



BLUEPRINT
FOR
QUALITY SCHOOLS

Opportunity Ticket Working Group Recommendations



iam OUSD

September 25, 2019

Agenda

- Background on Opportunity Ticket
- Background on Working Group
- Charge of Working Group
- Recommendations of Working Group
- Next Steps

Background on Opportunity Ticket

- Blueprint for Quality Schools is centered around key principles of increasing quality, equity, access and fiscal sustainability
- There has traditionally been no enrollment prioritization for families impacted by closing or merging schools.
- It is important for students of impacted schools to be prioritized so those families have a pathway to a higher, better-quality option.
- Board approved Opportunity Ticket-inspired access for Roots 6th and 7th graders for 2019-2020; Board also approved the creation of a working group
- The Opportunity Ticket would allow **students of closed or merged schools to be prioritized** so they have a pathway to a higher, better-quality option

Background on Working Group

Working Group met 4 times: May 3, June 4, June 24, July 24

Membership

- Central Office: Nana Xu, Sonali Murarka, Yvette Renteria, Kim Raney
- Jocelyn Kelleher - Principal, Crocker Highlands
- Kilian Betlach - Principal, Elmhurst United
- Lakisha Young - Oakland REACH
- Dirk Tillotson - Great School Voices
- Charles Cole - Energy Converters
- Nilofer Ahsan - Equity Allies
- Katherine Finney - Parent
- Reginald Mosley - Parent

Charge of the Working Group

The charge of this working group was to make recommendations on the following questions for the lottery that occurs in March 2020:

- Q1: What percent of seats should be allocated at receiving schools for students who receive an Opportunity Ticket?
- Q2: Does the Opportunity Ticket apply to all students at moving/closing sites AND receiving sites?
- Q3: Should students from closing charter schools receive an Opportunity Ticket?

Working Group Recommendations - Q1

| Question | Recommendation | Consensus? | Comments |
|---|--|------------|---|
| What percent of seats should be allocated at receiving schools? | 51% of remaining seats after interested continuing students and siblings are let in, for both entry and non-entry grades. No more than 10% of total enrollment would be allocated at receiving schools. | Unanimous | Some committee members were interested in higher percentages being reserved for non-entry grades (where a majority of students from moving/closing schools are) |

Rationale

- 51% felt both significant but not so high as to disrupt the existing school community.
- The restriction of no more than 10% of total enrollment is primarily for middle schools, where 51% of even just the entry grade could constitute a large percentage of the school.

Working Group Recommendations - Q2

| Question | Recommendation | Consensus? | Comments |
|--|---|-----------------|---|
| Does the Opportunity Ticket apply to all students at moving/closing sites AND receiving sites? | All students in non-transitional grades at the site that is changing location should receive an opportunity ticket. Given Cohort 2 vote, this would mean Kaiser (Gr. K-4) and SOL (Gr. 6-7) families are eligible. | Slight Majority | One-third of the working group believed that the Opportunity Ticket should apply only to LCFF-qualified students of the site that is changing location. |

Rationale

- Spirit of the opportunity ticket design was to give priority to students whose school is being moved as they could be considered most impacted by the change.
- Members who did not vote in favor of the LCFF restriction pointed to (a) LCFF may leave out vulnerable families, (b) additional complexity that may be confusing for families, and (c) potential implementation challenges. Strong interest in revisiting this in the future.

Working Group Recommendations - Q3

| Question | Recommendation | Consensus? | Comments |
|---|---|------------------|--|
| Should students from closing charter schools receive an Opportunity Ticket? | <p>Yes, students at closing charter schools should receive an Opportunity Ticket to district schools.</p> <p>This should apply to all Oakland residents attending charter schools located in Oakland.</p> | Nearly Unanimous | Group did not feel it was under their purview to make a recommendation about whether charter schools should add an opportunity ticket preference |

Rationale

- Students at closing charter schools are also Oakland students and school closure is challenging for any student.
- 1 member thought it should only extend to students from OUSD-authorized closing charter schools.
- 1 member thought we should not approve this, in order to send a positive message to district students.

Next Steps

- Board discussion
- Update Administrative Regulations 5116.1
- As requested, additional engagement opportunities for schools that are likely to be affected (see Appendix)
- Develop communications plan for families who are eligible to receive an opportunity ticket
- Work with SchoolMint to technically implement the Opportunity Ticket

Appendix

If we used the 51%/10% threshold, high demand schools, schools with high percentage of siblings, and small schools had greatest potential for the displacement of neighbors

16-17 Schools with highest number of potential neighbor displacement in 1st round lottery at entry grade

- Madison Park Academy 6-12 (Max: 58)
- Coliseum College Prep Academy (Max: 36)
- Hillcrest Elementary (Max: 27)
- Peralta Elementary (Max: 25)
- Crocker Highlands Elementary (Max: 23)
- Glenview Elementary (Max: 16)
- West Oakland Middle (Max: 15)
- Montclair Elementary (Max: 14)
- Oakland Technical High (Max: 14)
- Sequoia Elementary (Max: 12)
- Chabot Elementary (Max: 11)

17-18 Schools with highest number of potential neighbor displacement in 1st round lottery at entry grade

- Crocker Highlands (Max: 44)
- Madison Park Academy (Max: 39)
- Coliseum College Prep Academy (Max: 38)
- Chabot Elementary (Max: 29)
- Peralta Elementary (Max: 25)
- Hillcrest Elementary (Max: 18)
- Redwood Heights (Max: 8)

Note: Historical outcomes can not fully determine future impact; future impact is determined by a range of factors including how many siblings, neighbors, and opportunity ticket holders apply to each school as well as how many schools are closed or consolidated; the above analysis represents the maximum number of displaced neighbors if opportunity ticket holders are maxed out at each school and all opportunity ticket holders accept their placement; alternative schools and Metwest excluded from above analysis

Difficult to determine likely impact of Opportunity Ticket

We don't have the historical data to determine what the likelihood of movement would be if families were offered the opportunity ticket. We will begin collecting more data this year and will have the ability to make more statements about likelihood in future years.

Some initial learnings from the Roots process:

- 18% of rising 6th and 7th graders did not participate in the ranked placement process (n=28)
- Of those who participated, highest proportion of students' first choices were *higher-performing nearby* options (e.g. CCPA)

Note: Reasons for not participating in the ranked placement process include: students who will move out of Oakland or have decided to leave OUSD, SDC students who request a specialized program, and families who did not complete ranking

Planned Opportunity Ticket Design as Presented to Board

- **Families who meet the following criteria will be provided an Opportunity Ticket:**
 - Have a child currently attending the school that is a planned closure or that will be merging to another location
 - Live in the attendance area of the school that is a planned closure or that will be merging to another location and would have sent their child to the school that is closing or merging to another location
- The Opportunity Ticket would be **sequenced in the following order:**
 - 1) Continuing Student; 2) Sibling; 3) Opportunity Ticket; 4) Neighbor; 5) School Staff; 6) Oakland Resident; and, 7) Open enrollment
- For 2020 and beyond, the percent of seats set aside for Opportunity Tickets at any grade would **not exceed 51% of the available seats**, with the total number of students assigned to the school **not exceeding 10% of the total enrollment**

BP 5116.1 Language

[After Sibling Priority]

Opportunity Ticket Priority: Previously, prioritization in the enrollment process was limited to siblings and neighborhood residents. There was an absence in prioritization for families impacted by closing schools and schools where families will need to move to a new location. The Opportunity Ticket will be granted enrollment priority in selecting a new school that they deem suitable for their children. Details regarding the implementation of the Opportunity Ticket can be found in Administrative Regulation 5116.1.