

The Oakland College & Career Readiness For All Fund

Purpose

The Oakland College & Career Readiness For All Fund is established to pay for the implementation of a comprehensive approach to high school education in Oakland that integrates challenging academics with career-based learning and real-world work experiences. This comprehensive approach creates small learning communities of career-oriented pathways, and offers intensive, individualized support to create the conditions for all students to graduate high school prepared to succeed in college and career.

Goals

1. Increase the high school graduation rate.
2. Decrease the high school drop out rate.
3. Increase high school students' readiness to succeed in college and career.
4. Increase middle school students' successful transition to high school.
5. Reduce disparities in student achievement and student access to career pathways based on race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, English Learner-status, special needs-status, and residency.

Allowable Uses

1. To increase supports for students in college preparatory courses in every high school to ensure all students are eligible to attend and are prepared to succeed in college.
2. To provide work-based learning in every high school, including career exploration, career technical education courses, job shadowing, internships, and job certifications.
3. To provide counseling, tutoring, mentoring, and other intensive support services to students in danger of not graduating high school.
4. To provide programs to students transitioning from 8th grade to 9th grade to prepare them to succeed in high school, and to students transitioning from 12th grade to college to prepare them to succeed in college.

Distribution

1. No less than 90% of parcel tax monies shall be equitably distributed on per pupil basis, for pupils in grades 9 through 12 enrolled in Oakland Unified School District schools and charter schools authorized by the Oakland Unified School District. Parcel tax monies shall be allocated to such schools upon the submission, review, and approval of each school's annual school improvement plan. An approved school improvement plan shall be consistent with the long-term goal of equitably placing all students in career pathways that deliver challenging academics, career technical education, work-based learning, and personalized academic, social, and emotional support services. An approved school improvement plan shall minimally include:
 - * Completion of a diagnostic self-evaluation of the school's needs to implement the full continuum of an integrated college and career preparation program for all students.
 - * Annual and Three-Year accountability indicators toward achieving the stated purpose and goals of this Measure.
 - * Evidence-based strategies designed to meet the accountability indicators.

- * Description of how school staff, time schedules, and budgets are coherently structured to implement the school improvement plan's strategies and activities.
2. No more than ten percent (10%) of parcel tax proceeds each year shall be used by the Oakland Unified School District to administer the College & Career Readiness For All Fund, including, but not limited to project staffing, school quality reviews, independent audit services, and an evaluation of the Fund's progress toward achieving its stated purpose, goals, and allowable uses.

College & Career Readiness Commission

The Board of Education shall establish a College & Career Readiness Commission comprised of five (5) persons who demonstrate extensive knowledge and expertise in high school and postsecondary curriculum, instruction, and leadership; education research, evaluation, and analytics; and financial management and audits. The College & Career Readiness Commission shall advise and report to the Board of Education and shall be responsible for:

1. PLANNING
 - a. Reviewing each high school's School Quality Review findings, Balanced Scorecard results, and school improvement plans.
 - b. Submitting school funding recommendations to the Board of Education for approval.
2. OVERSIGHT
 - a. Oversight of the proper allocation and use of all parcel tax monies.
 - b. Reviewing annual independent audit reports.
 - c. Submitting recommendations to the Board of Education for any new or modified policies and administrative regulations to ensure the Oakland Unified School District's compliance with the requirements and intent of this Measure.

The Board of Education shall provide by resolution for the composition, funding, staffing, and other necessary information regarding the Commission's formation and operation.

Security from State Seizure or Use

If, in any fiscal year during the term of the education parcel tax, the State Legislature or Governor shall approve any law or take any action the effect of which shall be to deprive the District of the benefit of any proceeds of the education parcel tax, whether by directly taking such proceeds for any State purpose or by taking such proceeds into account for purposes of calculating State support of the District under Section 8 of Article XVI or under any program of categorical aid, special aid or other special programs, then the Board of Education shall reduce the rate of the education parcel tax commensurately.

Independent Annual Audit

Upon the levy and collection of the education parcel tax, the Board of Education shall cause an account to be established for deposit of the proceeds, pursuant to Government Code Section 50075.1. For so long as any proceeds remain unexpended, the Superintendent or the Chief Financial Officer of the District shall cause an independent financial auditor to prepare a report to be filed with the Board of Education no later than December 31 of each year, commencing December 31, 2016, stating (1) the amount collected and

expended in such year; (2) the description of all programs funded, and a determination that the monies expended were for the allowable uses stated in this Measure; and (3) a determination that the monies from this Measure are being used to supplement, and not supplant, unrestricted general fund revenue so appropriated to schools serving pupils in grades 9 through 12 for the fiscal year 2014-2015. The cost of said Independent Audit may be paid from the proceeds of the parcel tax. The report may relate to the calendar year, fiscal year, or other appropriate annual period, as said officer shall determine, and may be incorporated into or filed with the annual budget, audit, or other appropriate routine report to the Board of Education.

Low Income Exemption

An exemption from this tax shall be made for owners of single family residential units in which they reside whose combined family income from all sources for the previous calendar year is at or below the income level qualifying as "very low income" for a family of such size under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, 42 U.S.C.A. Sections 1437 et seq. for each year. Owners must apply for this exemption annually by petition to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District in the manner and at the time set forth in procedures established by the District. Such petitions shall be on forms available from the Chief Financial Officer's office and must provide information sufficient to verify income including, but not limited to, federal income tax returns and W-2 forms of owner-occupants.