

Estimados Miembros Honorables de OUSD School Board:

Nosotros, las familias abajo firmantes de Manzanita SEED y Manzanita Community School, nos oponemos a la propuesta de fusión de nuestras dos escuelas, presentada en la reunión de la Junta del 13 de noviembre de 2024.

Los miembros de la comunidad de cada una de nuestras escuelas han organizado y asistido a varias reuniones para conocer la fusión. **La semana pasada, nuestras dos escuelas se reunieron en una reunión conjunta para analizar la fusión y se expresaron muchas inquietudes. Estas incluyen, entre otras, las siguientes:**

- Esta fusión está dirigida a dos escuelas que, en conjunto, inscriben a más de 800 estudiantes. Estas dos escuelas se crearon a partir del reconocimiento de que los estudiantes estarían mejor atendidos en escuelas más pequeñas que podrían abordar mejor las necesidades individuales, y del reconocimiento de la desigualdad en el tamaño de las escuelas entre las colinas y las llanuras. Si bien las escuelas pequeñas persisten en las colinas, la fusión de estas dos escuelas con grandes necesidades en las llanuras del este de Oakland parece ser un paso atrás. Se proponen fusiones como una solución para “ajustar el tamaño” de varias escuelas “demasiado pequeñas”, pero esta no es la situación en nuestras escuelas; ninguna de las escuelas es pequeña y juntas serían una megaescuela.
- La fusión promete ahorros financieros mínimos y al mismo tiempo tiene el máximo efecto en la comunidad.
- Cada escuela tiene un carácter especializado y una cultura intencional que los padres valoran y que no está claro si se conservará en una fusión. Esto incluye, entre otros, el programa de inmersión dual en una de las escuelas.
- Hay varias preguntas sin respuesta sobre si se lograrían los ahorros previstos. Entre ellas, entre otras, cuál sería el efecto en las subvenciones “por escuela” que cada escuela recibe del estado y que cubren una cantidad sustancial del presupuesto de cada escuela.
- Reconocemos que el enorme tamaño del déficit en todo el OUSD requerirá ajustes dolorosos en todas las escuelas. Sin embargo, la propuesta de fusión no es estratégica. Tiene un gran impacto en las comunidades vulnerables, con ahorros poco claros y mínimos en el mejor de los casos, y se propone en un cronograma que no ofrece espacio para considerar ninguna de estas preocupaciones.

Solicitamos que vote no a esta propuesta de fusión.

En términos más generales, solicitamos un proceso a nivel de toda la comunidad, con el apoyo adecuado y un cronograma mucho más largo, como un año completo, para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre cómo se cumplirán los objetivos de ahorro del distrito en nuestras escuelas.

- La semana pasada, la reunión conjunta entre nuestras dos escuelas, organizada por EBAYC, demostró lo poderoso que es para las comunidades contar con el apoyo de organizaciones capacitadas en la divulgación y facilitación grupal equitativa para guiar la toma de decisiones colectiva. La organización en nuestras diversas comunidades multilingües requiere tiempo y apoyo adicionales, especialmente para la traducción. Solicitamos que, mientras OUSD atraviesa esta difícil transición financiera, se brinde apoyo y recursos a las comunidades escolares para tomar estas difíciles decisiones.

Atentamente,

Las familias firmantes de Manzanita Community School y Manzanita SEED
(ver las firmas a continuación)

10 de diciembre de 2024

Estimados Miembros Honorables de OUSD School Board:

Nosotros, las familias abajo firmantes de Manzanita SEED y Manzanita Community School, nos oponemos a la propuesta de fusión de nuestras dos escuelas, presentada en la reunión de la Junta del 13 de noviembre de 2024.

Los miembros de la comunidad de cada una de nuestras escuelas han organizado y asistido a varias reuniones para conocer la fusión. **La semana pasada, nuestras dos escuelas se reunieron en una reunión conjunta para analizar la fusión y se expresaron muchas inquietudes. Estas incluyen, entre otras, las siguientes:**

- Esta fusión está dirigida a dos escuelas que, en conjunto, inscriben a más de 800 estudiantes. Estas dos escuelas se crearon a partir del reconocimiento de que los estudiantes estarían mejor atendidos en escuelas más pequeñas que podrían abordar mejor las necesidades individuales, y del reconocimiento de la desigualdad en el tamaño de las escuelas entre las colinas y las llanuras. Si bien las escuelas pequeñas persisten en las colinas, la fusión de estas dos escuelas con grandes necesidades en las llanuras del este de Oakland parece ser un paso atrás. Se proponen fusiones como una solución para “ajustar el tamaño” de varias escuelas “demasiado pequeñas”, pero esta no es la situación en nuestras escuelas; ninguna de las escuelas es pequeña y juntas serían una megaescuela.
- La fusión promete ahorros financieros mínimos y al mismo tiempo tiene el máximo efecto en la comunidad.
- Cada escuela tiene un carácter especializado y una cultura intencional que los padres valoran y que no está claro si se conservará en una fusión. Esto incluye, entre otros, el programa de inmersión dual en una de las escuelas.
- Hay varias preguntas sin respuesta sobre si se lograrían los ahorros previstos. Entre ellas, entre otras, cuál sería el efecto en las subvenciones “por escuela” que cada escuela recibe del estado y que cubren una cantidad sustancial del presupuesto de cada escuela.
- Reconocemos que el enorme tamaño del déficit en todo el OUSD requerirá ajustes dolorosos en todas las escuelas. Sin embargo, la propuesta de fusión no es estratégica. Tiene un gran impacto en las comunidades vulnerables, con ahorros poco claros y mínimos en el mejor de los casos, y se propone en un cronograma que no ofrece espacio para considerar ninguna de estas preocupaciones.

Solicitamos que vote no a esta propuesta de fusión.

En términos más generales, solicitamos un proceso a nivel de toda la comunidad, con el apoyo adecuado y un cronograma mucho más largo, como un año completo, para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre cómo se cumplirán los objetivos de ahorro del distrito en nuestras escuelas.

- La semana pasada, la reunión conjunta entre nuestras dos escuelas, organizada por EBAYC, demostró lo poderoso que es para las comunidades contar con el apoyo de organizaciones capacitadas en la divulgación y facilitación grupal equitativa para guiar la toma de decisiones colectiva. La organización en nuestras diversas comunidades multilingües requiere tiempo y apoyo adicionales, especialmente para la traducción. Solicitamos que, mientras OUSD atraviesa esta difícil transición financiera, se brinde apoyo y recursos a las comunidades escolares para tomar estas difíciles decisiones.

