

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

1000 Broadway, Suite 680

Oakland, CA 94607-4099

[ousd.org/boe](http://ousd.org/boe) | [boe@ousd.org](mailto:boe@ousd.org)

510.879.8199 w | 510.879.2299 f | 510.879.2300 TTY/TDD



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION 2018**

**Aimee Eng**, President, District 2

[aimee.eng@ousd.org](mailto:aimee.eng@ousd.org)

**Jumoke Hinton Hodge**, Vice President, District 3

[jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org](mailto:jumoke.hintonhodge@ousd.org)

**Jody London**, District 1

[jody.london@ousd.org](mailto:jody.london@ousd.org)

**Nina Senn**, District 4

[nina.senn@ousd.org](mailto:nina.senn@ousd.org)

**Roseann Torres**, District 5

[roseann.torres@ousd.org](mailto:roseann.torres@ousd.org)

**Shanthi Gonzales**, District 6

[shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org](mailto:shanthi.gonzales@ousd.org)

**James Harris**, District 7

[james.harris@ousd.org](mailto:james.harris@ousd.org)

---

July 2, 2018

The City Council  
City of Oakland  
Honorable Larry E. Reid, President  
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Derby Street Parcel Sale to Aspire Charter Schools

Dear President Reid and Members of Council:

The Board of Education of the City of Oakland (Board) on June 27, 2018 adopted Resolution No. 1718-0196, attached, which calls for greater consultation and collaboration between the City Council and the Board on school facility issues. This Resolution outlines the District's ongoing work to develop a strategic vision for quality, equitable, and sustainable public schools which takes into account the optimal locations for schools within the City, facilities condition, school size, population patterns and anticipated needs, and programmatic demand and development for district and charter schools.

The Board also on June 27, 2018 directed the Superintendent of Schools to develop a citywide plan for both District-run and charter-run schools that address issues including facilities, enrollment and transportation, charter school authorization, sharing best practices, and defined autonomies (i.e., more flexibility) for District schools. The attached Resolution notes that when the City of Oakland's zoning or real property transactions relate to the creation, development or expansion of schools in the City, it directly impacts the District's role in fulfilling its obligations of implementing quality public education throughout the City and potentially impacts traffic, neighboring schools, transportation plans, quality of life, and other environmental impacts.

The Resolution states the District's opposition to the sale of the Derby Street parcel to Aspire Charter Schools. It also notes concern about the ongoing construction by Lodestar Charter School at a location

The City Council  
City of Oakland  
Honorable Larry E. Reid, President  
Re: Derby Street Parcel Sale to Aspire Charter Schools  
July 2, 2018  
Page 2 of 2

in Sobrante Park, particularly the environmental impacts, including traffic, safety, transportation, infrastructure and energy impacts, and other adverse impacts to the neighborhood and Madison Park Academy, which is half a mile from the Lodestar location.

Specific requests from the Board to the City Council are that (1) the City consult with the School District prior to zoning or disposition of property decisions related to school placements that may impact the community of schools in Oakland and (2) the Board and City Council convene the Education Partnership Committee in the near future to review the work of the District's Blueprint for Quality Schools and potential areas to explore opportunities for partnership on facilities issues.

The Board looks forward to greater consultation and collaboration between the City Council and the Board on school facilities and other interrelated issues impacting the youth of the City. Please feel free to contact me or your counterpart on the Board for discussion, questions or comments on the Board's position on the Derby Street Parcel Sale matter pending before the Council.

Sincerely,  
BOARD OF EDUCATION



Aimee Eng  
President

AE:lf

Attachment: Resolution No. 1718-0196

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 1718-0196**

**CALLING FOR CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE ELECTED  
LEADERSHIP OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND AND THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL  
DISTRICT ON SCHOOL FACILITY ISSUES IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD or District) has the privilege and duty of implementing state policy concerning public schools and administering the state's system of public education in Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, in fulfilling its obligation to implement sustainable high-quality public education across the City of Oakland (City), the District is conducting a citywide planning process called the Blueprint for Quality Schools to develop a strategic vision for quality, equitable, and sustainable public schools which takes into account the optimal locations for schools within the City, facilities condition, school size, population patterns and anticipated needs, and programmatic demand and development for district and charter schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the OUSD Board is considering currently a policy that would look at district-run and charter-run schools in relation to each other and define how we can better operate as a community of schools in service of quality education; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has broad authority to zone property uses and/or dispose of surplus public land in a manner that is in the best interest of Oakland citizens, and the City has collaborated with the District and other public agencies in development of master plans for development in certain areas of the City of Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, when the City's zoning or real property transactions relate to the creation or development of public schools in the City, it directly impacts the District's role in fulfilling its obligations of implementing quality public education throughout the City and potentially impacts traffic, neighboring schools, transportation plans, quality of life, and other environmental impacts.

