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**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

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To Board of Education**From** Jennifer Brouhard**Meeting Date** May 13, 2026**Subject** President's Report – May 13, 2026

As we enter the final weeks of the 2026–27 school year, there is much to celebrate across our district. In the coming weeks, we will honor our graduating seniors and students promoting from TK, 5th, and 8th grades. We will also celebrate the achievements of our students through Latino, Arab/SWANA, AAPI, and African American honor roll events. These moments reflect the resilience, talent, and hard work of the 34,000 students we serve—and they remind us why this work matters.

Over the past several months, we have faced real challenges. At the same time, we are making significant progress in restructuring our budget and moving toward a financial plan that centers our students. We have certified both the first and second interim budgets as qualified, and we continue working toward a stronger third interim that addresses county concerns and puts us on a more sustainable path.

This process has not been easy. Real change rarely is. But it has been grounded in board members who have been listening to students, families, labor partners, and staff, and in board and district work to maintain local control of our budget. Those conversations—sometimes difficult, always rooted in care for our students—have helped surface both concerns and solutions.

I also want to acknowledge the very real impact of the decisions we've had to make. These reductions affect programs and people who are essential to our school communities.

Some examples of my areas of concern are cuts to Home and Hospital programs, which serve students in crisis and provide critical continuity of learning for OUSD students and students from other districts who are hospitalized in Oakland. I am concerned about reductions to Ethnic Studies and the Office of Equity—areas that are fundamental to student and family engagement, identity, and belonging. We must advocate for increased state funding, especially for full Prop 98 funding for next year.

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At the same time, we made these difficult decisions to avoid a state or county loan and preserve local control of our district. Looking ahead, I am committed to ensuring a more thorough analysis of central office roles before future layoff notices are issued, so that we are prioritizing resources as close to students and school sites as possible.

There is still much work ahead. But we remain focused on our responsibility to the 34,000 students we serve and the employees who support them every day.

Finally, I want to thank all of our staff for their continued dedication to our students and families. You make this district work, and we are thankful for all you do every day to fulfill our mission to serve all students."