Atentamente,

Las familias firmantes de Manzanita Community School y Manzanita SEED
(ver las firmas a continuación)

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

1. Vote No a la Fusión
2. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Teresa Velasquez	Kinder
Ambar Flamenco	1 st grade
Mercy Mendoza	Kinder
Kimberly	Kinder
Juciana Vicente Garcia	Segundo
Eduardo Jose Rodriguez	3 ^{er} grado
ESTELA mendez aguilav	Kinder
Jordan Lowe	4 th grade teacher
Lucero Sanchez	3 rd grade.
Fernando Svastossi	5
Kathryn L. Tsang	1 st grade
Guillermo A. BELTRÁN	5 - Grade.
Ramón Ijor	1 st / 4 th

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

1. Vote No a la Fusión
2. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Teresa Velasquez	Kinder
Ambar Flamenco	1 st grade
Mercy Mendoza	Kinder
Kimberly	Kinder
Luciana Vicente Garcia	Segundo
Edwin Jose Rodriguez	3 ^{er} grado
ESTELA mendez aguilav	Kinder
Jordan Lowe	4 th grade teacher
Lucero Sanchez	3 rd grade.
Fernando Svastossi	5
Kathryn L. Tsang	1 st grade
Guillermo A. BELTRÁN	5 - Grade.
Ramui Ijor	1 ST / 4 TH

December 10, 2024

Dear Honorable School Board Members,

We, the undersigned families of Manzanita SEED and Manzanita Community School oppose the proposal of a merger for our two schools, put forth in the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Community members from each of our schools have organized and attended several meetings to learn about the merger. **Last week our two schools met for a joint meeting to discuss the merger, and many concerns were voiced.** These include but are not limited to the following concerns:

- This merger is targeting two schools who collectively enroll more than 800 students. These two schools were created out of the recognition that students would be better served by smaller schools which could better address individual needs, and out of a recognition of inequity in school size between the hills and the flatlands. While small schools persist in the hills, merging these two high-needs schools in East Oakland flatlands seems to be a move going backwards. Mergers are proposed as a solution for “right-sizing” multiple “too-small” schools, but this is not the situation at our schools; neither school is small, and together they would be a mega-school.
- The merger promises minimal financial savings while having maximum effect on the community.
- Each school has a specialized character and intentional culture, that parents value, and which it is unclear would be retained in a merger. This includes but is not limited to the dual immersion program at one of the schools.
- There are a number of unanswered questions about whether the intended savings would be realized. Including, but not limited to, what would be the effect on “per school” grants that each school receives from the state and which cover a substantial amount of each school’s budget.

We recognize that the huge size of the deficit across OUSD will require painful adjustments across all schools. However, the merger proposal is not strategic. It has a huge impact on vulnerable communities, with unclear and minimal at best savings, and is being proposed on a timeline that does not offer space for considering any of these concerns.

We request that you vote no on this merger proposal.

More broadly, we request a community-wide process, with adequate support, and a much longer timeline - such as a full year - to make decisions as a community for how district savings goals will be met in our schools.

Last week, the joint meeting between our two schools, run by EBAYC demonstrated how powerful it is for communities to have support via organizations skilled in equitable group outreach and facilitation to guide collective decision-making. Organizing in our diverse multilingual communities requires additional time and support, especially for translation. We request that as OUSD undergoes this difficult financial transition, that school communities be provided with support and resources, to make these difficult decisions

Sincerely,

The undersigned families of Manzanita Community School, and Manzanita SEED
(see signatures below)

December 10, 2024

Dear Honorable School Board Members,

We, the undersigned families of Manzanita SEED and Manzanita Community School oppose the proposal of a merger for our two schools, put forth in the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Community members from each of our schools have organized and attended several meetings to learn about the merger. **Last week our two schools met for a joint meeting to discuss the merger, and many concerns were voiced.** These include but are not limited to the following concerns:

- This merger is targeting two schools who collectively enroll more than 800 students. These two schools were created out of the recognition that students would be better served by smaller schools which could better address individual needs, and out of a recognition of inequity in school size between the hills and the flatlands. While small schools persist in the hills, merging these two high-needs schools in East Oakland flatlands seems to be a move going backwards. Mergers are proposed as a solution for “right-sizing” multiple “too-small” schools, but this is not the situation at our schools; neither school is small, and together they would be a mega-school.
- The merger promises minimal financial savings while having maximum effect on the community.
- Each school has a specialized character and intentional culture, that parents value, and which it is unclear would be retained in a merger. This includes but is not limited to the dual immersion program at one of the schools.
- There are a number of unanswered questions about whether the intended savings would be realized. Including, but not limited to, what would be the effect on “per school” grants that each school receives from the state and which cover a substantial amount of each school’s budget.

We recognize that the huge size of the deficit across OUSD will require painful adjustments across all schools. However, the merger proposal is not strategic. It has a huge impact on vulnerable communities, with unclear and minimal at best savings, and is being proposed on a timeline that does not offer space for considering any of these concerns.

We request that you vote no on this merger proposal.

More broadly, we request a community-wide process, with adequate support, and a much longer timeline - such as a full year - to make decisions as a community for how district savings goals will be met in our schools.

Last week, the joint meeting between our two schools, run by EBAYC demonstrated how powerful it is for communities to have support via organizations skilled in equitable group outreach and facilitation to guide collective decision-making. Organizing in our diverse multilingual communities requires additional time and support, especially for translation. We request that as OUSD undergoes this difficult financial transition, that school communities be provided with support and resources, to make these difficult decisions

Sincerely,

The undersigned families of Manzanita Community School, and Manzanita SEED
(see signatures below)

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
 2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

December 10, 2024

Dear Honorable School Board Members,

We, the undersigned families of Manzanita SEED and Manzanita Community School oppose the proposal of a merger for our two schools, put forth in the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Community members from each of our schools have organized and attended several meetings to learn about the merger. **Last week our two schools met for a joint meeting to discuss the merger, and many concerns were voiced.** These include but are not limited to the following concerns:

- This merger is targeting two schools who collectively enroll more than 800 students. These two schools were created out of the recognition that students would be better served by smaller schools which could better address individual needs, and out of a recognition of inequity in school size between the hills and the flatlands. While small schools persist in the hills, merging these two high-needs schools in East Oakland flatlands seems to be a move going backwards. Mergers are proposed as a solution for “right-sizing” multiple “too-small” schools, but this is not the situation at our schools; neither school is small, and together they would be a mega-school.
- The merger promises minimal financial savings while having maximum effect on the community.
- Each school has a specialized character and intentional culture, that parents value, and which it is unclear would be retained in a merger. This includes but is not limited to the dual immersion program at one of the schools.
- There are a number of unanswered questions about whether the intended savings would be realized. Including, but not limited to, what would be the effect on “per school” grants that each school receives from the state and which cover a substantial amount of each school’s budget.

We recognize that the huge size of the deficit across OUSD will require painful adjustments across all schools. However, the merger proposal is not strategic. It has a huge impact on vulnerable communities, with unclear and minimal at best savings, and is being proposed on a timeline that does not offer space for considering any of these concerns.

We request that you vote no on this merger proposal.

More broadly, we request a community-wide process, with adequate support, and a much longer timeline - such as a full year - to make decisions as a community for how district savings goals will be met in our schools.

Last week, the joint meeting between our two schools, run by EBAYC demonstrated how powerful it is for communities to have support via organizations skilled in equitable group outreach and facilitation to guide collective decision-making. Organizing in our diverse multilingual communities requires additional time and support, especially for translation. We request that as OUSD undergoes this difficult financial transition, that school communities be provided with support and resources, to make these difficult decisions

Sincerely,

The undersigned families of Manzanita Community School, and Manzanita SEED
(see signatures below)

Dear Honorable School Board Members,

We, the undersigned families of Manzanita SEED and Manzanita Community School oppose the proposal of a merger for our two schools, put forth in the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Community members from each of our schools have organized and attended several meetings to learn about the merger. **Last week our two schools met for a joint meeting to discuss the merger, and many concerns were voiced.** These include but are not limited to the following concerns:

- This merger is targeting two schools who collectively enroll more than 800 students. These two schools were created out of the recognition that students would be better served by smaller schools which could better address individual needs, and out of a recognition of inequity in school size between the hills and the flatlands. While small schools persist in the hills, merging these two high-needs schools in East Oakland flatlands seems to be a move going backwards. Mergers are proposed as a solution for “right-sizing” multiple “too-small” schools, but this is not the situation at our schools; neither school is small, and together they would be a mega-school.
- The merger promises minimal financial savings while having maximum effect on the community.
- Each school has a specialized character and intentional culture, that parents value, and which it is unclear would be retained in a merger. This includes but is not limited to the dual immersion program at one of the schools.
- There are a number of unanswered questions about whether the intended savings would be realized. Including, but not limited to, what would be the effect on “per school” grants that each school receives from the state and which cover a substantial amount of each school’s budget.

