice President London said the areas of budgeting and school choice need more information in the Plan.*

*Director Dobbins said he went to a PTA meeting last night and the community is asking if the District can realistically implement the items despite our budget challenges. There were fundamental questions on implementation and financial stability. Regarding full service community schools, how are we going to address deep problems like high school graduation and broader social issues, especially the challenge that we start losing kids at the middle school grades? How are we going to implement the challenge of becoming a full service community school district and the kind of tangible results we are going to set out for people to see?*

*President Yee asked if the Plan will include initiatives for Special Education, Continuing Education, English Language, Subject Content and DHP Process? President Yee asked which initiatives can serve multiple goals? How will the initiatives be prioritized in the first year? Who will be responsible for each of the areas? How will education be evaluated for career readiness? What does it mean to evaluate readiness? How do core planning documents at schools use WASC, i.e., school site plans, safety plans, etc., and how will they be adapted to the Plan? Will the Plan be adopted to them? What Board Policies will need to be revised to align policies to the Plan or vice versa? How contracts should be negotiated in the future to optimize the goals and aspirational aspects of the Plan? How the Plan proposes to build connections to business, industry and jobs? Whether every school needs to have every component of the Plan?*

*Director Gallo said he attended the PTSA meeting at Brewer. He recommended that our high schools become part of the Regional Networks to have an ongoing connection between elementary, middle and high schools..*

*Director Hodge asked if there is any proposed change to the Options Process? Is it being suggested that schools and regions might end up with different weighted formulas under RBB?*

*Student Director Mitchell asked about the implementation of A-G with continuation schools because they are on a different working schedule. She requested more information in how we are going to work with continuation schools and Special Education. She asked for an organizational chart and a listing of partnerships we are looking to have.*

#### *PUBLIC COMMENTS*

*Tony Robinson, Coordinator, Town Research Team, said he has been working with the Meaningful Student Engagement Research Team and the Quality Community School Development Task Force and he urged the Board to adopt the Strategic Plan.*

*Muting Cen, student, Oakland Technical High School and student researcher for the Town Research Team, spoke in support of the Meaningful Student Engagement work done as it relates to the Strategic Plan.*

*Dalliah Bill-Johnson, student, Skyline High School and student researcher for the Town Researcher Team, spoke about the importance of the research team work and the Quality Community School Development (QCSD) Task Force Meetings and the importance of youth voice in their schools. She urged support of the QCSD standards.*

*Jenny Nguyen, student, Oakland High School, member of All City Council and Town Research Team for the Meaningful Student Engagement (MSE) said the All City Council has been a part of the social and political justice movements and has let student voices be heard. She said the All City Council supports having a community member that works with the MSE and who knows what is happening in the community and what affects students. This year, MSE has worked with Quality School Development Task Force and it has been an amazing experience to have the student voice implemented into the standards. She asked for Board support of the standards.*

*Lacy Asbill said she has much appreciation for the work of the Superintendent in his role of leading the organization. She is proud of the birth of the Strategic Plan.*

*Brian McGhee, President, McClymonds Alumni Association, spoke about the meeting in West Oakland around STEM. He said the alumni requests quality education and parents wish their children to excel and exceed beyond high school. He stated McClymonds High Schools is in need of support for the infrastructure. The school will not have a secretary next year due to budget cutbacks. The school needs teachers in the classroom who will engage students if STEM is going to exist at McClymonds. Feeder schools would rather be prepared when they arrive at McClymonds.*

*Ron Muhammad, McClymonds Alumni Association, commended staff in their efforts to bring the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Model to the West Oakland Corridor. He said engineering requires a high level of math. Because some of our kids are coming in with challenges, teachers are needed who are culturally competent. They want to accept STEM, but would be fools to accept STEM without the proper tools. Quality*

