

Superintendent Report

Interim Superintendent, Dr. Denise Saddler
December 10, 2025



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Our Vision

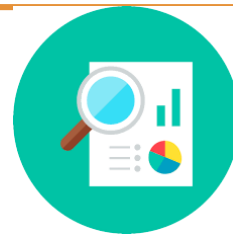
All OUSD students will find joy in their academic experience while graduating with the skills to ensure they are caring, competent, fully-informed, critical thinkers who are prepared for college, career, and community success.

Our Mission

Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) will build a Full Service Community District focused on high academic achievement while serving the whole child, eliminating inequity, and providing each child with excellent teachers, every day.



Superintendent Report Overview



School Highlights

Skyline High School Update



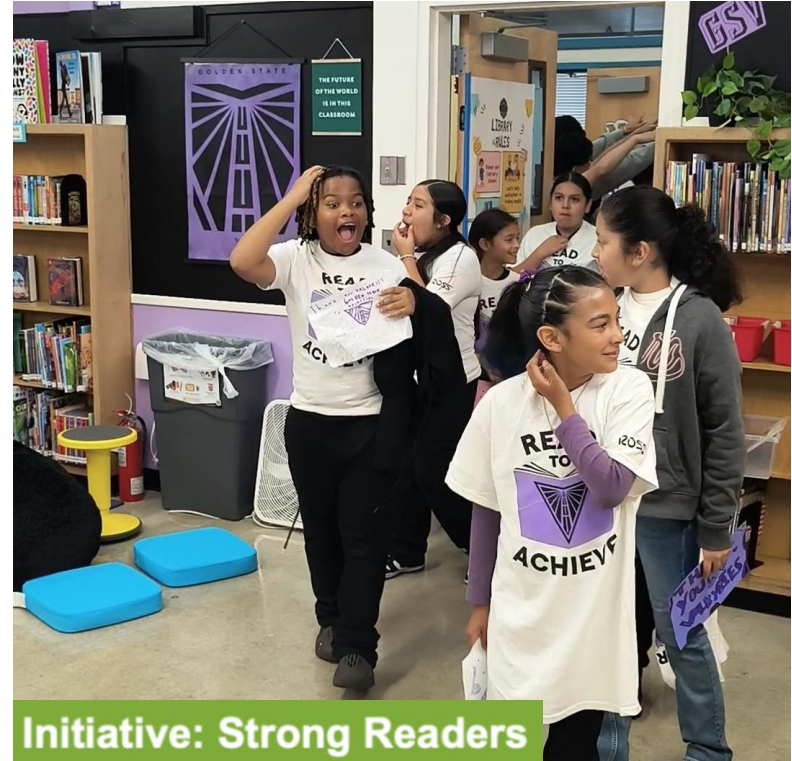
School Highlights

REACH Academy Receives Newly Refurbished Library from GS Valkyries

On November 7, the entire school community at REACH Academy enjoyed a big event celebrating a new library on campus. There was an unveiling ceremony on the yard with the Golden State Valkyries, part of their dance team, their mascot, and their partners in the effort, Ross Stores.

In this latest installment of the “Read To Achieve” campaign, Ross and the Valkyries overhauled the library with new furniture, fresh paint, rugs, decorations, and lots of new books.

And the positive reviews came in quickly. Among the first students to enter the space, one boy exclaimed, “Yo, this is sick!”



Initiative: Strong Readers

www.ousd.org/strategicplan

All City Council Takes in Cirque Du Soleil in SF

On its latest run of shows in San Francisco, Cirque Du Soleil played host to the student leaders of the All City Council Student Union. On Sunday, November 23, ten students and two staff leaders took BART to the City to catch the afternoon showing of ECHO.

The All City Council is made up of student leaders at middle and high schools from across the District who advocate on behalf of their fellow students at the District level. The ACC's leadership team caught the show courtesy of Cirque Du Soleil.



Edna Brewer Girls Volleyball Team Wins Middle School Championship... Again!

The Oakland Athletic League's fall season for Middle School Sports has wound down with schools posting some big wins. Few are any bigger than the championship won by the Edna Brewer Girls Volleyball team. This is the third year in a row that the Panthers have finished on top of the league. They did that in a season in which they went undefeated at 12-0.

Other OAL Middle School champions include the Girls and Boys teams at Claremont Middle School in Flag Football, the Boys from Claremont and the Girls from Montera Middle in Team Cross Country, and the Girls from Montera and the Boys from Urban Promise Academy in Futsal (indoor soccer).

All the middle school champions, including individual champions and team Grade Point Average champions, will be honored next Wednesday evening at our annual Fall OAL Middle School Fall Sports Awards Ceremony at Castlemont High. All are invited to cheer on our athletes!



Initiative: Joyful Schools

www.ousd.org/strategicplan

Oakland High Band Plays at Halftime at Warriors Game

The Jazz Band from Oakland High School had a special place at the Golden State Warriors game versus the Utah Jazz on Monday, November 24. They took the floor during halftime and played a couple of tunes. It was Oakland Night at Chase Center on which the Warriors unveiled their new “The Town” uniforms. Mayor Barbara Lee also made an appearance.

The band, along with teacher David Byrd and other supporters, then enjoyed the rest of the game courtesy of the Warriors.