We recognize that the huge size of the deficit across OUSD will require painful adjustments across all schools. However, the merger proposal is not strategic. It has a huge impact on vulnerable communities, with unclear and minimal at best savings, and is being proposed on a timeline that does not offer space for considering any of these concerns.

We request that you vote no on this merger proposal.

More broadly, we request a community-wide process, with adequate support, and a much longer timeline - such as a full year - to make decisions as a community for how district savings goals will be met in our schools.

Last week, the joint meeting between our two schools, run by EBAYC demonstrated how powerful it is for communities to have support via organizations skilled in equitable group outreach and facilitation to guide collective decision-making. Organizing in our diverse multilingual communities requires additional time and support, especially for translation. We request that as OUSD undergoes this difficult financial transition, that school communities be provided with support and resources, to make these difficult decisions

Sincerely,

The undersigned families of Manzanita Community School, and Manzanita SEED
(see signatures below)

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

Christina M Villegas

5Th

Patrick Tooley

3rd (teacher)

Tamica Groves

CSM

Sharon Tru

Sharon Thanas 1st / 3rd

Evelyn Lewis

1st / 3rd

David Philhower

5th

Ines Segura

Seed / 2nd

Uruie Phung

1st

Llo Faiola

4th

Chien-shi chao

2nd

Carmel Tru

4th

Mleen

2nd Grade

Alanfe Chavarin

4th

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Christina M Villegas 5th

Patrick Tooley 3rd (teacher)

Tamica Groves CSM

Sharon Thanson 1st / 3rd

Evelyn Lewis 1st / 3rd

David Philhower 5th

Ines Segura Seed / 2nd

Uyen Phung 1st

Llo Faiola 4th

Chiemsh chao 2nd

Camille Nid 4th

Melissa 2nd Grade

Alan Fé Chavarim 4th

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Alison Mata

2nd

Sara Wright

1st

Antonio Perez

1st

Faustino Padilla

2nd

Eliza Tyler

1st

Kara Bradfuehr

1st.

Megan Parker

Kinder

Medha Garg

1st/3rd

Ismael Plasencia Sr.

4th/1st

Cheryl Kleinsmith

4th/1st

Pablo Pitcher DeProto

5th

Myeshia Jones

TK

Yenaly Montoya

4th

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Alison Mata	2nd
Sara Wright	1st
Antonio Perez	1st
Faustino Padilla	2nd
Eliza Tyler	1st
Kara Brodfuehrer	1st.
Megan Parker	Kinder
Medha Garg	1st / 3rd
Ismael Plasencia Sr.	4th / 1st
Cheryl Kleinsmith	4th / 1st
Pablo Pitcher DeProto	5th
Myeshia Jones	TK
Yenay Montoya	4 th





Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

7. Vote No on the Merger
8. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Jessie Gross

3rd

Geovany Rojas

4th

Tamia Morales

5

Daisy Verez Mes

3-4

Florinda Perez Mes

4

Estefani Enciso-Marguez Mes

K

Nericy Alexandra Mes

3/1

Melvin Gallegos ~~Seed~~

TK/K

Masdarha Seed

2nd

Delmy 

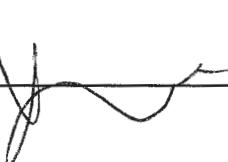
4

Antonia Saavedra 

3/4

Lorna Dourte ~~Lorna Dourte~~

3

Whitney Aluse 

1st

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

7. Vote No on the Merger
8. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

Jessie Gross

3rd

Geovany Roys

4th

Tamara Morales

5

Daisy Venz

Mes

3-4

Florinda Perez

Mes

4

Estepani Enciso-Margaret

Mes

K

Nericy Alexander

Mes

3/1

Melvin Gallegos

~~SEED~~

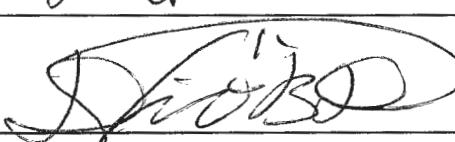
TK/K

Masdarha

Seed

2nd

Delmy



4

Antonio Saavedra



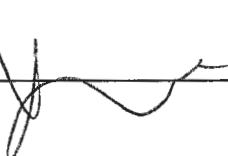
3/4

Lorena Dantz



3

William Deuse



1st

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

9. Vote No on the Merger
10. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Santiago Galindo	MCS	12
Briana Williams	MCS	9th
Lajla Šabić	Mcs.	10th
Nicole Obon	MCS	2nd
Antoni Sevilla	Mcs	5th
Oristian T. Sanchez	Seed	3rd
free will	MCS	2nd
Estefanny Casas	MCS	4 th
Elizabeth Hernandez	Seed	9th
Sonyalette Bradley	MCS	2 nd
Noa Pus	MCS	3rd
Clara Portillo		3rd
Yoon Sung Saehan		4th/2nd

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

9. Vote No on the Merger

10. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Santiago Galindo MCS

12

Briana Williams MCS

9th

Layla Šabić Mcs.

10th

Nicole Obon MCS

2nd

Antoni Sevilla Mcs

5th

Kristian t. Sanchez Seed

3rd

lenni williams MCS

2nd

Estefanny Caxas MCS

4th

Elizabeth Hernandez Seed

5th

Songalette Bradley MCS

2nd

Noe proes MCS

3rd

clara portillo

3rd

Yeon Sung Saehan

4th/2nd

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

3. Vote No on the Merger
4. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

Silvia Ramirez Mendoza

seed

Delgadina Gallardo

Seed

Gleny Lopez

Seed

Laura Tesucum

seed / k

Orlin Maradiaga

Seed 4th

~~MM~~

Community 3

~~BJM~~

Community 4

Daisy Baytes

MCS / 2nd

Diana Baytes

MCS / 3rd

Pablo Segura

Seed / 3rd

JUNE OROUNO

SEED / K

Marisol G Baytes

TK

Natalie Pitre

MCS



Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

3. Vote No on the Merger
4. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Silvia Ramirez Mendoza

Seed

Delgadina Gallardo

Seed

Gleny Lopez

Seed

Laura Tesucum

Seed / K

Orlin Maradiaga

Seed 4th

~~MM~~

Community / 3

~~BBM~~

Community 4

Daisy Baytes

MCS / 2nd

Diana Baytes

MCS / 3rd

Pablo Segura

Seed / 3rd

JUNE OROUNDO

SEED / K

Marisol G Baytes

TK

Natalie Pitre

MCS

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

5. Vote No on the Merger
6. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

MARYBONNIE (Community) K,5

Ebonique Winton (MCS) K,1,2

A. Rangel. (MCS) 4th

Phouvien MCS 1st

Maria Salinas 3rd (Seed)

