

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board Policy

BP 6006

Instruction

**Quality School Development: System of Schools**

To ensure access to high quality schools that serve the whole child, eliminate inequity, and provide each child with access to 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 OUSD and the County of Alameda, and schools funded by, but are not exclusively operated by the OUSD.

Over the past fifteen years, OUSD has become a hybrid school district comprised of 122 total schools, 87 of them OUSD district-run schools and 35 of them district-authorized charter schools. Each of these schools in our system of schools makes up the Oakland Unified School District or OUSD. OUSD operates 49 elementary schools (K-5), five K-8 schools, three grade 6-12 schools, seven high schools, eight alternative schools, and one independent study school. Our various charter school providers operate nine elementary schools, eight K-8 schools, five grade 6-12 schools, five middle schools, seven high schools, and one alternative high school.

Our total combined student population— both OUSD and charter— is roughly 50,000 students. In 1998, OUSD served roughly the same number of students, but shared virtually no students with charter schools. Today, 12,000 students attend charter schools and 38,000 attend district-run schools. We will work together to better understand how to partner to deliver high quality education through the equitable allocation of resources and talent, that includes facilities and appropriate fiscal support.

The Board of Education recognizes that the landscape of schools has changed, but our operational policies and practices have not adjusted to provide sufficient guidance on the management of OUSD's hybrid system of schools. This lack of guidance has left OUSD without a clear framework for 1) how OUSD-run and OUSD-authorized charter schools co-exist, 2) the total number of OUSD-run schools and OUSD-authorized charter schools, 3) the size of elementary, middle, high, and alternative schools, and 4) how schools are introduced to and eliminated from the OUSD system of schools.

The Board of Education will reduce the total number of schools it operates and authorizes and will take bold action to expand Oakland students' access to quality schools. And further, OUSD will immediately begin expanding, merging, or closing district-run or charter schools to achieve the highest level of quality.

The Board of Education is committed to the establishment of standards and practices that increase the quality of education across both district and charter sectors and standards that advance the effort to provide the highest quality education at every school site in each Oakland neighborhood.

To achieve this ends, the Board of Education will begin a multi-year redevelopment and planning process, after which OUSD will be better organized, fiscally vital, and every student will have access to a higher quality education.

To achieve this end, the Board of Education shall:

1. Authorize and approve a decision making matrix that governs how new schools are added to and withdrawn from the OUSD system of schools. This matrix should be ready for adoption before [July 2018].
2. Direct the Superintendent to recommend a plan by which all schools- both OUSD-run schools and charter schools authorized by OUSD- will be engaged, assessed, and empowered to reimagine to rethink where and how their students will achieve a higher quality education through the reallocation of all OUSD resources, facilities, and assets.
3. Authorize and approve a school size guideline that sets a target for the total number of students that attend (OUSD-run and OUSD-authorized charter) elementary, middle, high, and alternative schools, respectively. Such a guideline should be ready for adoption by the Board by [September 2018].
4. Authorize and approve recommendations and an implementation timeline regarding the total number of schools that are operated by OUSD and charter schools authorized by OUSD. The implementation and timeline should be ready for discussion and adoption by [September 2018].
5. Direct the Superintendent to use the School Governance, Results Based Budgeting, and the Quality School Development policies to guide and inform all recommendations made to the Board of Education.

(v9- 4/21/18)