

Oakland Unified School District
Board of Education
Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Recommendation for Community Engagement for 2009-2010

Context: The Board of Education led a series of engagement sessions with "red" schools and high schools in fall and spring of 2008-2009. This effort was supported by a team that included the Chief Service Officer, the Family Community Office, the East Bay Community Foundation, Tim Tabernik and Associates, and Urban Strategies. The Intergovernmental Relations Committee reviewed the final report in September 2009. The Committee makes the following recommendations about how to focus community engagements efforts for 2009-2010.

Recommendation 1: Focus all community engagement for this year around Academic and Fiscal Solvency and our new Superintendent's intent to build agreement across stakeholder groups about what we value and want for our students and schools.

The specific outcomes of community events will be:

1. To create a shared understanding of our values and priorities for OUSD going forward.
2. To gather input from key stakeholders on how to prioritize options for reducing/balancing OUSD budget in alignment with our values and priorities.

Recommendation 2: Plan and implement the following types of forums for engagement.

Superintendent - Lead

- Superintendent hosts 2-3 city wide meetings with key civic/ community groups (e.g. the Mayor/ City Council, Chamber of Commerce).
- Provide Site Leaders and Central Leaders tools to gather input from their constituents around strategic budget alignment (e.g., Principals with School Site Councils and/or parent-teacher groups, Directors with staff, etc.). Gather in-depth feedback from Executive Team, Principal and Teacher/ School Staff Advisory groups.
- Superintendent will seek ongoing support and input from unions, community groups and business. (Longer term: Build a more formal Guiding Coalition of Stakeholder Leaders to provide on-going support to Superintendent and BOE.)

Board of Education - Lead

- Each Board Member hosts at least one larger scale meeting in his/her district, using standard tool kit to provide overview of strategic budget alignment and gather feedback.

Superintendent and Board of Education — Joint Lead

- Superintendent and BOE conduct focus groups with previously unengaged stakeholders.
- Superintendent and BOE create an on-line strategic budget survey tool to gather broader community input and promote awareness of budget challenges.

Superintendent, Cabinet, Family Community Office, and Strategic Projects/ Communications teams will provide staff support for content and process for these forums.

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