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# Memo

**To** Board of Education

**From** Kyla Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent  
Sonali Murarka, Executive Director-Enrollment

**Board Meeting Date** December 11, 2019

**Subject** MetWest High School Temporary Enrollment Priority

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**Action** Vote

**Background** This proposal came before the Board on November 13 as a first read.

MetWest is proposing to add a temporary feeder school priority for its two co-located middle schools: Westlake and LaEscuelita.

MetWest is a high-demand school that has started to expand in 2019-20 as part of the Citywide Plan. The school serves 205 students in 2019-20, up from 160 the prior year, and is projected to eventually serve ~350 students by 2022-23. MetWest is a citywide school without a neighborhood enrollment priority. It is located across two campuses and is co-located with a middle school at each one: Westlake and La Escuelita.

Current challenges faced by MetWest:

- MetWest’s demographics do not reflect OUSD. The school serves lower percentages of African American and Asian students compared to OUSD high schools on average.
- As MetWest continues to expand, the school is interested in ensuring access for all types of students across Oakland.
- Co-locations are challenging for a number of reasons; building community across co-located schools is crucial for the safety and success of students on a shared campus.

Given the challenges faced by MetWest, OUSD staff has worked with

Given the challenges faced by MetWest, OUSD staff has worked with MetWest on a proposal to add feeder school priority to MetWest for both Westlake and La Escuelita, up to 15% of MetWest 9th grade seats for each school. 15% of seats would translate to about 13 seats for Westlake and 13 seats for La Escuelita, out of a total ~88 seats in the MetWest 9th grade. The priority would be temporary for 2 years, at which point it would need to be revisited by staff, Board, and the impacted school communities.

**Discussion**

MetWest has been conducting community engagement with their own school community and with Westlake and La Escuelita. Furthermore, they have also conducted engagement with their top two current feeder schools: Urban Promise Academy (UPA), which is the largest feeder school (24 of 84 current 9th graders at MetWest are from UPA), and Ascend (8 of 84 current 9th graders at MetWest are from Ascend). Both schools have expressed support for the proposal.

OUSD does not currently have a stated strategic plan around diversity. The work towards a larger diversity plan and enrollment policy update is beginning this school year and will likely take considerable time. Nonetheless, there is a desire from the school communities and from OUSD staff to move forward with a few pilot programs around enrollment priorities to begin to assess what this could look like and the impact. Thus, there is a strong desire from many stakeholders to make this enrollment priority temporary (for 2 years) to reflect that it is a pilot program. Furthermore, this proposal for MetWest depends on the particular circumstances of the school co-locations, which may or may not change in the coming years.

**Fiscal Impact**

Minimal fiscal impact, as we anticipate nearly all families who no longer receive an offer to MetWest will likely attend another OUSD schools. MetWest has also recently expanded to be able to accommodate more families.

**Attachment**

Resolution

RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NO. 1920-0123

**MetWest High School Temporary Enrollment Priority**

**WHEREAS**, on February 28, 2018, the Governing Board passed Resolution No. 1718-0124 relating to the Work Plan - Blueprint for Quality Schools;

**WHEREAS**, the Board adopted on June 27, 2018, the following schools for Cohort 1 of the Blueprint for Quality Schools: (1) Merge Futures Academy and Community United for Success; (2) Merge Elmhurst Community Preparatory Academy and Alliance Academy; and (3) Explore expansion of Met West;

**WHEREAS**, on September 26, 2018, the Governing Board passed Resolution No. 1819-0104 to expand MetWest High School through establishing a satellite campus on the Westlake Middle School campus;

**WHEREAS**, on March 20, 2019, the Governing Board passed Resolution No. 1819-0150 relating to the Citywide Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the Citywide Plan provides that two key enrollment strategies are to revisit the enrollment priority ranking to ensure more equity in access to quality schools and to articulate high quality neighborhood feeder patterns;

**WHEREAS**, the MetWest school community's goal is to ensure access for students from all parts of Oakland as the school expands, especially schools sharing a campus with MetWest, in line with the Citywide Plan's enrollment strategies;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board hereby adopts the proposal to add an enrollment priority at MetWest High School for students attending Westlake Middle School and LaEscuelita Middle School, as long as MetWest is sharing a campus with each school, such that MetWest’s enrollment priorities will follow the order outlined below:

- (1) Continuing student priority
- (2) Sibling priority
- (3) Opportunity ticket priority
- (4) Priority to students attending Westlake Middle School and LaEscuelita Middle School, up to 15% of seats from each school
- (5) School staff priority
- (6) Oakland resident priority, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the enrollment priorities for MetWest shall be re-evaluated by staff and Board within two years of the date this resolution is adopted.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 11th day of December, 2019, at a Regular Meeting of the Governing Board by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE: None

PREFERENTIAL NOE: None

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION: None

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE: None

AYES: Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Gary Yee, Roseann Torres, Shanthi Gonzales, James Harris, Vice President Jody London

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

RECUSE: None

ABSENT: President Aimee Eng, Denilson Garibo (Student Director), Mica Smith-Dahl (Student Director)

Date: 12/12/19



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Kyla Johnson-Trammell  
Secretary, Governing Board  
Oakland Unified School District