

## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

1000 Broadway, Suite 680

Oakland, CA 94607-4099

510.879.8199 w • 510.879.2299 f • 510.879.2300 TTY / TDD

www.ousd.org

e-mail: boe@ousd.org



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

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**James Harris**, President, District 7  
James.Harris@ousd.org

**Nina Senn**, Vice President, District 4  
Nina.Sennn@ousd.org

**Jody London**, District 1  
Jody.London@ousd.org

**Aimee Sueko Eng**, District 2  
Aimee.Eng@ousd.org

**Jumoke Hinton Hodge**, District 3  
Jumoke.HintonHodge@ousd.org

**Roseann Torres**, District 5  
Roseann.Torres@ousd.org

**Shanthi Gonzales**, District 6  
Shanthi.Gonzales@ousd.org

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October 4, 2017

To: Board of Education

From: Budget and Finance Committee  
Aimee Eng, Chairperson  
Shanthi Gonzales  
Roseann Torres

Subj: Guiding Principles Regarding Budget Development and Prioritization

The Budget and Finance Committee, in session October 4, 2017, unanimously (3-0) adopted the below listed Guiding Principles Regarding Budget Development and Prioritization recommendation to Board of Education

Guiding Principles Regarding Budget Development and Prioritization:

- Student First: Understanding the impact of decision on students.
- Data-driven decisions aligned to Theory of Action, Strategic Plan and LCAP.
- o Reviewing student-level data and incorporating feedback from the previous year budget development process and assessing effectiveness to inform decisions.
- o Engaging key stakeholders and incorporating their feedback into the budget process to the extent feasible given mandatory timelines.
- o In line with the district's Theory of Action, resources and dollars at the school sites should be protected.
- Adhering to best fiscal practices in order to position OUSD for improved short and long-term fiscal health.
- o Understanding short and long-term impact of key fiscal, programmatic and operational decisions.
- o Identifying and understanding the level of risk embedding in key fiscal decisions.
- Equity: Budget adjustments should be made in a way that avoids disproportionately impacting the District's most vulnerable students e.g. specific schools or student populations being impacted by a combination of budget adjustments
- Transparent Communications: Ensuring the Board and community have timely access to clear, accessible, comprehensive information, including understanding the full range of options being considered and what choices are being made and by what timeline and according to what criteria.

AE:st