Numerous Musical Acts from Across District Take Part in Yoshi's Fundraiser



Initiative: Joyful Schools
www.ousd.org/strategicplan

On Monday, December 1, I was honored to catch an amazing show at Yoshi's Oakland that featured dozens of OUSD student-musicians and singers. It was a packed fundraiser for Elevate Oakland which supports music and arts programming in our schools. The performers included Grupo Fantasma from Castlemont High (left) and the Edna Brewer Vocal Ensemble (right). Also performing were groups from Oakland Tech, Elmhurst United Middle School and more from Castlemont. All of them received rousing ovations from the enthusiastic crowd. The event raised tens of thousands of dollars for district programs. Famed East Bay percussionist Sheila E. was also on hand.

MLK Elementary is Latest School to Unveil New Eat. Learn. Play. Playground

After a huge event at Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary in September at which Stephen and Ayesha Curry joined Martin Luther King, III to help finish the project, the school now has OUSD's 23rd completed new school yard courtesy of the Currys, Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation, and KABOOM!.

The school held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday, December 3 for the playground with a new kid-designed play structure, half multi-sport court, nature and garden areas, soccer pitch and soccer goals, lots of murals - some of which were painted by the Currys, and a Little Town Library.

I thank the Currys, Eat. Learn. Play., and KABOOM! for leading the transformation of so many of our schools!



Initiative: Joyful Schools

www.ousd.org/strategicplan



Skyline High School Update

Skyline Safety Town Hall

- **Event Date & Time:** November 20, 2025, from 5:00–7:00 PM
- **Audience:** Parents, students, staff, and community partners, including representative from the Oakland Police Department
- **Purpose:** Provided an update on the November 12th incident and discussed ongoing efforts and initiatives aimed at enhancing campus safety



SKYLINE
HIGH
SCHOOL

Climate & Safety Investments for 2025-2026

- Addition of **Violence Interrupter**, **Life Coach**, and **Gender-Based Violence Specialist** through partnership with Oakland Department of Violence Prevention
- Positive incentive using school IDs
- Attendance & tardy monitoring and follow up
- Increase community building circles, joyful activities, advocacy spaces
- Addition of **five** Elite Security staff in addition to Culture Keeper staff
- Visitor Management system at front entrance
- Hiring of a Restorative Justice Coordinator
- Increased Tier 1, 2, and 3 efforts
- Use of Minga App (electronic hall pass/incentive system)

Facilities Upgrades

What's happened:

- Fencing along the back and sides of the campus to increase supervision capabilities
- Upgrades to video camera system

What's planned:

- Two planned fencing projects
 - Fencing along the theater entrance from the staff parking lot. To be completed by Dec. 31
 - Fencing along the front entrance of the school by the main office, to be completed by this school year
- Additional video camera upgrades

Bathroom & Hallway Supervision During Class

What's happened

- Staff stationed just outside student restrooms and locking them when unattended
- Searches conducted by administrators when there is reasonable suspicion

What has started/been planned:

- Students logging in/out of restrooms during class time and showing school ID
- Staff ensuring Minga digital pass or sending students back to class
- Increased bag searches for students out of class without a valid pass
- Refinement of procedures for supervision staff to monitor students out of class

Anonymous Reporting QR Code

Increasing the signage around campus reminding staff and students they can report anonymously. Areas include:

- Restrooms
- Classrooms
- Hallways
- Offices



SEE IT. HEAR IT. REPORT IT.

Skyline HS

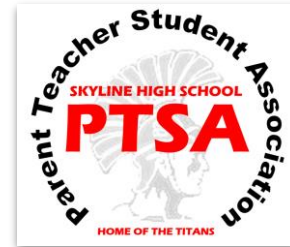


Send Tips/Enviar Consejos

ALWAYS ANONYMOUS. ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

Parent and Family Involvement

- Parent volunteers to be an added adult presence during before school, lunch, and after school
 - Main administrative breezeway
 - Front stairs of campus
 - Senior lawn
- Parent spaces
 - PTSA
 - School Site Council



Stakeholder Feedback and Questions

- Preventing weapons on campus- Request for metal detectors
- Communication during emergencies- Faster notification to families
- Reporting safety concerns- Anonymous reporting
- Student supervision and campus behavior- monitoring during classroom time, hall passes
- Security staffing- maintain additional staffing
- Student support and interventions- maintain violence prevention
- Building a positive school climate- Staff trained in building school culture, RJ Practices
- Partnerships with OPD, City Agencies, and community organizations

Stakeholder Suggestions

- Implement a single, controlled point of entry and install metal detectors or wand screenings at entrances
- Upgrade fencing and surveillance systems
- Increase adult supervision in known “hotspots” such as bathrooms and hallways
- Explore use of clear backpacks and artificial-intelligence enabled cameras for threat detection
- Increase the number of security officers, Culture Keepers, Violence Interrupters, and Case Managers
- Re-introduce school police/resource officers on campus

Stakeholder Suggestions (continued)

- Provide mental health services, counseling, and mentorship programs, including buddy programs and peer mediation.
- Implement restorative justice practices with structured check-ins and advisory periods.
- Educate students on gun safety, consequences of violence, and responsible behavior.
- Limit bathroom access during school hours to one student at a time if necessary, while monitoring for unsafe activity.
- Adopt a school-wide phone-free policy with supportive implementation to rebuild community and culture.

Future Engagements

Planned for the month of December based on student and family input:

- **Week of December 1: *Healing***
 - Healing activities during lunch and in some classes; training student leaders to facilitate Community Circles
- **Week of December 8: *Building***
 - Community meeting for families, students, and staff (*Dec. 9, 6-7pm*)
 - Community Circles led by students in all classes around safety and positive culture (*Dec. 11, 3rd period*)
- **Week of December 15: *Celebrating***
 - Community-building activities and student celebration (*Dec. 18, lunch*)

**Additional family engagements forthcoming after Winter Break*



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