Wanda (MCS 5th)

Mekayla Herring Community 3,4

Deborah J. Williams MCS 4th

JENNIFER KIM MCS 1st

CHRISTINA SOKLY MCS (SEED) 1st 5th

Jayda En MCS 1st

Blanca Rosas MCS 11th

Eduardo Tavarez MCS 11th

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

5. Vote No on the Merger
6. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

MARYBETH (Community) K,5

Ebonique WATSON (MCS) K,1,2

A. Rangel. (MCS) 4th

Phoenix Mcs 1st

Maria Salinas 3rd (seed)

W. N. (Mcs 5th)

Mekayla Herring (Community) 3,4

Deborah J. Williams (MCS) 4th

JENNIFER KIM MCS 1st

CHRISTINA SOKLY MCS (SEED) 1st 5th

Jayda En MCS 1st

Blanca Rosas MCS 11th

Eduardo Tavarens MCS 11th

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

1. Vote No a la Fusión
2. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Miniam Leticia Gomez Gomez K

Blanca Martinez K

Yenifer Yaneth Garcia Tomas 3rd

Marta Hernandez K

Hessel Romero K

Deria Ramos 4rd

Carolina Loza 3

Vilma Jeronimo 1st

Victor Hugo 3

Rocsana Funes 2

Maria Rachaca 3

Lillian Fantasy 3rd

Luis Salazar 3

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

1. Vote No a la Fusión
2. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Miniam Leticia Gomez Gomez K

Blanca Martinez K

Yenifer Yaneth Garcia Tomas 3rd

Marta Hernandez K

Hessel Romero K

Delia Ramos 4rd

Carolina Loza 3

Vilma Jeronimo 1st

Victor Hugo 3

Rocsana Funes 2

Maria Pacheco 3

Lillian Fantasy 3rd

Luis Salazar 3

Estimados Miembros Honorables de OUSD School Board:

Nosotros, las familias abajo firmantes de Manzanita SEED y Manzanita Community School, nos oponemos a la propuesta de fusión de nuestras dos escuelas, presentada en la reunión de la Junta del 13 de noviembre de 2024.

Los miembros de la comunidad de cada una de nuestras escuelas han organizado y asistido a varias reuniones para conocer la fusión. **La semana pasada, nuestras dos escuelas se reunieron en una reunión conjunta para analizar la fusión y se expresaron muchas inquietudes. Estas incluyen, entre otras, las siguientes:**

- Esta fusión está dirigida a dos escuelas que, en conjunto, inscriben a más de 800 estudiantes. Estas dos escuelas se crearon a partir del reconocimiento de que los estudiantes estarían mejor atendidos en escuelas más pequeñas que podrían abordar mejor las necesidades individuales, y del reconocimiento de la desigualdad en el tamaño de las escuelas entre las colinas y las llanuras. Si bien las escuelas pequeñas persisten en las colinas, la fusión de estas dos escuelas con grandes necesidades en las llanuras del este de Oakland parece ser un paso atrás. Se proponen fusiones como una solución para “ajustar el tamaño” de varias escuelas “demasiado pequeñas”, pero esta no es la situación en nuestras escuelas; ninguna de las escuelas es pequeña y juntas serían una megaescuela.
- La fusión promete ahorros financieros mínimos y al mismo tiempo tiene el máximo efecto en la comunidad.
- Cada escuela tiene un carácter especializado y una cultura intencional que los padres valoran y que no está claro si se conservará en una fusión. Esto incluye, entre otros, el programa de inmersión dual en una de las escuelas.
- Hay varias preguntas sin respuesta sobre si se lograrían los ahorros previstos. Entre ellas, entre otras, cuál sería el efecto en las subvenciones “por escuela” que cada escuela recibe del estado y que cubren una cantidad sustancial del presupuesto de cada escuela.
- Reconocemos que el enorme tamaño del déficit en todo el OUSD requerirá ajustes dolorosos en todas las escuelas. Sin embargo, la propuesta de fusión no es estratégica. Tiene un gran impacto en las comunidades vulnerables, con ahorros poco claros y mínimos en el mejor de los casos, y se propone en un cronograma que no ofrece espacio para considerar ninguna de estas preocupaciones.

Solicitamos que vote no a esta propuesta de fusión.

En términos más generales, solicitamos un proceso a nivel de toda la comunidad, con el apoyo adecuado y un cronograma mucho más largo, como un año completo, para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre cómo se cumplirán los objetivos de ahorro del distrito en nuestras escuelas.

- La semana pasada, la reunión conjunta entre nuestras dos escuelas, organizada por EBAYC, demostró lo poderoso que es para las comunidades contar con el apoyo de organizaciones capacitadas en la divulgación y facilitación grupal equitativa para guiar la toma de decisiones colectiva. La organización en nuestras diversas comunidades multilingües requiere tiempo y apoyo adicionales, especialmente para la traducción. Solicitamos que, mientras OUSD atraviesa esta difícil transición financiera, se brinde apoyo y recursos a las comunidades escolares para tomar estas difíciles decisiones.

Atentamente,

Las familias firmantes de Manzanita Community School y Manzanita SEED
(ver las firmas a continuación)

Estimados Miembros Honorables de OUSD School Board:

Nosotros, las familias abajo firmantes de Manzanita SEED y Manzanita Community School, nos oponemos a la propuesta de fusión de nuestras dos escuelas, presentada en la reunión de la Junta del 13 de noviembre de 2024.

Los miembros de la comunidad de cada una de nuestras escuelas han organizado y asistido a varias reuniones para conocer la fusión. **La semana pasada, nuestras dos escuelas se reunieron en una reunión conjunta para analizar la fusión y se expresaron muchas inquietudes. Estas incluyen, entre otras, las siguientes:**

- Esta fusión está dirigida a dos escuelas que, en conjunto, inscriben a más de 800 estudiantes. Estas dos escuelas se crearon a partir del reconocimiento de que los estudiantes estarían mejor atendidos en escuelas más pequeñas que podrían abordar mejor las necesidades individuales, y del reconocimiento de la desigualdad en el tamaño de las escuelas entre las colinas y las llanuras. Si bien las escuelas pequeñas persisten en las colinas, la fusión de estas dos escuelas con grandes necesidades en las llanuras del este de Oakland parece ser un paso atrás. Se proponen fusiones como una solución para “ajustar el tamaño” de varias escuelas “demasiado pequeñas”, pero esta no es la situación en nuestras escuelas; ninguna de las escuelas es pequeña y juntas serían una megaescuela.
- La fusión promete ahorros financieros mínimos y al mismo tiempo tiene el máximo efecto en la comunidad.
- Cada escuela tiene un carácter especializado y una cultura intencional que los padres valoran y que no está claro si se conservará en una fusión. Esto incluye, entre otros, el programa de inmersión dual en una de las escuelas.
- Hay varias preguntas sin respuesta sobre si se lograrían los ahorros previstos. Entre ellas, entre otras, cuál sería el efecto en las subvenciones “por escuela” que cada escuela recibe del estado y que cubren una cantidad sustancial del presupuesto de cada escuela.
- Reconocemos que el enorme tamaño del déficit en todo el OUSD requerirá ajustes dolorosos en todas las escuelas. Sin embargo, la propuesta de fusión no es estratégica. Tiene un gran impacto en las comunidades vulnerables, con ahorros poco claros y mínimos en el mejor de los casos, y se propone en un cronograma que no ofrece espacio para considerar ninguna de estas preocupaciones.

