

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

1011 Union Street, #940

Oakland, CA 94607-2236

ousd.org/boe | boe@ousd.org

510.879-1940 w | 510.627-9440 f | 711 TTY/TDD

**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

BOARD OF EDUCATION 2026**Jennifer Brouhard**, President, District 2Jennifer.Brouhard@ousd.org**Valarie Bachelor**, Vice President, District 6Valarie.Bachelor@ousd.org**Rachel Latta**, District 1Rachel.Latta@ousd.org**VanCedric Williams**, District 3VanCedric.Williams@ousd.org**Mike Hutchinson**, District 4Mike.Hutchinson@ousd.org**Patrice Berry**, District 5Patrice.Berry@ousd.org**Clifford Thompson**, District 7Clifford.Thompson@ousd.org

To Board of Education

From Jennifer Brouhard

Meeting Date January 14, 2026

Subject Appointment – Benjamin “Sam” Davis – Measures B, J, Y Independent Citizens School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee (Measures BJY Committee)

ASK OF THE BOARD

Ratification by the Board of Education of the President of the Board’s appointment of Benjamin “Sam” Davis, as the Business Community Member, to the Measures B, J, and Y Independent Citizens School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee, effective January 15, 2026, for the unexpired term ending June 30, 2027.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The duties of the Measures B.J.Y Committee, as defined by Board Bylaw 9131, among other duties, is to provide advice and recommendation to the District regarding the expenditure of funds for bond related projects, to actively review and report on the proper expenditure of taxpayers’ money for school construction and to take any necessary action in furtherance of its purpose including, but not limited to, receiving and reviewing copies of annual independent financial audits and deferred maintenance proposals, inspecting school facilities and grounds, receiving and reviewing cost-saving measures designed to reduce the costs of professional fees and site preparation. The Committee also shall have the option to tour sites where Bond funds are being expended, with support from the Superintendent.

RECOMMENDATION

I am recommending that the Board confirm my appointment of Benjamin “Sam” Davis, as the Business Community Member, to the Measures B, J, and Y Independent Citizens School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee, effective January 15, 2026, for the unexpired term ending June 30, 2027.

JB:ER:lf

Attachment: Application of Benjamin “Sam” Davis (Redacted In Part)

Profile

Benjamin

First Name

Davis

Last Name

samdavis9@gmail.com

Email Address

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Measures B, J and Y Independent Citizens' School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee:
Submitted

Street Address

Suite or Apt

Oakland

City

CA

State

Postal Code

Which Board of Education election district (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7) do you live in? *

☒ District 1

Home:

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Employer

Job Title

Occupation

Employer's Street Address

Employer's City

Employer's State

Employer's Zip

Work Phone

Work Email

samdavis9@gmail.com

Interests & Experiences

Please explain briefly your interest in serving on this Committee, Commission or Board:

I was active in the campaigns for Measure J and Measure Y, and during the campaigns we made many promises to the citizens of Oakland about how the bond dollars would be spent in service of Oakland's children. I have seen some of those promises broken or bent over the years, while other promises such as the renovation of Fremont HS and the construction of the Claremont MPR have been beautifully fulfilled. I feel responsible to the voters to ensure that as much as possible, the projects are efficiently completed with high quality construction that also serves the economy of Oakland.

Please indicate your other community involvement (work with public agencies, volunteering, other Committees, Commissions, Boards, groups, etc.):

I served on the Oakland Board of Education for 4 years. Prior to that, I was active as a parent on the Claremont SSC. I served on the Board of Oakland Community Organizations, which then changed its name to Faith in Action East Bay (FIAEB) for 7 years. I am currently active in the state Democratic Party as an elected delegate, and I am the treasurer of the Friends of Oakland Public Schools, which under prior leadership was the primary committee advocating for Measures B, J and Y.



Upload a Resume

Question applies to multiple boards

Educational Background - e.g. college and/or university, degree/major, vocational and/or training, certificates, technical training, etc.

BA in Mathematics, UC Berkeley, 1994 MS in Applied Mathematics, CSU East Bay, 2013

Question applies to Measures B, J and Y Independent Citizens' School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee

Please select each category that describes your community involvement

- ☒ I am active in a business organization representing the business community located within the District
- ☒ I am active in a senior citizens' organization

Question applies to Measures B, J and Y Independent Citizens' School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee

Please list below the contact information, including the name, address, telephone number and a primary contact for the organization(s) that you are affiliated with, which are within the above stated categories.

AARP, 601 E Street NW, Washington DC, 20049, (888) 687-2277, Myechia Minter-Jordan, President and CEO Oakland Rotary Club, 1736 Franklin St, Suite 200, Oakland, CA 94612, (510) 451-2120, Jesse Bowdle, Executive Administrator

Question applies to Measures B, J and Y Independent Citizens' School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee

No employee or official of the District shall be appointed to the Commission or Committee. No person who is a, or employed by a, vendor, contractor or consultant of the District shall be appointed to the Commission or Committee. Any such affiliation shall disqualify an individual from Commission or Committee membership. Such affiliations must be disclosed below.

