

Board Office Use: Legislative File Info.	
File ID Number	21-1955
Introduction Date	09/08/2021
Enactment Number	
Enactment Date	



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Community Schools, Thriving Students

Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From Kyla Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent
Tara Gard, Chief Talent Officer, Talent Division

Meeting Date September 8, 2021

Subject Recognition - District's 2021-2022 - Teachers of the Year - Talent/Human Resources Department

Ask of the Board Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 2122-0052 - Collectively and Individually, for Oakland Unified School District's 2021-2022 Teachers of the Year, as follows:

Whitney Dwyer	9-12 th Grade ELA/Social Science, MetWest High
Jessica Jung	3 rd Grade, Bridges Academy
Chantel Parnell	6 th - 8 th Grade Computers, Bret Harte Middle School

Background Annually the District identifies and honors its own; OUSD's Teachers of the Year program aligns with the criteria set by the State of California's Teachers of the Year program.

Discussion The District's Teachers of the Year are known as particularly outstanding candidates chosen from among a competitive group of high-caliber instructors Districtwide. Our purpose here is to identify and honor three outstanding teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts.

Fiscal Impact N/A

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 2122-0052**

- Recognition – Whitney Dwyer, Jessica Jung and Chantel Parnell - Collectively and Individually, as Oakland Unified School District's 2020-2021 Teachers of the Year-

WHEREAS – the goal of the District’s Teacher of the Year program is to identify and honor outstanding teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the tireless efforts of outstanding instructors, and

WHEREAS - the Teachers of the Year are known as particularly outstanding candidates chosen from among a competitive group of high-caliber instructors Districtwide, and,

WHEREAS – Whitney Dwyer serves as both Classroom Teacher and Advisor for 9-12th Grade at MetWest High School. For over ten years, she has been known by colleagues as a phenomenal teacher leader and culture keeper, the heart and soul of MetWest, and a reliable anchor for students, families and fellow staff members. During her time on staff, she has supported the High School Expansion Team, served as a Teacher Leader Mentor and support of first-year teachers, a Curriculum Developer for Ethnic Studies; she serves on the District’s Measure N commission and was a Founding Advisor for the Ericka Huggins Campus at MetWest; and

WHEREAS – As an educator, Ms. Dwyer helps supply her students with the tools necessary to work toward liberation on internal, interpersonal, and institutional levels. She prepares her students to understand the historical context for contemporary problems that affect them and to evaluate the root causes of the harms that affect them and the greater community. Her goal is for students to learn strategies for change and then to facilitate the specific change for which they are striving. Her aspiration is that her students love and respect one another through active community building, sharing with one another, and learning about their shared struggles; and

WHEREAS – Colleagues say Ms. Dwyer is a magnet for young people and that she embodies a unique combination of love and rigor for all of her students. Whether working intentionally providing meaningful learning opportunities for political and social engagement, producing MetWest Live, organizing teach-ins about climate justice, or speaking passionately in front of the entire school about the Black Lives Matter movement, it is said that her impact extends beyond her own cohorts of students, that it is felt deeply within the entire school community. Because of her influence, students have returned to speak to the student body, participate in events, and some have returned to MetWest as staff, crediting Ms. Dwyer for many of their successes during and after high school; and

WHEREAS – Jessica Jung, 3rd Grade Teacher at Bridges Academy, has taught in OUSD for over fourteen years. Colleagues say she always views her teaching practice through a social justice lens, developing thought-provoking lessons to engage student discussion around race, activism, and empowerment. During the unprecedented 2020-2021 school year, Ms. Jung supported students and their families physically and

emotionally, utilizing the virtual environment in ways that deepened students' social/emotional competencies. She created regular spaces for students to share, including open discussions about death, grief, and loss, allowing students to bring their full selves into the classroom; and

WHEREAS – Ms. Jung has served Oakland Unified in multiple roles beyond her classroom: as a participating member of the Literacy Leadership Team, Faculty Council, and School Site Council. She serves on the Equity and Culture Team, and has been an English Language Development (ELD) Teacher Leader and Coach. She has consistently served the District in multiple ways; she served on the Mathematics Common Core Curriculum Production Team, Oakland Learning Lab Network Design Team, and is a Guided Language Acquisition Design Trainer for the District. Ms. Jung has led professional development for teachers on specific, high leverage ELD strategies to engage English Language Learners; she is also Commissioner on the Library Advisory Commission for the City of Oakland/Oakland Public Library; and