**WHEREAS**, in the spirit of collaboration and mutual benefits for the citizens of Oakland, the Board of Education believes that where the City's jurisdiction and the Governing Board's jurisdiction intersect, the City and District should collaborate. This includes any decision by the City of Oakland to authorize the creation or expansion of schools in the City, either through zoning/ planning decisions, sale of public property, or development of private property which

should be made in consultation with the District. The Blueprint for Quality Schools process has produced substantial data that can be useful in analyzing over-arching public policy issues relating to disposition or use of public lands. While these decisions may seem to the City like simple real property transactions that yield net revenue to the City, increasing the number of schools in particular neighborhoods can perpetuate segregation, decrease opportunities in other neighborhoods, impact transportation patterns, reduce neighborhood cohesion, create discord in communities, and could destabilize the public education infrastructure in our City; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland recently approved development of a new campus for the Lodestar Charter School in the Sobrante Park neighborhood located one-half mile from Madison Park Academy, recognized as one of the rising stars in OUSD with very high college attendance rates in the 2018 graduating class; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Board of Education are receiving complaints from residents of the Sobrante Park neighborhood about environmental impacts, including traffic and congestion from the construction of the Lodestar campus and concerns about the potential fracturing of neighborhood community through the loss of students from Madison Park Academy to Lodestar; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland is considering a sale of a Derby Avenue Parcel (APN 025-0720-002-01) to Aspire Charter Schools to build an education complex which at full capacity would house 620 students, nearly triple the size of its current school enrollment; and

**WHEREAS**, Aspire Charter Schools has not yet presented its expansion plans to the Board of Education, and the Board of Education has not agreed to a required material revision authorizing the growth of the school that is seeking space at the Derby Avenue parcel; and

**WHEREAS**, the Derby Avenue project was originally proposed to also provide for affordable housing, which is in dire need in the City; the District, in recognizing the need, has explored options for educator housing within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the City would be approving the deal without considering the impact of nearly tripling the size of the school, and its new location, on existing schools in the area. Within 1 mile of the proposed location, there are 18 schools that serve the same age group as Aspire ERES. For District schools, that is 6 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, and one 6- 12 school. For charters, that is 2 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, and 3 K-8 Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed location of the ERES site would be .2 miles (2/10 of one mile) from two thriving school communities at the Cesar Chavez complex, Think College Now (TCN) and International Community School (ICS). TCN and ICS are models of innovation in the District, demonstrating entrepreneurial approaches to education, and have shown steady academic progress over the course of the last 15 years; and

**WHEREAS**, expansion of ERES at this scale, and in this location, would have a drastic impact on enrollment at these two schools and other neighboring school communities, potentially jeopardizing their future viability; because according to the district's most recent Strategic Regional Analysis, there is no evidence that there is a need for an additional neighborhood school in this location and at the targeted size of nearly triple the current enrollment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oakland City Council has delayed its vote on the sale of the Derby Street property in part to provide an opportunity for the Oakland School Board to provide input; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board recognizes that Aspire ERES is currently in a private facility and is in need of a new facility and has secured a \$30 million grant in Proposition 1D funding from the State to build a new facility; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Oakland Unified School District desires to protect and support the continued success and sustainability of its existing neighborhood schools and to fulfill its obligations of providing quality public education across the City of Oakland. In the case of ERES, the District does not support the sale of the Derby parcel for the use of building a new school complex to house 620 students. In the case of Lodestar, the District is concerned about the environmental impacts, including traffic, safety, transportation, infrastructure and energy impacts, and other adverse impacts to the neighborhood and Madison Park Academy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the School Board directs the Superintendent to immediately engage in conversations with Aspire Charter Schools to identify whether the District has any surplus or vacant property that could accommodate Aspire ERES's current needs through a long-term lease beginning 2019-2020 school year in an area that will have less direct impact to the neighboring school communities, yet meets the school's near-term facility needs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the School Board asks that the City of Oakland shall consult with the School District prior to zoning or disposition of surplus property decisions related to school placements that may impact the community of schools in Oakland; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the School Board will work to convene the Education Partnership Committee, a joint committee of the Oakland Unified School District and the City of Oakland, within 60 days to review the work of the Blueprint for Quality Schools and potential areas to explore opportunities for partnership on facilities issues.

Passed by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE: Student Director Gema Quetzal

PREFERENTIAL NOE: None

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION: None

PREFERENTIAL RECUSED: None  
AYES: Jody London, Nina Senn, Roseann Torres, Shanthi Gonzales, James Harris, President Aimee Eng  
NOES: Vice President Jumoke Hinton Hodge  
ABSTAINED: None  
RECUSE: None  
ABSENT: Student Director Enasia Mc-Elvaine

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Kyla Johnson Trammell, 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 June 27, 2018.



---

Kyla Johnson Trammell  
Secretary, Board of Education

Legislative File Id. No. 18-1220  
Introduction Date: 05/23/2018  
Enactment No.: 18-1260  
Enactment Date: 06/27/2018  
By: os