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OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students

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Student Directors' Report

December 12, 2012

Carmen Jimenez and Pierre Salmeri, Student Directors

3RD ALL CITY COUNCIL GENERAL MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETING

On November 13th, 2012 we had our 3rd All City Council General Middle School Meeting at Westlake. Among the attendees were Bret Hart, West Oakland, and Westlake Middle Schools.

Bret Harte Middle School

Improvements - Delegates from Bret Harte report less litter on their campus and also less bullying. These improvements were due to a new implemented reward system and their participation in the screening of the bullying movie.

Remaining concerns - The issue of safety before and after school hours. No recent actions have been taken to address this concern so far.

Upcoming Events - An upcoming event is the winter concert. Bret Harte's Action Project will either be to organize and plan an assembly/rally or to create a student website/blog that will address the issue of bullying.

West Oakland Middle School

Delegates from West Oakland Middle School report that some improvements in student behavior, uniforms, grades and assemblies. These improvements are all due to the participation of students in academic support.

Remaining concerns - Attendance of students and the cafeteria food. Tardy sweeps have currently been done and it has helped to improve the attendance of students in class.

Upcoming events - Thanksgiving assembly. West Oakland Middle School's Action Project will be *Phoenix Rising Day* which will help to increase school size and enrollment and will also incorporate a tour of the school campus to new and future students.

Westlake Middle School

Delegates from Westlake Middle School report improvements in their school are the distribution of textbooks, the cooperation of students with the dress code and the continuous absence of fights.

Remaining concerns - Students arriving late to classes and vandalism of school property. The school is working on these issues by trying to ensure that students arrive on time to class.

Upcoming events - A food drive, Family Light Night, and a school dance.

3RD ALL CITY COUNCIL GENERAL HIGH SCHOOL MEETING

On November 15th, 2012 we had our 3rd All City Council General High School Meeting at Oakland High. Among the attendees were CCPA, Dewey, McClymonds, and Oakland High.

Delegates from CCPA report improvements in their school are a decrease in fights and the privacy in the school clinic.

Remaining concerns - Uniforms, policies, cafeteria food, grading systems, respect towards teachers and the amount of help and attention to lowerclassmen. The issue of uniforms has led the school to grant more dress free days to students.

Delegates from Dewey report that some of the improvements in their school are the absence of fights on campus, Saturday school, garden project, mix martial arts class, and internships. These improvements are due to the change of rules, higher attendance, grant, recruitment, and violence prevention project. A remaining concern is disruptive students causing trouble. An upcoming event is graduation in December.

Delegates from McClymonds report that some of the improvements in their school are Restorative Justice, vice principal, after school programs, tutoring, and mentoring. Some of these improvements were due to alumni support. Some remaining concerns are cafeteria food, school culture, school schedule, and library. PTSA and S.B. leadership are collaborating together in order to resolve and address these concerns. Upcoming events include Winter Ball, home coming, and student body president debate. Their action project will be to work and gain support from PTSA and alumni's to open up a snack bar and/or a brief brunch period.

Delegates from Oakland High report that some of the improvements in their school are attendance, bullying, cleaner school and facilities, supportive staff and teachers, and student realization of the importance of school. These improvements were due to tardy sweeps, S3 meeting/groups grade meetings, and music during lunch if school is kept clean. Remaining concerns include safety issues like weapon control and fights. Upcoming events are teacher luncheon, and Winter Ball. Action project chosen will be about preventing bullying and improving school safety.

On Thursday, November 29th, 2012 MSE-OSF Fish Bowl was held at Chabot Space and Science Center. The fish bowl addressed questions about student support, safety and school climate and quality teaching among a group of students from different high school that included CCPA, MetWest, Fremont, Dewey and Oakland Tech. The group shared their thoughts and answers on their perspectives of school. The group thought that teacher help and tutoring before and after school, check in with teachers, emotional advice from teachers, more teachers and counselors, ASAP center and slower moving classes would help support students. The group shared that access to safety should include SSO selection by students, youth centers, internships, sports, college advisors incentives/rewards and upperclassmen mentoring underclassmen would help to provide a safe school climate. The group thought that teachers who are inspiring, prepared, organized understanding caring, supportive, trusting, patient, nonjudgmental, that work off the clock, have fun classrooms, that can relate to students and that are role models would help make and emphasize quality teaching. Additional thoughts included students should be more involved in school, there should be more events at school, support and advertise school spirit, more programs, teachers should follow rules, stronger community, communicating with the whole school, culture awareness, make school feel comfortable and principals should work with students.

Our upcoming events are:

- ACC Middle School Meeting, Tuesday, December 18th, 10am-12pm, at West Oakland MS
- ACC High School Meeting, Thursday, December 20th, 1pm-3pm, at McClymonds
- Latino Parent Conference, Saturday, December 15th, 9am-3pm at the Think College Now and ICS campus on 29th and International in the Cafeteria. Open to all parents, we will have English translation, childcare, and lots of education workshops for parents to support students in all grade levels.