WHEREAS – Within weeks after the COVID pandemic gained attention, with her support, Bridges created a *GoFundMe* page, equitably collecting and distributing funds and providing immediate financial relief for families who wouldn't qualify for government support. Ms. Jung also engaged multiple stakeholders, writing a three-year school transformation plan that earned Bridges Academy a \$160,000 grant, providing a clear road map for how the school would best serve its students. It is said that she is her students' biggest cheerleader; always praising and encouraging her young scholars. Beyond social and emotional support, academically, her mid-year Reading Inventory results showed that 50% of her class made one year's growth in reading, including 28% who made two-three years growth;

WHEREAS – Chantel Parnell, 6th-8th Grade Computer Science Teacher at Bret Harte Middle School, supports her students to feel comfortable trying things out, making mistakes and expressing themselves. To disrupt the underrepresentation of girls in STEM, "Ms. Parnell piloted an all-girls computer science class at her school and brought a group of her students to present at the first-ever Future Trailblazer Challenge, hosted by Salesforce with David Beckham," as noted in the June 7, 2021, *San Francisco Chronicle*. Having created a classroom environment where the role of teacher and learner are interchangeable, she has cultivated a space where students are not only taking creative risks but are making their thinking more visible through the problem-solving process and multiple rounds of feedback and reflection. Colleagues say Ms. Parnell's way of challenging and inspiring students at the same time is one of her great strengths; and

WHEREAS – When Ms. Parnell's students presented at the Future Trailblazer Challenge, they faced off with students from other schools in a "Shark Tank" style competition. Her students prototyped a solution to a selected United Nations (UN) sustainable development goal and used coding curriculum and a 3-D printer to build a solution that addressed their specific topic, school shootings. Watching her students in front of a large audience confidently sharing what they had been working on with so much passion was incredibly satisfying to her. Ms. Parnell is determined to make sure the girls in her classes and across OUSD feel like they belong in STEM classes and can succeed at high levels; and

WHEREAS – Ms. Parnell has served her school community and the District in several roles as a member of Instructor Led Training (ILT) and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Teams, Math Teacher Leader, and Computer Science Teacher Leader. During the COVID pandemic, as a District-wide Teacher Leader, she produced slides and videos to support other Computer Science Teachers across the District. Ms. Parnell is also a Mills Teacher Scholars-Computer Science Teacher Leader and Scholar as well as a Fellow in the Agency by Design Teacher Fellowship;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Whitney Dwyer, Jessica Jung, and Chantel Parnell - Collectively and Individually, for exceptional service to the students and city of Oakland and honor them as the District's 2122-0052 "Teachers of the Year."

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 8th day of September, 2021, in Oakland, California.

CERTIFICATION

We 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 September 8, 2021.

Legislative File	
File ID Number:	21-1955
Introduction Date:	09/08/2021
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By:	

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Shanthi Gonzales
President, Board of Education

Kyla Johnson-Trammell
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education



**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 2122-0052A**

**Recognition of Whitney Dwyer, as Oakland Unified School District’s
2021-2022 “Teacher of the Year”**

WHEREAS – The goal of the District’s Teacher of the Year program is to identify and honor outstanding teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the unflagging efforts of outstanding instructors, and

WHEREAS – Whitney Dwyer serves as both Classroom Teacher and Advisor for 9-12th Grade at MetWest High School. For over ten years, she has been known by colleagues as a phenomenal teacher leader and culture keeper, the heart and soul of MetWest, and a reliable anchor for students, families and fellow staff members. During her time on staff, she has supported the High School Expansion Team, served as a Teacher Leader Mentor and support of first-year teachers, a Curriculum Developer for Ethnic Studies; she serves on the District’s Measure N commission and was a Founding Advisor for the Ericka Huggins Campus at MetWest; and

WHEREAS – As an educator, Ms. Dwyer helps supply her students with the tools necessary to work toward liberation on internal, interpersonal, and institutional levels. She prepares her students to understand the historical context for contemporary problems that affect them and to evaluate the root causes of the harms that affect them and the greater community. Her goal is for students to learn strategies for change and then to facilitate the specific change for which they are striving. Her aspiration is that her students love and respect one another through active community building, sharing with one another, and learning about their shared struggles; and

WHEREAS – Colleagues say Ms. Dwyer is a magnet for young people and that she embodies a unique combination of love and rigor for all of her students. Whether working intentionally providing meaningful learning opportunities for political and social engagement, producing MetWest Live, organizing teach-ins about climate justice, or speaking passionately in front of the entire school about the Black Lives Matter movement, it is said that her impact extends beyond her own cohorts of students, that it is felt deeply within the entire school community. Because of her influence, students have returned to speak to the student body, participate in events, and some have returned to MetWest as staff, crediting Ms. Dwyer for many of their successes during and after high school;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute and honor Whitney Dwyer for her outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as one of three of the District’s 2021-2022 Teachers of the Year.

Given under our hand and the District’s seal this 8th day of September, 2021, in Oakland, California.