Not applicable

Question applies to Measures B, J and Y Independent Citizens' School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee

Are you affiliated with a vendor, contractor or consultant to the District?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to Measures B, J and Y Independent Citizens' School Facilities Bond Oversight Committee

If Yes, please explain.

Demographics

Choosing not to answer any of the questions in this section will not disqualify you from consideration or serving.

Ethnicity

☒ Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Gender

☒ Male

Socio-Economic Group

☒ 

Verification

Please indicate your agreement with the following statement

I have reviewed and understand the duties of the Commission or Committee for which I am submitting this application. I agree to perform said duties. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

☒ I Agree

Your application must be **completed and submitted on-line via this web form**. For assistance, if needed, or response to questions, please contact Edgar Rakestraw, Jr., Executive Assistant, Board of Education, Oakland Unified School District, 1000 Broadway, Suite 300, Oakland, CA 94607-4033 or 510/879-8658 or via email at Edgar.Rakestraw@ousd.org. Your application must be **submitted** by the applicable deadline, if any.

Note: This application and your responses are a Public record and subject to disclosure.

Sam Davis

██████████ ▪ samdavis9@gmail.com ▪ Oakland, CA
www.linkedin.com/in/sam-davis-78878b54/

EXPERIENCE

Community Engagement Expert: *Alameda County Office of Education, 2025–present*

- Consulted with school leaders across Oakland to engage with them on the long-term fiscal challenges confronting the Oakland Unified School District, and to gather feedback on plans to restructure central administration and reimagine the district footprint.

School Board Trustee: *Oakland Unified School District, 2021–2025*

- Developed policy, jointly supervised the Superintendent and General Counsel, and prioritized among myriad high-stakes issues as an elected official in the 11th largest school district in California.
- Elected Vice President of the Board for 2021 and 2022, and President for 2024.
- Led the campaign for the renewal of the College & Career for All initiative as Measure H on the November 2022 ballot, overwhelmingly passed by Oakland voters 82% to 18%, which continues to dramatically increase graduation rates for all students, from 61% in 2014 to 80% today, while shrinking opportunity gaps for multiple focal groups.
- As Chair of the Facilities Committee in 2023, collaborated with staff to develop a consensus spending plan to reallocate tens of millions of dollars in construction funds equitably to address urgent building renovation needs at Title I schools to whom promises had been broken by previous administrations, approved unanimously by the full Board.
- Wrote highly-regarded monthly newsletters updating constituents on the latest developments in the District, which were widely circulated among families, staff, and district leaders seeking reliable and unbiased information.
- Navigated multiple high-conflict and high-leverage crises, including the return to in-person learning after the pandemic, intense controversy over school closures, the occupation of a closed campus, an 8-day teacher strike, and several intense debates over structural deficits, while prioritizing progressive, responsible, and sustainable stewardship of public dollars.
- Advocated successfully in partnership with the Oakland Youth Vote Coalition at the City Council and County Board of Supervisors to win full implementation of Measure QQ, allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote for school board members for the first time in a large California city in the November 2024 election.
- Developed strong relationships with other local and state elected officials, represented Oakland Unified in numerous media interviews, public events, and panel discussions, and lobbied in Sacramento on behalf of the District.

Analyst: *University of California Office of the President, 2016–2024*

- Designed and maintained reports in Tableau to assist school district and University of California end-users in interpreting data on the college eligibility on-track status for over 700,000 high school students at over 600 schools participating in the UC Transcript Evaluation Service from across the state.
- Wrote code in SQL and Python, redesigned data model in SQL Server, and acted as system administrator for a cluster of 24 servers on AWS, as well as database administrator for dev, QA, and production MS-SQL Server systems.
- Established systems for end-to-end and regression testing, anonymization of data, data security, and dynamic validation rules for submitted files of student transcripts.
- Performed business analysis and data analysis for the University, and provided customer service to school district end-users to aid them in promoting increased college eligibility.

Data Visualization Analyst: *Schoolzilla, 2014–2015*

- Designed reports in Tableau, wrote code in SQL and Python, and provided end-user support for UC's Transcript Evaluation Service as well as school district clients of an education data startup company.

Math Instructor: *Laney, Patten, and Contra Costa Colleges, and Cal State East Bay, 2011–2014*

Family Outreach Coordinator: *Manzanita SEED Elementary School, 2011–2014*

Teacher: *Oakland Adult and Career Education, 2003–2011*

EDUCATION

- MS in Applied Mathematics, with certificate in Statistics, Cal State East Bay, 2013.
- Graduate credential courses in Education, CSU Los Angeles, 1998–2000.
- BA in Mathematics with Honors, UC Berkeley, 1994.

OTHER SKILLS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Fluent in Spanish, written and oral.
- Treasurer, Patrice Berry for Oakland School Board campaign, 2024.
- Treasurer, Friends of Oakland Public Schools, 2023–present.
- Executive Team member, Oakland Thrives, 2023.
- Member, Kehilla Community Synagogue Immigrant Rights Committee, 2017–present.
- Officer of the Board of Directors, Faith in Action East Bay (formerly OCO), 2011–2020.