Solicitamos que vote no a esta propuesta de fusión.

En términos más generales, solicitamos un proceso a nivel de toda la comunidad, con el apoyo adecuado y un cronograma mucho más largo, como un año completo, para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre cómo se cumplirán los objetivos de ahorro del distrito en nuestras escuelas.

- La semana pasada, la reunión conjunta entre nuestras dos escuelas, organizada por EBAYC, demostró lo poderoso que es para las comunidades contar con el apoyo de organizaciones capacitadas en la divulgación y facilitación grupal equitativa para guiar la toma de decisiones colectiva. La organización en nuestras diversas comunidades multilingües requiere tiempo y apoyo adicionales, especialmente para la traducción. Solicitamos que, mientras OUSD atraviesa esta difícil transición financiera, se brinde apoyo y recursos a las comunidades escolares para tomar estas difíciles decisiones.

Atentamente,

Las familias firmantes de Manzanita Community School y Manzanita SEED

(ver las firmas a continuación)

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Vu Doan

MCS (4)

Alfredo de la Torre jr

MCS (3)

Amya Mda

MCS (1)

Jay Jordan

~~See~~ MCS(4)

MMR

MCS (3)

~~Seed~~

MCS (2)

Yuliana B

Seed (1)

Angelica Toscano

MCS (2)

Vianca Cordero

MCS (4)

Nel Ichan Iun

MCS (1)

Christina Evans

Seed (2)

diocre phone tuk

MCS 5th

Lucina Hernandez

Seed (k)

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Vu Doan

MCS (4)

Alfredo Gutierrez Jr

MCS (3)

Amy Mda

MCS (1)

Jen Johnson

~~See~~ MCS (4)

~~W.M.P.~~

MCS (3)

~~Steff~~

MCS (2)

Yuliana B

Seed (1)

Angelica Toscano

MCS (2)

Vianca Cordero

MCS (4)

Nel Ichon Lun

MCS (1)

Christina Brown

Seed (2)

diocre chance tuk

MCS 5th

Lucina Hernandez

Seed (k)

December 10, 2024

Dear Honorable School Board Members,

We, the undersigned families of Manzanita SEED and Manzanita Community School oppose the proposal of a merger for our two schools, put forth in the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Community members from each of our schools have organized and attended several meetings to learn about the merger. **Last week our two schools met for a joint meeting to discuss the merger, and many concerns were voiced.** These include but are not limited to the following concerns:

- This merger is targeting two schools who collectively enroll more than 800 students. These two schools were created out of the recognition that students would be better served by smaller schools which could better address individual needs, and out of a recognition of inequity in school size between the hills and the flatlands. While small schools persist in the hills, merging these two high-needs schools in East Oakland flatlands seems to be a move going backwards. Mergers are proposed as a solution for “right-sizing” multiple “too-small” schools, but this is not the situation at our schools; neither school is small, and together they would be a mega-school.
- The merger promises minimal financial savings while having maximum effect on the community.
- Each school has a specialized character and intentional culture, that parents value, and which it is unclear would be retained in a merger. This includes but is not limited to the dual immersion program at one of the schools.
- There are a number of unanswered questions about whether the intended savings would be realized. Including, but not limited to, what would be the effect on “per school” grants that each school receives from the state and which cover a substantial amount of each school’s budget.

We recognize that the huge size of the deficit across OUSD will require painful adjustments across all schools. However, the merger proposal is not strategic. It has a huge impact on vulnerable communities, with unclear and minimal at best savings, and is being proposed on a timeline that does not offer space for considering any of these concerns.

We request that you vote no on this merger proposal.

More broadly, we request a community-wide process, with adequate support, and a much longer timeline - such as a full year - to make decisions as a community for how district savings goals will be met in our schools.

Last week, the joint meeting between our two schools, run by EBAYC demonstrated how powerful it is for communities to have support via organizations skilled in equitable group outreach and facilitation to guide collective decision-making. Organizing in our diverse multilingual communities requires additional time and support, especially for translation. We request that as OUSD undergoes this difficult financial transition, that school communities be provided with support and resources, to make these difficult decisions

Sincerely,

The undersigned families of Manzanita Community School, and Manzanita SEED
(see signatures below)

December 10, 2024

Dear Honorable School Board Members,

We, the undersigned families of Manzanita SEED and Manzanita Community School oppose the proposal of a merger for our two schools, put forth in the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Community members from each of our schools have organized and attended several meetings to learn about the merger. **Last week our two schools met for a joint meeting to discuss the merger, and many concerns were voiced.** These include but are not limited to the following concerns:

- This merger is targeting two schools who collectively enroll more than 800 students. These two schools were created out of the recognition that students would be better served by smaller schools which could better address individual needs, and out of a recognition of inequity in school size between the hills and the flatlands. While small schools persist in the hills, merging these two high-needs schools in East Oakland flatlands seems to be a move going backwards. Mergers are proposed as a solution for “right-sizing” multiple “too-small” schools, but this is not the situation at our schools; neither school is small, and together they would be a mega-school.
- The merger promises minimal financial savings while having maximum effect on the community.
- Each school has a specialized character and intentional culture, that parents value, and which it is unclear would be retained in a merger. This includes but is not limited to the dual immersion program at one of the schools.
- There are a number of unanswered questions about whether the intended savings would be realized. Including, but not limited to, what would be the effect on “per school” grants that each school receives from the state and which cover a substantial amount of each school’s budget.

We recognize that the huge size of the deficit across OUSD will require painful adjustments across all schools. However, the merger proposal is not strategic. It has a huge impact on vulnerable communities, with unclear and minimal at best savings, and is being proposed on a timeline that does not offer space for considering any of these concerns.

We request that you vote no on this merger proposal.

More broadly, we request a community-wide process, with adequate support, and a much longer timeline - such as a full year - to make decisions as a community for how district savings goals will be met in our schools.

Last week, the joint meeting between our two schools, run by EBAYC demonstrated how powerful it is for communities to have support via organizations skilled in equitable group outreach and facilitation to guide collective decision-making. Organizing in our diverse multilingual communities requires additional time and support, especially for translation. We request that as OUSD undergoes this difficult financial transition, that school communities be provided with support and resources, to make these difficult decisions

Sincerely,

The undersigned families of Manzanita Community School, and Manzanita SEED
(see signatures below)

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

1. Vote No a la Fusión
2. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Ana Yuritzi Mendoza Martinez 3^o

Bernabe Rivera Farías 1^o 2^{oo}

Martín Colín 1^o

Reina Funes K - TK

Mario Rabio 5/1

Gerardo Venegas Kinder

Anthony Jimpeo 3rd

Milagro Moreno 5

Susana Vidal 8th 9th 4

Dolores

Silvia H^{gr}

Beth 2nd

Walt 3rd

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

1. Vote No a la Fusión
2. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Ana yuritzi Mendoza Martinez 3^o

Bernabe Rivera Farics 1^o 2^{oo}

Martin Colm 1^o

Reina Funes K - TK

Mario Pablo 5/1

Gerardo Venegas Kinder

~~Alma Jimpea~~ 3rd

Milagro Moren 5

Susana Wyl 3rd 4th 4

Doreen

~~Silvia~~ 4^o gr.

