

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2023-24 State Budget & Legislative Platform



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Our Vision

All OUSD students will find joy in their academic experience while graduating with the skills to ensure they are caring, competent, fully-informed, critical thinkers who are prepared for college, career, and community success.

Our Mission

Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) will build a Full Service Community District focused on high academic achievement while serving the whole child, eliminating inequity, and providing each child with excellent teachers, every day.





Ask of the Board:

This board meeting item is to facilitate a discussion of the governing board directors on state budget and legislative education policies that will be salient in the 2023-24 school year. The discussion will help the governing board develop its 2023-24 Education Policy Platform that will be used to guide OUSD's advocacy.

Timeline



Review of Most Recent Policy Platform

Education Finance:

Funding is the lifeblood of OUSD programs and services for our students, their families, and our community

2020-21 Platform

OUSD supports fiscal policies that provide stable, adequate, and equitable funding that align to the costs of giving our students—regardless of their background—what they need to be successful in school and in the community. We support increasing the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) base grants to ensure that California is among the top ten in the nation in per-student spending. State and federal fiscal resources should recognize and accommodate regional cost differences and unique costs of serving vulnerable student groups who need additional instructional and non-instructional support to attain educational parity, such as homeless and refugee students. Furthermore, OUSD is committed to eliminating our \$34 million outstanding state loan so that limited resources are unilaterally focused on serving our students and community.

Accomplishments

-  Secured additional investments in the LCFF above cost-of-living adjustments
-  Secured dedicated funding for newcomers, asylees, and unaccompanied minors
-  Secured additional funding for students with exceptional needs
-  Secured state support to address OUSD operating deficits to help eliminate state loan

Educator Pipeline:

OUSD students deserve the support of highly qualified and skilled teachers and staff

2020-21 Platform

OUSD supports policies that promote the recruitment and development of a diverse, talented workforce trained to meet the needs of California's increasingly diverse student body. Such policies should include investments along the full professional continuum, beginning with high-quality teacher preparation programs that provide in-the-classroom experience with master teachers, support for new teachers during the critically important first few years in the classroom, ongoing educator support to develop and refine skills in multicultural literacy as well as ethnic and language diversity, and tenure policies that promote continuous improvement in teaching practices. OUSD supports policies that create an accessible pathway into the teaching profession, including alternatives to high stakes licensure testing, and alleviate the hardship of high workforce attrition as well as the traditional hard-to-fill subject matters of science, mathematics, multilingual education, and special education. In addition, our community's high living costs make it difficult for promising young educators to afford teaching in the district; a high-cost community like Oakland warrants additional support to make the reward of teaching our students feasible. To this end, we support innovative policies to attract and retain talent in communities like Oakland, such as affordable housing options to enable our educators to live in the city where they teach.

Accomplishments



Leveraging state and federal investments to address OUSD critical staffing needs by supporting aspiring OUSD educators in their pursuits

Student Achievement:

All OUSD students will find joy in their academic experience while graduating with the skills to ensure they are caring, competent, fully-informed, critical thinkers who are prepared for college, career, and community success.

2020-21 Platform

OUSD has several priorities that address student achievement, including support for:

- *Community schools*
- *Career Technical Education*
- *Special Education*
- *Workforce Talent*
- *Accountability systems that promote transparency and continuous improvement*

Accomplishments

- Secured funding to support community schools
- Optimizing one-time federal and state resources to accelerate learning through academic enrichment programs and targeted support
- Leveraging funds to support student mental health
- Ensured transportation reimbursement funds are applicable to partnerships with municipal transit
- Continue to secure funding for career technical education programs



Considerations for 2023-24

Education Finance

Considerations for 2023-24

- How does OUSD want the state to prioritize available Proposition 98 resources?
 - Into the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)
 - Fully fund the statutory cost-of-living adjustment
 - Maintain full investment of \$3.5 billion for the Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant
 - LCFF Equity Multiplier Add-On
- Are there specific programs that OUSD prioritizes that require continuing or enhanced state support?
 - Community schools
 - Expanded Learning Opportunity Program
 - Transitional Kindergarten
 - Additional funds for California Newcomer Education and Well-Being (CaINEW) program

Educator Pipeline

Considerations for 2023-24

- What does OUSD need to acquire and retain a talented pool of certificated and classified staff?
 - Discretionary resources to offer competitive compensation
 - Policy changes to specific programs that are hindering local efforts
 - Golden State Teacher Grant Program
 - Teacher Residency Program
 - Flexibility in addressing acute teacher, substitute, and other staffing shortages
 - Where is there greatest need?
 - What flexibility is needed?
 - Are there any credentialing requirements that need reconsideration?

Student Achievement

Considerations for 2023-24

- What resources does the district need to further the academic outcomes of students?
 - Additional funds for the lowest performing student groups
- Are there specific programs or services that are showing gains in accelerating learning, addressing outcome gaps, or improving school engagement?
 - Community schools
 - Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program
 - Expanded learning options
- Does the district need flexibility in program design or delivery to improve efficacy for students?

Thank you

For more information, please reach out:

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