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Enactment Number	24-1980
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**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Community Schools, Thriving Students

Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From Board President Benjamin “Sam” Davis

Meeting Date October 23, 2024

Subject Joint Letter in Support of Measure NN (formerly known as Measure Z)

Ask of the Board Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution [No.] Joint Letter of Support for Measure NN.

Background The safety and well-being of our students, educators, and families are paramount priorities for the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), Oakland Charter Schools, and the City of Oakland. Ensuring that our schools are safe and supportive learning environments is a shared commitment across these institutions, as we recognize the importance of community-wide collaboration to address safety concerns.

This Resolution demonstrates our collective support for increased public safety investments across the city. It emphasizes the need for comprehensive measures, including violence prevention programs and enhanced collaboration with fire and law enforcement agencies. By aligning our efforts and resources, we aim to create safer schools and neighborhoods, addressing both immediate safety needs and long-term community resilience.

This Resolution reflects our unified commitment to fostering a secure environment for all students, educators, and families in Oakland.

Discussion The key issue before the Board is the importance of ensuring the safety of students, educators, and families across all Oakland schools, including OUSD and Oakland Charter Schools. This Resolution seeks to reinforce and formalize the District's commitment to collaborating with the City of Oakland on public safety efforts. The discussion focuses on the need for a multi-faceted approach to addressing safety concerns, which includes:

1. **Violence Prevention Programs:** The Board should consider the significance of investing in preventative measures that address the root causes of violence in schools and surrounding communities. Programs aimed at violence interruption and conflict resolution are crucial in fostering safer environments for students.

2. **Enhanced Fire and Law Enforcement Coordination:** Increasing collaboration with fire and law enforcement agencies is a critical component of this Resolution. The Board should weigh the benefits of building stronger partnerships with these entities to ensure timely and effective responses to emergencies.
3. **Alignment with Citywide Public Safety Initiatives:** This Resolution aligns with broader public safety investments that the City of Oakland is making. The Board should consider the strategic importance of participating in citywide efforts to promote safety in schools and communities, recognizing that public safety is interconnected across neighborhoods.

Fiscal Impact

There is no direct fiscal impact to the District.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution No. 2425-0186
- Joint Letter of Support Measure NN

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

Resolution 2425-0186

Joint Letter in Support of Measure NN (Formerly known as Measure Z)

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of students, educators, and families are of paramount importance to the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), Oakland Charter Schools, and the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, ensuring safe and supportive learning environments requires a commitment to collaboration across all sectors, including local government, schools, and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Measure NN, officially called the *Oakland Community Violence Reduction and Emergency Response Act of 2024*, is a renewal of Measure Z, which has for the past decade provided critical support to community-based violence prevention initiatives and essential public safety services; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of Measure Z include consistent grant funding for the Department of Violence Prevention (DVP) and nonprofit organizations to support students, families, and communities impacted by violence, crime, and trafficking, as well as the staffing of Oakland's police and fire departments at pre-defined levels; and

WHEREAS, Measure NN seeks to continue this essential funding, thereby ensuring the ongoing operation of programs that provide restorative justice approaches, violence disruption, and critical emergency response services in our schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, Oakland Unified School District recognizes the importance of public safety as an enabling condition for the success of our community schools and the future trajectories of our young people; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of this parcel tax through Measure NN will provide crucial resources for the Department of Violence Prevention, the Oakland Police Department, and the Oakland Fire Department to safeguard our schools and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, OUSD is committed to working closely with the City of Oakland to ensure that public safety investments particularly benefit communities in East and West Oakland, which have historically been most impacted by violence and under-resourced in terms of support services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District formally expresses its support for Measure NN; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education directs the President and Superintendent to sign on to the Joint Letter of Support for Measure NN on behalf of the Oakland Unified School District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District this 23rd day of October 2024, by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE: None

PREFERENTIAL NOE: None

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION: Micele Vasquez, Maximus Simmons

PREFERENTIAL RECUSED: None

AYES: Jennifer Brouhard, VanCedric Williams, Jorge Lerma, Valarie Bachelor, Clifford Thompson,
President Benjamin Davis

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: Vice President Mike Hutchinson

RECUSED: None

ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District held on October 23, 2024.

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OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Benjamin Davis
President, Board of Education



Kyla Johnson-Trammell
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education

October 23, 2024

Oakland Unified School District and Oakland Charter Schools

RE: Joint Letter In Support of Measure NN (formerly known as Measure Z)

Dear Oakland Community:

This November 5th on election day, the Oakland Unified School District Board and the boards of Oakland Charter Schools organizations support Measure NN, formerly known as Measure Z.

Measure NN is officially called the Oakland Community Violence Reduction and Emergency Response Act of 2024 and is the renewal of Measure Z from a decade ago. The accomplishments from these investments include:

- Consistent grant funding for community and non-profit organizations through the Department of Violence prevention to support young people at our schools as well as their families that are impacted by violence, crime, and trafficking, as well as lead violence prevention and disruption initiatives.
- Staffing Oakland's police and fire departments at pre-defined levels

Continuing this parcel tax would help fund the Department of Violence Prevention and their service providers and community partners- many of whom work across our schools supporting violence-impacted students and families, in addition to the Oakland Police Department and Fire Department.

Alongside community partners, we believe that this investment is critical for the next ten years for our Oakland community and schools.

We acknowledge the resource constraints consistent across the City of Oakland and its public services departments, the Oakland Unified School District, and Oakland Charter School organizations. However, our belief is that this collective investment toward the safety and well-being of our students, families, and community is essential to a thriving city, with thriving schools. Our goal is to work closely with the City to increase the safety and stability of our residents, especially families in East and West Oakland communities that need the most support.

As Board Members and educators serving 50,000 Oakland children across TK to 12th grade across our district and charter schools, we believe that public safety is an enabling condition to strong community schools and that violence prevention through restorative justice approaches will support our young people and their future trajectories.

Thank you for your consideration and support of our collective community.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Davis, President
Oakland Board of Education

Kyla Johnson Trammell, Superintendent & Secretary, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District