~~Beth~~ 2nd

~~Walt P. M. Johnson~~ 3rd

10 de diciembre de 2024

Estimados Miembros Honorables de OUSD School Board:

Nosotros, las familias abajo firmantes de Manzanita SEED y Manzanita Community School, nos oponemos a la propuesta de fusión de nuestras dos escuelas, presentada en la reunión de la Junta del 13 de noviembre de 2024.

Los miembros de la comunidad de cada una de nuestras escuelas han organizado y asistido a varias reuniones para conocer la fusión. **La semana pasada, nuestras dos escuelas se reunieron en una reunión conjunta para analizar la fusión y se expresaron muchas inquietudes. Estas incluyen, entre otras, las siguientes:**

- Esta fusión está dirigida a dos escuelas que, en conjunto, inscriben a más de 800 estudiantes. Estas dos escuelas se crearon a partir del reconocimiento de que los estudiantes estarían mejor atendidos en escuelas más pequeñas que podrían abordar mejor las necesidades individuales, y del reconocimiento de la desigualdad en el tamaño de las escuelas entre las colinas y las llanuras. Si bien las escuelas pequeñas persisten en las colinas, la fusión de estas dos escuelas con grandes necesidades en las llanuras del este de Oakland parece ser un paso atrás. Se proponen fusiones como una solución para “ajustar el tamaño” de varias escuelas “demasiado pequeñas”, pero esta no es la situación en nuestras escuelas; ninguna de las escuelas es pequeña y juntas serían una megaescuela.
- La fusión promete ahorros financieros mínimos y al mismo tiempo tiene el máximo efecto en la comunidad.
- Cada escuela tiene un carácter especializado y una cultura intencional que los padres valoran y que no está claro si se conservará en una fusión. Esto incluye, entre otros, el programa de inmersión dual en una de las escuelas.
- Hay varias preguntas sin respuesta sobre si se lograrían los ahorros previstos. Entre ellas, entre otras, cuál sería el efecto en las subvenciones “por escuela” que cada escuela recibe del estado y que cubren una cantidad sustancial del presupuesto de cada escuela.
- Reconocemos que el enorme tamaño del déficit en todo el OUSD requerirá ajustes dolorosos en todas las escuelas. Sin embargo, la propuesta de fusión no es estratégica. Tiene un gran impacto en las comunidades vulnerables, con ahorros poco claros y mínimos en el mejor de los casos, y se propone en un cronograma que no ofrece espacio para considerar ninguna de estas preocupaciones.

Solicitamos que vote no a esta propuesta de fusión.

En términos más generales, solicitamos un proceso a nivel de toda la comunidad, con el apoyo adecuado y un cronograma mucho más largo, como un año completo, para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre cómo se cumplirán los objetivos de ahorro del distrito en nuestras escuelas.

- La semana pasada, la reunión conjunta entre nuestras dos escuelas, organizada por EBAYC, demostró lo poderoso que es para las comunidades contar con el apoyo de organizaciones capacitadas en la divulgación y facilitación grupal equitativa para guiar la toma de decisiones colectiva. La organización en nuestras diversas comunidades multilingües requiere tiempo y apoyo adicionales, especialmente para la traducción. Solicitamos que, mientras OUSD atraviesa esta difícil transición financiera, se brinde apoyo y recursos a las comunidades escolares para tomar estas difíciles decisiones.

Atentamente,

Las familias firmantes de Manzanita Community School y Manzanita SEED
(ver las firmas a continuación)

Estimados Miembros Honorables de OUSD School Board:

Nosotros, las familias abajo firmantes de Manzanita SEED y Manzanita Community School, nos oponemos a la propuesta de fusión de nuestras dos escuelas, presentada en la reunión de la Junta del 13 de noviembre de 2024.

Los miembros de la comunidad de cada una de nuestras escuelas han organizado y asistido a varias reuniones para conocer la fusión. **La semana pasada, nuestras dos escuelas se reunieron en una reunión conjunta para analizar la fusión y se expresaron muchas inquietudes. Estas incluyen, entre otras, las siguientes:**

- Esta fusión está dirigida a dos escuelas que, en conjunto, inscriben a más de 800 estudiantes. Estas dos escuelas se crearon a partir del reconocimiento de que los estudiantes estarían mejor atendidos en escuelas más pequeñas que podrían abordar mejor las necesidades individuales, y del reconocimiento de la desigualdad en el tamaño de las escuelas entre las colinas y las llanuras. Si bien las escuelas pequeñas persisten en las colinas, la fusión de estas dos escuelas con grandes necesidades en las llanuras del este de Oakland parece ser un paso atrás. Se proponen fusiones como una solución para “ajustar el tamaño” de varias escuelas “demasiado pequeñas”, pero esta no es la situación en nuestras escuelas; ninguna de las escuelas es pequeña y juntas serían una megaescuela.
- La fusión promete ahorros financieros mínimos y al mismo tiempo tiene el máximo efecto en la comunidad.
- Cada escuela tiene un carácter especializado y una cultura intencional que los padres valoran y que no está claro si se conservará en una fusión. Esto incluye, entre otros, el programa de inmersión dual en una de las escuelas.
- Hay varias preguntas sin respuesta sobre si se lograrían los ahorros previstos. Entre ellas, entre otras, cuál sería el efecto en las subvenciones “por escuela” que cada escuela recibe del estado y que cubren una cantidad sustancial del presupuesto de cada escuela.
- Reconocemos que el enorme tamaño del déficit en todo el OUSD requerirá ajustes dolorosos en todas las escuelas. Sin embargo, la propuesta de fusión no es estratégica. Tiene un gran impacto en las comunidades vulnerables, con ahorros poco claros y mínimos en el mejor de los casos, y se propone en un cronograma que no ofrece espacio para considerar ninguna de estas preocupaciones.

Solicitamos que vote no a esta propuesta de fusión.

En términos más generales, solicitamos un proceso a nivel de toda la comunidad, con el apoyo adecuado y un cronograma mucho más largo, como un año completo, para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre cómo se cumplirán los objetivos de ahorro del distrito en nuestras escuelas.

- La semana pasada, la reunión conjunta entre nuestras dos escuelas, organizada por EBAYC, demostró lo poderoso que es para las comunidades contar con el apoyo de organizaciones capacitadas en la divulgación y facilitación grupal equitativa para guiar la toma de decisiones colectiva. La organización en nuestras diversas comunidades multilingües requiere tiempo y apoyo adicionales, especialmente para la traducción. Solicitamos que, mientras OUSD atraviesa esta difícil transición financiera, se brinde apoyo y recursos a las comunidades escolares para tomar estas difíciles decisiones.

Atentamente,

Las familias firmantes de Manzanita Community School y Manzanita SEED
(ver las firmas a continuación)

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

Tania Chi

What grade is your child/children in?

4th

Dee Stosich

1st

Thuan La

4th, K

Iki Botero

TK

Jaimie Stephan

SJ

Danielle Nash

1st

Jennifer Lee

3rd, Sth

Brianna glam

2nd, Sth

~~Hannah~~

3th

Franisca Lopez

5th

Allison Banier

TK

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

1. Vote No on the Merger
2. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

Tania Chi

What grade is your child/children in?

