

Date: March 22, 2013

To: OUSD Board of Education
From: Gary Yee & David Kakishiba
cc: OUSD Superintendent Dr. Tony Smith

Re: **Proposed New Board Policy – Quality School Development**

Legislative Request

On March 27, 2013: To refer the proposed Board Policy on Quality School Development to the Superintendent for analysis and recommendation.

On April 24, 2013: To adopt the proposed Board Policy on Quality School Development, and to direct the Superintendent to report to the Board of Education in October 2013 on the progress achieved toward implementing the adopted Quality School Development Board Policy, including any related changes to district organization, district leadership, program budget allocations, facilities usage, local school governance team structures and decision-making processes; and communications to all district schools, charter schools, and contract schools regarding the Board policy on Quality School Development.

Rationale

On June 18, 2011, the Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) adopted a Five-Year Strategic Plan, which established the OUSD's mission as one of becoming a Full-Service Community School District that serves the whole child, eliminates inequity, and provides each child with excellent teachers every day. Embedded in our adopted mission and five-year strategic plan is the Board's aspiration to ensure that every public school operating under its jurisdiction demonstrates both high quality and high achievement.

OUSD has recently developed key planning and accountability structures to support the development of high quality schools, including: 1) Standards for School Quality; 2) School Quality Review rubric and process; 3) Community School Strategic Site Plan tool and process; 4) Balanced Scorecard goals, outcomes, and measures, and accountability report schedule; 5) District Budget Priorities aligned to Balanced Scorecards goals and outcomes; 6) Partnership School Agreements with public charter schools; and 7) Board Policy on School Governance.

However, we recognize that our collective ability to accelerate positive change in our district and in our schools is challenged by three longstanding conditions:

1. OUSD lacks a robust infrastructure and a durable process to build the capacity of all of our schools to effectively practice continuous quality improvement.
2. The decline of Oakland's school-age population and the growth in the number of public charter schools have created significant and evolving challenges to the organizational sustainability of both public district schools and public charter schools.
3. The combative relationship between the OUSD and the Oakland Education Association has often prevented the two parties from engaging in sustained dialogue to craft agreements that improve school quality and sustainability across the entire city.

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy

BP 6005

Instruction

Quality School Development

The Board of Education is responsible for ensuring that the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) is a high-quality full-service community school district that serves the whole child, eliminates inequity, and provides each child with excellent teachers every day.

The Board of Education is committed to providing all students a continuum of high-quality schools, including schools that are directly operated by the OUSD; public charter schools authorized by the Oakland Unified School District; and schools funded by, but are not exclusively operated by the Oakland Unified School District.

Toward realizing this promise, the Board of Education shall:

1. Establish comprehensive school quality standards, outcomes, and measures by which all schools are expected to make steady progress toward and achieve.
2. Establish a school quality review process in which all schools continuously participate to assess the state of their school in relation to established school quality standards, outcomes, and measures, and to identify key priorities for school improvement.
3. Establish a school quality improvement process in which all schools, through their school governance team, are held accountable to develop a rigorous three-year school quality improvement plan (Community School Strategic Site Plan). The school quality improvement process shall engage, guide, and support school governance teams to identify, as necessary:
 - a. Evidence-based or promising strategies and practices that are relevant to the conditions and needs of their school;
 - b. Qualified Diverse Providers to implement one or more elements of their school quality improvement plan; and
 - c. Resource Utilization Plan to describe how school resources – people, programs, money, and time – are coherently aligned to achieve the school quality improvement plan’s goals, theory-of-action, and strategies.
4. Authorize the implementation of three-year school quality improvement plans, which have been recommended for approval by the Superintendent.
5. Establish a “Quality School Development Innovation Fund” to provide targeted investments to catalyze implementation of Board-approved school quality improvement plans.
6. House qualified public charter schools and contract schools in Oakland Unified School District school facilities.

4/24/13