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Introduction Date	May 11, 2022
Enactment Number	
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Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From VanCedric Williams, Board Member

Meeting Date May 11, 2022

Subject Foster Youth Enrollment Access and Priority

Ask of the Board Introduction of Resolution No. 2122-0081 - Foster Youth Enrollment Priority as a new legislative matter.

Background The Oakland Unified School District (“OUSD”) receives designated LCFF funds to increase or improve services for foster students, students eligible for free or reduced-price meals, and English Learners (“high need students”). These funds are often referred to as supplemental and concentration funding (“S&C funds”). These S&C funds are allocated to districts so that high need students are provided with more than equal access to resources and services as compared with all students. OUSD has the largest number of foster youth in Alameda County and, as such, has an outsized obligation to understand their unique rights and circumstances and to implement proactive measures to support them.

Foster students are placed in school districts and households at all times of the year and are thus not able to access the school application window.

Additionally, while OUSD has established a sibling priority for school enrollment in its commitment to support families and their relationship to schools, foster students residing in the same household are in effect siblings and members of a family (yet not able to use the “sibling priority” status). As such, they often attend different schools due to lack of space at the time of enrollment depriving them of the sibling priority afforded to other students.

Discussion This Resolution would lead to the creation of a separate enrollment priority status for foster youth that is ahead of other existing enrollment priorities such as sibling of current student, opportunity ticket, and neighborhood. The Resolution would also give foster youth the opportunity to transfer to another OUSD school at any point if it is deemed in their best interest by the student and the Education Rights holder in collaboration with their Adult Team. Lastly, the Resolution directs that seats be set aside to provide to foster youth with the necessary school access based on the number of foster youth living in each geographic boundary and the number of requests for particular schools in previous years to be reviewed each October for seat allocations in the following school year.

Fiscal Impact To be determined.

Attachment ● Resolution No. 2122-0081 - Foster Youth Enrollment Priority

**RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Resolution No. 2122-0081

Foster Youth Enrollment Priority

WHEREAS, the Oakland Unified School District (“OUSD”) receives designated LCFF funds to increase or improve services for foster students, students eligible for free or reduced-price meals, and English Learners (“high need students”) often referred to as supplemental and concentration funding (“S&C funds”);

WHEREAS, S&C funds are allocated to districts so that high need students are provided with more than equal access to resources and services as compared with all students;

WHEREAS, OUSD is committed to addressing the inequitable outcomes for many student groups, including foster students, who most often have intersectional experiences as low income students, students of color, and/or students with disabilities;

WHEREAS, OUSD has the largest number of foster youth in Alameda County and, as such, has an outsized obligation to understand their unique rights and circumstances and to implement proactive measures to support them;

WHEREAS, due to their adverse childhood experiences, intense mobility, and severely disrupted family circumstances, foster students need a solid sense of belonging and engagement within school communities that reflect their interests and needs;

WHEREAS, foster students are placed in school districts and households at all times of the year and are thus not able to access the school application window;

WHEREAS, OUSD has established a sibling priority for school enrollment in its commitment to support families and their relationship to schools;

WHEREAS, foster students residing in the same household are in effect siblings and members of a family (yet not able to use the “sibling priority” status), and are often attending different schools due to lack of space at the time of enrollment depriving them of the sibling priority afforded to other students;

WHEREAS, due to the aforementioned factors, foster students arriving late in the school year have historically only been able to access two high schools with rare exceptions, and also face obstacles to access at the elementary and middle school levels;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby declares that foster youth must be provided with equitable enrollment priority to schools;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board finds that a separate enrollment priority status needs to be created for foster youth ahead of other existing enrollment priorities such as sibling of current student, opportunity ticket, and neighborhood;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board finds that foster youth must be granted the opportunity to transfer to a school at any point if it is deemed in their best interest by the student and the Education Rights holder in collaboration with their Adult Team;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a number of seats be set aside to provide to foster youth with the school access described above based on the number of foster youth living in each geographic boundary and the number of requests for particular schools in previous years to be reviewed each October for seat allocations in the following school year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District this ____ day of _____, 2022, by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE:

PREFERENTIAL NOE:

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION:

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

RECUSED:

ABSENT:

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at the Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District held on _____, 2022.

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By:	

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Gary Yee
President, Board of Education

Kyla Johnson-Trammell
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education