

All City Council Student Union's Student Director Report
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Good evening board members, Superintendent, students, families and community,

The All City Council Student Union Governing Board is excited to share with you all what we have been up to and what we are planning in the next couple of weeks:

This past weekend we had our Meaningful Student Engagement overnight retreat and it was a huge success! Our intention was to create a space for students to build from the ways we felt attacked last year to a place where we can expand on our vision to create a stronger platform for youth voice in OUSD. By doing this, we would be able to meet with youth leaders from all over Oakland that represent their high schools and come up with ways on how to improve our education system and community. Our goals for this retreat included: Strengthen our Student Union by 1) building relationships among youth and adult leaders from our various schools, organizations and programs; 2) learning about the Student Engagement history, power, purpose, wins, and campaigns; and 3) training student leaders in various action planning and leadership skills that they can apply to address the issues they are currently working on and care deeply about at their schools and districtwide. Our second set of goals focused on align our youth/student engagement efforts throughout Oakland; this included: 1) identifying our common area of joint work, and ally-solidarity work across schools and organizations; and 2) begin planning our Fall (and Spring) 2019-20 events & activities in coordination with state-wide education policy issues.

Thought out the retreat we had the opportunity to learn about different community initiatives and organizations to help the youth get ready and take action. We were able to build relationships among youth and adult leaders from Youth Together, Bay Peace, Californians For Justice, Oakland Kids First, Teens On Target, Peer Restorative Justice, AAMA's Student Leadership Council, Latino Student Achievement, and Black Organizing Project. The youth that came together not only represented their schools but they also represented different student groups on campus, including: leadership classes, the Black Student Union, and La Raza Student Union. We were able to do many activities to help us understand more about the history of All City Council and Meaningful Student Engagement by doing a gallery walks to help students reflect on how a youth movement is always more powerful than a movement with no youth representation.

We reflected on the budget cuts from last year and the powerful strong movement created by students who were passionate to take all the anger and frustration they felt and transform that energy into an opportunity to organize themselves and take matters into their own hands. This led us to look into different ways we can really be "at the table". Although we are clear on our campaign focus, we are embarking on a research phase and will be sure to keep everyone updated. One thing is for sure, students are already leading in so many efforts and we are more than equipped to engage in any and all conversations concerning our livelihood now and for our future. We are committed to supporting our students to reimagine and rebuild what it means to meaningful engage in all aspects of our education from the school site all the way to the state, this is what we are doing with this: making an environment where youth are nurtured to be upstanding members of our community.

We also had the opportunity to learn more about the Schools and Communities First statewide campaign- which would reverse proposition 13 and bring more money to our schools. We also learned more about the Bettering Our School System (BOSS) campaign - which is really centered around student safety and elimination of school police. Lastly, we also talked about the students desire to be engaged as partners in the redesign of RJ, especially because we played a leading role in saving it. ACC is really excited to learn more about the ways we can support in advancing all these efforts, especially because all other them are aligned to putting students at the center and bringing more resources for our schools. .

Another big highlight is that we were able to fulfill all of our open ACC Governing Board positions including Vice President, Secretary, Historian and Health & Wellness director. We are so excited to welcome William Calmo as our Secretary representing Madison Park Academy, Marcos Acosta as our Historian representing Met West, Jessica Ramos representing Skyline and last but not least Dwayne Davis representing McClymonds. We want to congratulate the new All City Council Student Union Governing Board for the hard work they showed this weekend and we're so proud to finally have our Governing Board complete and more united than ever.

Overall, our overnight retreat was a success we had a lot of diversity and representation with 44 youth and adult allies from 9 high schools including Street Academy, Fremont, McClymonds, Castlemont, Met West, Life Academy, Oakland Tech, Oakland High, Skyline, and Madison and we plan to see each other at least monthly and will have another 1 day retreat in January. We were fortunate to have an opportunity to get out of Oakland and be in a space that can ignite our inspiration to continue our work together as we keep reminding ourselves aint no power like the youth because the power of the youth NEVER stops.

Lastly, don't forget our All City Council Student Union meeting for Middle School student leaders is this upcoming Tuesday, September 17th, 12:00-3pm, at Elmhurst United. We would like to invite 3-4 student leaders from each of our middle schools along with their school sites' leadership teacher or student engagement staff to accompany the students. Please RSVP by September 12th. Look out for a flyer on our social media pages with more information, topics, and a registration link. What to expect? Get to know other middle school student leaders from other school sites, team building, and food will be provided (please register).

To find more information, flyers, permission slips or more information on any of the announcements above you can check us out on instagram @allcitycouncilousd. Or email me at Mica.Smith-Dahl@ousd.org and Denilson.Garibo@ousd.org or our meaningful student engagement staff, Aurora Lopez at Aurora.Lopez@ousd.org

Thank you.