Shanthi Gonzales
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Kyla Johnson-Trammell
Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Community Schools, Thriving Students

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 2122-0052B**

**Recognition of Jessica Jung, as Oakland Unified School District's
2021-2022 "Teacher of the Year"**

WHEREAS – The goal of the District's Teacher of the Year program is to identify and honor outstanding teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the unflinching efforts of outstanding instructors, and

WHEREAS – Jessica Jung, 3rd Grade Teacher at Bridges Academy, has taught in OUSD for over fourteen years. Colleagues say she always views her teaching practice through a social justice lens, developing thought-provoking lessons to engage student discussion around race, activism, and empowerment. During the unprecedented 2020-2021 school year, Ms. Jung supported students and their families physically and emotionally, utilizing the virtual environment in ways that deepened students' social/emotional competencies. She created regular spaces for students to share, including open discussions about death, grief, and loss, allowing students to bring their full selves into the classroom; and

WHEREAS – Ms. Jung has served Oakland Unified in multiple roles beyond her classroom: as a participating member of the Literacy Leadership Team, Faculty Council, and School Site Council. She serves on the Equity and Culture Team, and has been an English Language Development (ELD) Teacher Leader and Coach. She has consistently served the District in multiple ways; she served on the Mathematics Common Core Curriculum Production Team, Oakland Learning Lab Network Design Team, and is a Guided Language Acquisition Design Trainer for the District. Ms. Jung has led professional development for teachers on specific, high leverage ELD strategies to engage English Language Learners; she is also Commissioner on the Library Advisory Commission for the City of Oakland/Oakland Public Library; and

WHEREAS – Within weeks after the COVID pandemic gained attention, with her support, Bridges created a *GoFundMe* page, equitably collecting and distributing funds and providing immediate financial relief for families who wouldn't qualify for government support. Ms. Jung also engaged multiple stakeholders, writing a three-year school transformation plan that earned Bridges Academy a \$160,000 grant, providing a clear road map for how the school would best serve its students. It is said that she is her students' biggest cheerleader; always praising and encouraging her young scholars. Beyond social and emotional support, academically, her mid-year Reading Inventory results showed that 50% of her class made one year's growth in reading, including 28% who made two-three years growth;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute and honor Jessica Jung for her outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as one of three of the District's 2021-2022 Teachers of the Year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 8th day of September, 2021, in Oakland, California.

Shanthi Gonzales
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Kyla Johnson-Trammell
Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District



**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 2122-0052C**

**Recognition of Chantel Parnell, as Oakland Unified School District’s
2021-2022 “Teacher of the Year”**

WHEREAS – The goal of the District’s Teacher of the Year program is to identify and honor outstanding teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the unflagging efforts of outstanding instructors, and

WHEREAS – Chantel Parnell, 6th-8th Grade Computer Science Teacher at Bret Harte Middle School, supports her students to feel comfortable trying things out, making mistakes and expressing themselves. To disrupt the underrepresentation of girls in STEM, “Ms. Parnell piloted an all-girls computer science class at her school and brought a group of her students to present at the first-ever Future Trailblazer Challenge, hosted by Salesforce with David Beckham,” as noted in the June 7, 2021, *San Francisco Chronicle*. Having created a classroom environment where the role of teacher and learner are interchangeable, she has cultivated a space where students are not only taking creative risks but are making their thinking more visible through the problem-solving process and multiple rounds of feedback and reflection. Colleagues say Ms. Parnell’s way of challenging and inspiring students at the same time is one of her great strengths; and

WHEREAS – When Ms. Parnell’s students presented at the Future Trailblazer Challenge, they faced off with students from other schools in a “Shark Tank” style competition. Her students prototyped a solution to a selected United Nations (UN) sustainable development goal and used coding curriculum and a 3-D printer to build a solution that addressed their specific topic, school shootings. Watching her students in front of a large audience confidently sharing what they had been working on with so much passion was incredibly satisfying to her. Ms. Parnell is determined to make sure the girls in her classes and across OUSD feel like they belong in STEM classes and can succeed at high levels; and

WHEREAS – Ms. Parnell has served her school community and the District in several roles as a member of Instructor Led Training (ILT) and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Teams, Math Teacher Leader, and Computer Science Teacher Leader. During the COVID pandemic, as a District-wide Teacher Leader, she produced slides and videos to support other Computer Science Teachers across the District. Ms. Parnell is also a Mills Teacher Scholars-Computer Science Teacher Leader and Scholar as well as a Fellow in the Agency by Design Teacher Fellowship;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute and honor Chantel Parnell for her outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as one of three of the District’s 2021-2022 Teachers of the Year.

Given under our hand and the District’s seal this 8th day of September, 2021, in Oakland, California.

Shanthi Gonzales
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Kyla Johnson-Trammell
Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District