*teachers are needed at McClymonds.*

*Leticia Henderson, Social Worker, and Vice President of the McClymonds Alumni Association, reiterated comments of the other members of the alumni association and they are interested about the STEM model. It has been a journey. However, they need the tools and the resources to expand the capacity that McClymonds currently has at the school as it relates to quality teacher and adequate programming. She said they would like to see the plan for young ladies. So far, the presentations have been geared towards production and engineering. They are not hearing about quality assurance, policy production planning, marketing and sales which are areas in the units of work that their young ladies would soar in. They look forward to partnering with the District and continuing the journey.*

*Shiereen Cambra, parent, said every kid in Oakland deserves an excellent education and Oakland has a responsibility to ensure that it happens. She said she is interested in volunteering in an area of high need.*

*Wandra Boyd, DAC, thanked all who participated in the preparation of the Strategic Plan draft. She said there is a need to support administration to ensure the Strategic Plan happens because it is a movement to educate all kids in an excellent plan. She supports a quality public school for each kid who attends Oakland Public Schools.*

*President Yee thanked everyone for the work.*

*Superintendent Smith said another meeting will be convened on June 1 which will be language specific with other meetings to follow up.*

*President Yee asked the Superintendent to convey to all of his staff and people who did work on the draft Strategic Plan that the Board is very appreciative of all their work on the draft Strategic Plan. The Board's next step will occur at the committee level.*

*Superintendent Smith said one-on-one meetings will be scheduled with all Board Members. President Yee said the projected date for adoption is Saturday, June 18. He said the Board has many questions which may result in modifications to the Plan. President Yee said we will need to come to some decision-making rules about what things get put in and what things do not. He said this is a great moment and he thanked Superintendent Smith.*

**Discussed**

## **Motion To Discharge Standing Committee(s) Legislative File(s)**

### **11-1280 Motion To Discharge Standing Committee(s) Legislative File(s)**

Adoption by Board of Education of Motion to Discharge any and all Legislative Files listed herein as "Pending" in a named Standing Committee, pursuant to Board of Education Bylaw 9130, due to business necessity and, upon adoption of said motion, incorporation of same into the listed Section of Agenda for consideration by the Board at current meeting.

**A motion was made by Alice Spearman, seconded by Jody London, that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes: Adv Aye: 0**



Adv Nay: 0  
 Adv Abstain: 0  
 Aye: 4 - Noel Gallo, Alice Spearman, Jody London and Gary Yee  
 Nay: 0  
 Recused: 0  
 Absent: 4 - Lashae Robinson, David Kakishiba, Jumoke Hinton Hodge and Christopher Dobbins  
 Preferential Aye: 0  
 Preferential Abstention: 0  
 Preferential Nay: 0

### **Finance and Human Resources Committee - Pending - David Kakishiba, Chair**



#### **11-1281**

#### **District Grant Application - U.S. Department of Justice - Community Based Violence Prevention Demonstration Program**

Approval and support by the Board of Education of District's Grant Application to U. S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, seeking approximately \$1,380,000.00 (\$460,000 per year) in Community-Based Violence Prevention Demonstration Program funding, for all District schools, to develop and implement evidence-based programs or strategies to reduce and prevent violence in the Community including schools (in partnership with community based agencies such as McCullum Youth Court, Oakland Parents Together, Positive Communications Practices and the Fetal Project), for the period October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2014, and, if granted, in whole or in part, authorization to accept same, pursuant to terms and conditions thereof, if any

**Funding Source: U. S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Prevention**

**Attachments:** [Document\(s\)](#)

[11-1280 - District Grant Application - U.S. Department of Justice - Community Based Violence Demonstration Program.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Alice Spearman, seconded by Noel Gallo, that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** Adv Aye: 0  
 Adv Nay: 0  
 Adv Abstain: 0  
 Aye: 4 - Noel Gallo, Alice Spearman, Jody London and Gary Yee  
 Nay: 0  
 Recused: 0  
 Absent: 4 - Lashae Robinson, David Kakishiba, Jumoke Hinton Hodge and Christopher Dobbins  
 Preferential Aye: 0  
 Preferential Abstention: 0  
 Preferential Nay: 0

## D. Adjournment

*President Yee adjourned the meeting at 8:44 P.M.*

Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_