4th

Dee Stosich

1st

Thuan La

4th, K

Ibi Botelho

TK

Jaimie Saephan

SJ

Darrelle Nash

1st

Jennifer Lee

3rd, Sth

Brianna Gram

2nd Sth

~~Hannah~~

3th

fransisca Lopez

5th

Allison Banister

TK

Sonia Crispin

The Ly

TK 3rd

December 10, 2024

Dear Honorable School Board Members,

We, the undersigned families of Manzanita SEED and Manzanita Community School oppose the proposal of a merger for our two schools, put forth in the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Community members from each of our schools have organized and attended several meetings to learn about the merger. **Last week our two schools met for a joint meeting to discuss the merger, and many concerns were voiced.** These include but are not limited to the following concerns:

- This merger is targeting two schools who collectively enroll more than 800 students. These two schools were created out of the recognition that students would be better served by smaller schools which could better address individual needs, and out of a recognition of inequity in school size between the hills and the flatlands. While small schools persist in the hills, merging these two high-needs schools in East Oakland flatlands seems to be a move going backwards. Mergers are proposed as a solution for “right-sizing” multiple “too-small” schools, but this is not the situation at our schools; neither school is small, and together they would be a mega-school.
- The merger promises minimal financial savings while having maximum effect on the community.
- Each school has a specialized character and intentional culture, that parents value, and which it is unclear would be retained in a merger. This includes but is not limited to the dual immersion program at one of the schools.
- There are a number of unanswered questions about whether the intended savings would be realized. Including, but not limited to, what would be the effect on “per school” grants that each school receives from the state and which cover a substantial amount of each school’s budget.

We recognize that the huge size of the deficit across OUSD will require painful adjustments across all schools. However, the merger proposal is not strategic. It has a huge impact on vulnerable communities, with unclear and minimal at best savings, and is being proposed on a timeline that does not offer space for considering any of these concerns.

We request that you vote no on this merger proposal.

More broadly, we request a community-wide process, with adequate support, and a much longer timeline - such as a full year - to make decisions as a community for how district savings goals will be met in our schools.

Last week, the joint meeting between our two schools, run by EBAYC demonstrated how powerful it is for communities to have support via organizations skilled in equitable group outreach and facilitation to guide collective decision-making. Organizing in our diverse multilingual communities requires additional time and support, especially for translation. We request that as OUSD undergoes this difficult financial transition, that school communities be provided with support and resources, to make these difficult decisions

December 10, 2024

Dear Honorable School Board Members,

We, the undersigned families of Manzanita SEED and Manzanita Community School oppose the proposal of a merger for our two schools, put forth in the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

Community members from each of our schools have organized and attended several meetings to learn about the merger. **Last week our two schools met for a joint meeting to discuss the merger, and many concerns were voiced.** These include but are not limited to the following concerns:

- This merger is targeting two schools who collectively enroll more than 800 students. These two schools were created out of the recognition that students would be better served by smaller schools which could better address individual needs, and out of a recognition of inequity in school size between the hills and the flatlands. While small schools persist in the hills, merging these two high-needs schools in East Oakland flatlands seems to be a move going backwards. Mergers are proposed as a solution for “right-sizing” multiple “too-small” schools, but this is not the situation at our schools; neither school is small, and together they would be a mega-school.
- The merger promises minimal financial savings while having maximum effect on the community.
- Each school has a specialized character and intentional culture, that parents value, and which it is unclear would be retained in a merger. This includes but is not limited to the dual immersion program at one of the schools.
- There are a number of unanswered questions about whether the intended savings would be realized. Including, but not limited to, what would be the effect on “per school” grants that each school receives from the state and which cover a substantial amount of each school’s budget.

We recognize that the huge size of the deficit across OUSD will require painful adjustments across all schools. However, the merger proposal is not strategic. It has a huge impact on vulnerable communities, with unclear and minimal at best savings, and is being proposed on a timeline that does not offer space for considering any of these concerns.

We request that you vote no on this merger proposal.

More broadly, we request a community-wide process, with adequate support, and a much longer timeline - such as a full year - to make decisions as a community for how district savings goals will be met in our schools.

Last week, the joint meeting between our two schools, run by EBAYC demonstrated how powerful it is for communities to have support via organizations skilled in equitable group outreach and facilitation to guide collective decision-making. Organizing in our diverse multilingual communities requires additional time and support, especially for translation. We request that as OUSD undergoes this difficult financial transition, that school communities be provided with support and resources, to make these difficult decisions

Sincerely,

The undersigned families of Manzanita Community School, and Manzanita SEED
(see signatures below)

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

1. Vote No a la Fusión
2. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Hilary Davis

1st + 3rd

Stephanie Tait

1st & 3rd

JR
R. Brown

K & 3rd

K & 3rd

Kelley Leathers

1st

Brenda Pachal

K grade

Blanca

1 grado

Olivia Mitchell

4th grade

Guadalupe Agilar

5th grade

Suleima Gomez

TK 1st

Brenda Ramirez

3 grado

Olga Gonzalez

3 grado

Marcela Orcillana

3 grado

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

1. Vote No a la Fusión
2. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Lilang Davis

1st + 3rd

Stephanie Tait

1st & 3rd

JR
Kathy

K & 3rd

K & 3rd

Kelley Leathers

1st

Brenda Pahil

K grade

Blanca

1 grado

Olivia Mitchell

4th grade

Guadalupe Agilar

5th grades

Suleima Gomez

TK 1st

Brenda Ramirez

3 grado

Olga Gonzalez

3 grado

Marcela Orellana

3 grado



Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la la OUSD School Board que:

3. Vote No a la Fusión
4. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Paulina Pablo

quinder

Anaetco H

quinder

Jacqueline Acasta

kinder

Zulema Santos

TK

Ann Keilman

K + 3rd

Chau Koech

3

Mariit Santelius

H

Emilia Cox

K + 3rd

Nikki Dinh

K + 3rd

Shannon Loft

1st

Luz Gómez (Irina Turcios)

2nd

Carlos Turcios (Giancarlo Turcios)

1er.

Maria Morales

4to y 1er

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la la OUSD School Board que:

3. Vote No a la Fusión
4. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Paulina Fabio

quintos

Anaokso H

quintos

Jacqueline Acosta

kinder

Zulema Santos

TK

Ann Keilman

K + 3rd

Chau Kochi

3

Mariit Santillan

H

Emilia Cox

K + 3rd

Nikki Dink

K + 3rd

Shannon Loft

1st

Luz Gómez (Irina Turcios)

2do.

Carlos Turcios (Giancarlo Turcios)

1er.

Maria Morales

4to y 1er



Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

3. Vote No on the Merger
4. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

Nadine Mor

5th

Nathan Mor

5th

Erika Panemh

TK

Vihol Leong

3 grade

Jacquelin Enrigas

9 grado

Monique Albert

1st, TK

Melissa

Erika Santiago

5/ K

Prudencia Alilon

4th

Gloria Leon

4th

Icaroales

3th

Mony D.

4

Nathanael Yauapetl

5

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

3. Vote No on the Merger
4. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

Nadine Mor

5th

Nathan Mor

5th

Erika Paninh

TK

Vibol Leang

3rd grade

Jacquelin Enriguez

9th grade

Monique Albert

1st, TK

Neil Peller

Erika Santiago

S/K

Prudencia Alilon

4th

Gloria Leon

4th

Zamorales

3rd

Mony D.

