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OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Memo

To Board of Education

From Gary Yee, Ph.D., Interim Superintendent
Vernon Hal, Deputy Superintendent, Business & Operations
Jennifer Le Barre, Director of Nutrition Services *JLB*

Board Meeting Date October 23, 2013

Subject Request for Approval of Memo of Understanding between Oakland Unified School District and Center for Ecoliteracy.

Action Requested Approval by the Board of Education of Memo of Understanding between Oakland Unified School District and Center for Ecoliteracy.

Background Oakland Unified School District Nutrition Services has been working with the Center for Ecoliteracy (CEL) for approximately five (5) years in partnership to improve the school meal program. The initial work focused on a Feasibility Study using their Rethinking School Lunch matrix to assess the viability of changing the meal program & upgrading facilities. As a result of this work, the recommendations of the study were integrated into the Facilities Master Plan and are now being realized due to Measure J funds. CEL is committed to a continued relationship with the District.

Discussion The MOU will establish agreements and define CEL and OUSD's shared commitment to planning for and implementing the Rethinking School Lunch Oakland Initiative advancing comprehensive school food innovations in OUSD.

Recommendation Approval by the Board of Education of Memo of Understanding between Oakland Unified School District and Center for Ecoliteracy.

Fiscal Impact None

Attachments Memo of Understanding



Memorandum of Understanding

Plan for and Implement the Rethinking School Lunch Oakland Initiative

Purpose: The purpose of this memorandum of understanding is to establish agreements and define our shared commitment to planning for and implementing the Rethinking School Lunch Oakland Initiative advancing comprehensive school food innovations in the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD).

I. Historical Context: In 2011, with support from the TomKat Charitable Trust and the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, the Center for Ecoliteracy (CEL) launched the Rethinking School Lunch Oakland Feasibility Study, which resulted in the creation of a comprehensive roadmap for district-wide school food innovation to dramatically improve the quality of school meals and acknowledge the importance of nutrition in academic achievement and student well-being. The study made recommendations for significant changes in facilities—the conversion of an existing site into a green central kitchen and urban farm, the installation of fourteen school-community kitchens, and the upgrade of additional satellite kitchens—to create a hub and network throughout the district. These recommendations were incorporated into the OUSD Facilities Master Plan 2012, which was unanimously adopted by the Board of Education.

The Rethinking School Lunch Oakland (RSLO) initiative that has been a long-term partnership between CEL and OUSD incorporates a suite of interrelated programs, including:

- ❖ The “RSLO: Linking Food, Culture, Health, and the Environment,” professional development and community engagement effort, which was launched in 2008 with support from the Bechtel and has resulted in the creation of the Oakland Food Web, a network of elementary schools, and Food for Change, a network of high schools, among other outcomes;
- ❖ The “RSLO: Central Kitchen, Urban Farm, and Education Center” design, planning, and implementation effort, with additional support from The San Francisco Foundation and the Robert and Kathryn Riddell Fund;



- ❖ School–Community Kitchens across the district;
 - ❖ Professional development activities for educators and staff; and
 - ❖ Curriculum development activities for students K-12.
- e) Collaborate to effectively develop communications resources for RSLO activities.
- f) Continue RSLO planning and implementation efforts funded by TomKat Charitable Trust, the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, The San Francisco Foundation, the Safeway Foundation/Children’s Hospital & Research Center Oakland, and the Center for Ecoliteracy outlined in the OUSD Nutrition Services Master Plan as part of the 2012 OUSD Facilities Master Plan and the OUSD Central Kitchen, Urban Farm, and Education Center concept paper.

IV. *RSLO Partner Commitments and Responsibilities:* Whereas CEL secured funding from the TomKat Charitable Trust and the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation to launch and complete the Feasibility Study and for implementing RSLO, from The San Francisco Foundation for design and planning for the education program at the OUSD Central Kitchen, Urban Farm, and Education Center, and from The Safeway Foundation/Children’s Hospital & Research Center Oakland for community engagement and planning; assisted to facilitate the Nutrition Advisory Council; conducted research and authored concept papers for the OUSD Central Kitchen, Urban Farm, and Education Center, and for School-Community Kitchens; and brings a portfolio of foundations and funders and nonprofit status required by some funders and grant-makers, as well as credibility and long-standing experience with comprehensive school food reform.

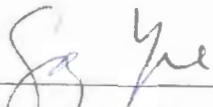
CEL agrees to the following commitments and responsibilities:

- a) Participate in RSLO Steering Committee meetings.
- b) Facilitate the design and planning of the OUSD Central Kitchen, Urban Farm, and Education Center facilities and related programs.
- c) Provide resource development for RSLO in partnership with OUSD’s Nutrition Services, communications, grant writing, and other departments.




- e) Collaborate with CEL to develop, design, and produce related communications strategies and assets for RSLO activities.
- f) Provide in-kind services in the form of staffing for resource development through implementation, and ensure the implementation and completion of all activities financed by grant funds obtained by CEL for the purpose of fulfilling the vision of Rethinking School Lunch Oakland.
- g) Additionally, OUSD commits to do everything possible to ensure timely implementation of all activities in agreed upon work plan. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, OUSD commits to communicate with CEL and support explanation of any delays or changes to RSLO funders.

In Agreement:

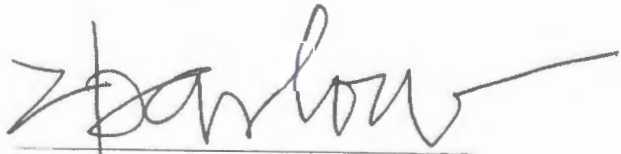


Gary Yee, Acting Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District

Date:

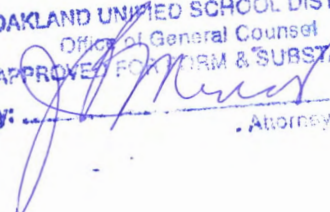
 10/24/13

David Kakishiba
President, Board of Education



Zenobia Barlow, Executive Director
Center for Ecoliteracy

Date:

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of General Counsel
APPROVED FOR FORM & SUBSTANCE
By:  _____
Attorney at Law

OUSD or the District verifies that
the Contractor does not appear on
the Excluded Parties List at
www.epils.gov/epils/search.do.

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