

Board Office Use: <b>Legislative File Info.</b>	
File ID Number	11-3182
Introduction Date	12-5-11
Enactment Number	11-2626
Enactment Date	12-14-11



**Resolution of  
GOVERNING BOARD  
OF THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Resolution No 1112-0098**

**School Portfolio Management – Sankofa Academy—Grade Configuration Change  
From PreK-5 to PreK-8– Effective School Year 2012-2013**

**WHEREAS**, the Strategic Plan unanimously adopted by the Board of Education calls for restructuring that considers the number and *type* of schools the District operates; and

**WHEREAS**, the District currently operates three schools serving grades K-8 and one school serving grades 6-12 that are oversubscribed and maintain long waiting lists; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland hosts nine charter schools serving grades K-8 and five charter schools serving grades 6-12 that are popular among families and serve approximately 4,660 students; and

**WHEREAS**, research indicates the benefits of extended learning opportunities and continuous relationships among adults and students that supports increased academic achievement particularly for students that require additional support, which supports the benefits of increasing school program options for families that include grade configurations that serve students longer; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has identified a trend in academic performance as evidenced by CST test scores demonstrating a drop in performance over-all when students make the transition from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade and from 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade, which for some students may be mitigated by school programs that bridge these transitions; and

**WHEREAS**, the school quality standards approved by the Board of Education as part of the District’s Five Year Strategic Plan specifically state that a Quality Central Office *“helps schools manage key student transitions between grades, among levels of schooling, and between schools,”* and

**WHEREAS**, the District has developed preliminary criteria to evaluate the readiness of a school proposing to change its grade configuration that includes the following:

- Demonstrated success serving the academic, social and emotional needs of students
- Staff and family interest in the proposed grade configuration change
- Staff and leadership capacity to successfully develop and implement an expanded grades program



- Facility feasibility analysis that determines the required costs associated with modifications necessary to accommodate a grade configuration change; and
- Analysis of the demographic and enrollment implications of the proposed grade configuration change; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has determined that Sankofa Academy has demonstrated continued growth in academic success in preparing students for middle school, high school and beyond as evidenced by their significant improvement in student academic achievement on the California State Tests; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has determined that the staff and families of Sankofa Academy are interested in and in support of the school expanding to serve grades PreK-8; and

**WHEREAS**, the District is committed to providing school design support through an Expanding Grades Design process with the inclusion of a design team that involves teachers, parents, and community partners, facilitated by the Coordinator for School Portfolio Management that will ensure the development of a comprehensive Expanded School Plan by May 1, 2012 to be presented to the Board of Education;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby approves and designates Sankofa Academy, currently a PreK-5 grade school, as a PreK-8 grade school, effective school year 2012-2013 and authorizes the addition of one grade a school year, commencing with grade 6, with the school obtaining full PreK-8 grade status in school year 2014-2015; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Superintendent of Schools or his designee is authorized to take any and all action, save an action required of the Governing Board by law, regulation or Board Policy, to effective the foregoing.

Passed by the following vote:

**AYES:** Gary Yee, Noel Gallo, Alice Spearman, David Kakishiba, Christopher Dobbins,  
Vice President Jumoke Hinton Hodge, President Jody London

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** None



I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District held on December 14, 2011.

Edgar Rakestraw, Jr.  
Secretary, Board of Education

Board Office Use: <b>Legislative File Info.</b>	
File ID Number	11-3182
Introduction Date	12-5-11
Enactment Number	11-2626
Enactment Date	12-14-11