4

Nathanael Yauapetec

5

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

5. Vote No on the Merger
 6. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

5. Vote No on the Merger
 6. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your child/children in?

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

5. Vote No a la Fusión
6. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Odilia Tobar	2 nd grade
Antonio Perez	2nd grade
Kim Huynh	4 th grade
Tania Roque	4 th grade
Juan Herrera	5 th grade
Kimberly Lopez	5 th
Denisse On	3 rd
Springs Cepara	6 th
Victoria Hernandez	2
Zaruee Johnson	1 st /5 th
Emma Rosa Lopez	4/4
Ricardo Domingo Garcia	1ST

Comunidad de Manzanita y familias de Manzanita SEED, consideren firmar la carta anterior solicitando a la OUSD School Board que:

5. Vote No a la Fusión
6. Ofrezca a nuestras escuelas un cronograma más extenso y un proceso respaldado para tomar decisiones como comunidad sobre medidas para ahorrar dinero en nuestras escuelas.

Tu nombre completo

¿En qué grado está su hijo/hijos?

Odilia Tobar

2nd grade

Antonio Perez

2nd grade

Kim Huynh

4th grade

Tania Roque

4th grade

Juan Herrera

5th grade

Alysha Jeff

510 - 975 - 5622

5th

Denise Orr

510 - 228 - 2044

3rd

Springs Cepara

510 - 743 - 8578

6th

~~Victoria Mendoza~~ - mom

2

Zaruee Johnson

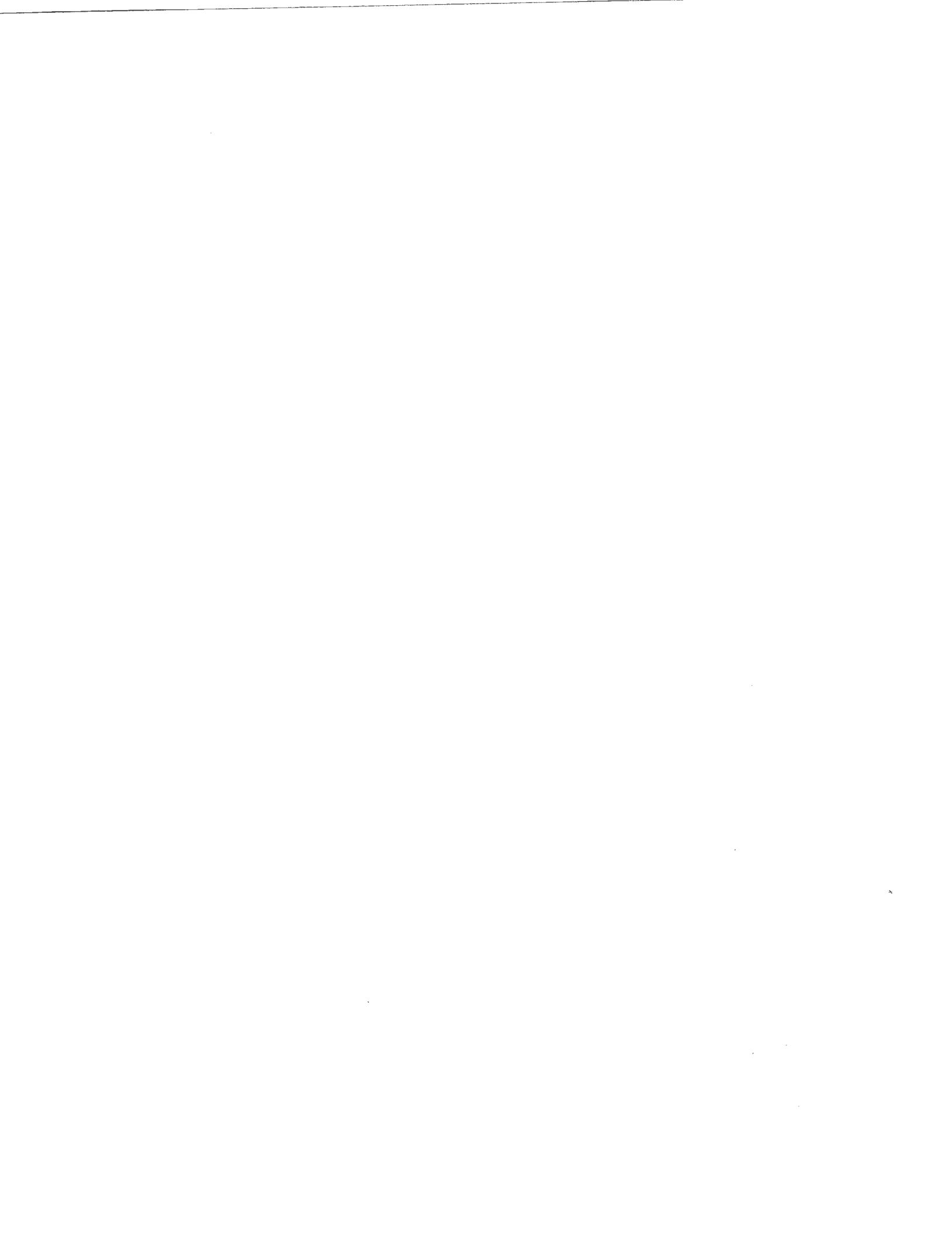
1st / 5th

Emma Rosa Lopez

4/4

Ricardo Domingo Garcia

1ST



Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

3. Vote No on the Merger
4. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

Muang Tiffany Saechao

What grade is your child/children in?

1st / 3rd

Loren Williams

K

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

3. Vote No on the Merger
4. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

Muang Tiffany Saechao

What grade is your
child/children in?

1st / 3rd

Loren Williams

K



Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

5. Vote No on the Merger
6. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

Lizette Tello

What grade is your
child/children in?

Kinder

Gina Doris Ware

Kinder

Rasheda Kirby

Kinder

Sydney Mount

Kinder

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

5. Vote No on the Merger
6. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

Lizette Tello

Kinder

Gina Doris Ware

Kinder

Rasheda Kirby

Kinder

Sydney Mount

Kinder

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the
Oakland Unified School Board to:

3. Vote No on the Merger
4. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

What grade is your
child/children in?

Alejandra Cerna

Kinderg.

Michael Andres

Kinderg.

Shauta Willis

Kinderg.

Brianna Duceo

4th

~~Maggie~~

1st

ISIS Delgadillo

kindergarten

Merry Saephanh

kindergarten

Natalia Gentilizo

KINDERGARDEN

La Shanna Walker

K

ANABEL CASTELLANOS

Kinder

Alexandra Canchiz

TK

Alejandra Silva

K

Fontaine Duhk

1st

Manzanita Community and Manzanita SEED Families, please consider signing the above letter requesting the Oakland Unified School Board to:

3. Vote No on the Merger
4. Provide our schools with a longer timeline, and a supported process for making decisions as a community about measures to save money at our schools.

Your Full Name

Alejandra Cerna

What grade is your child/children in?

Kinderg.

Michael Andres

Kinderg.

Shauta Willis

Kinderg.

Brizilda Ducevo

4th

~~Maria~~

1st

ISIS Delgadillo

kindergarten

Merry Sappanh

kindergarten

NEIL GENTELIZO

KINDERGARDEN

La Shanna Walker

K

ANABEL ASTELLANOS

Kinder

Alejandra Candia

TK

Alejandra Silva

K

Fontaine Dahs

1st