

**MEASURE N AND H – COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS COMMISSION**

1016 Union Street, #940  
Oakland, CA 94607



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

**Measures N and H –  
College & Career Readiness Commission**

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<b>Board Office Use: Legislative File Info.</b>	
File ID Number	23-0307
Introduction Date	02/07/2023
Enactment Number	
Enactment Date	

# Memo

**To** Measures N and H – College and Career Readiness Commission

**From** Vanessa Sifuentes, High School Network Superintendent

**Board Meeting Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Subject** 2023-2024 Funding Transition Recommendation  
Services For: All High Schools

**Action Requested and Recommendation** Adoption by the Measures N and H – College and Career Readiness Commission of 2023-24 Funding Transition Recommendation.

**Background**

*(Why do we need these services? Why have you selected this vendor?)*

**Competitively Bid**

Was this contract competitively bid? No  
If no, exception: N/A

**Fiscal Impact**

Funding resource(s): Measure N  
Measure H

**Attachments**

- 2023-2024 Funding Transition Recommendation



## HIGH SCHOOL LINKED LEARNING OFFICE

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To: Measures N and H - College and Career Readiness Commission  
From: Vanessa Sifuentes, High School Network Superintendent  
Subject: **2023-2024 Funding Transition Recommendation**  
Date: May 5, 2023

### BACKGROUND

In 2014, voters in Oakland passed Measure N, a tax of \$120 per parcel that raised approximately \$11.5 million annually with the purpose of reducing the drop-out rate, providing high school students with real-world work and learning opportunities, preparing students for admission to the University of California and other four-year colleges, and expanding mentoring, tutoring, counseling, support services, and transition to job training programs.

In 2022, the voters of Oakland overwhelmingly passed Measure H by over 81%, which “renew[ed] the \$120 parcel tax for 14 years [starting July 2023], without increasing the initial tax rate, adding annual cost-of-living adjustments, exemptions for seniors and specified low-income individuals, and independent oversight and audits.” The purpose of Measure H is to “reduce dropout rates; prepare Oakland students for college and 21st century careers; attract and retain highly qualified teachers; and provide mentoring, tutoring, and counseling.”

The Measures N and H - College and Career Readiness Commission has been exploring ways to effectively and efficiently transition from spending Measure N funds to spending Measure H funds beginning July 1, 2023.

### CONSIDERATIONS

1. Oakland Unified School District has considerable Measure N funds to spend down: 2022-23 Carryover Funds and the Measure N Contingency Fund.

#### **Carryover Funds**

Every high school and Measure N administration can rollover all unexpended Measure N budget allocations from one fiscal year to the next fiscal year.

#### **Contingency Fund**

Measure N revenue not allocated to schools or administration is held in reserve and maintained as a “Contingency Fund.” The Measure N Commission can recommend to the Board to support the use of the Contingency Fund for:

- Step down funding due to the expiration of Measure N’s 10 year term
  - Addressing the negative financial impact to high schools based on rising overall enrollment
  - Measure N revenue shortfalls
2. Having a Contingency Fund has been essential because both enrollment in OUSD and Measure N-approved charter schools and Measure N revenue have fluctuated. Accessing the Contingency Fund to address Measure N revenue shortfalls has been necessary to maintain the yearly \$850 per student allocation.
  3. The Measure H guidelines outlined in the parcel tax legislation are different from the Measure N guidelines. As a result, managing Measure H funds will require a shift in practice.



## HIGH SCHOOL LINKED LEARNING OFFICE

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### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The High School Linked Learning Office has identified the following guiding principles in the transition from Measure N to Measure H:

- Make transition as seamless as possible for school sites
- Maintaining a contingency fund is essential
- Approach the legislation with a focus on programmatic approach and integrity: Measure H is not just a fund
- Fiscal accountability
- Spending down Measure N funds as soon as possible in order to reduce complexity and to minimize how long OUSD will need to manage two sources with different guidelines simultaneously

### **2023-24 FUNDING TRANSITION RECOMMENDATION**

The High School Linked Learning Office recommends using a combination of Measure N Contingency Funds and Measure H revenue to fund sites and the Administrative 10% for the 2023-24 school year. The rationale for this recommendation is that it:

- Allows for spending down of Measure N funds; in particular exhausting the Measure N Contingency Fund
- Allows for the accumulation of Measure H funds that could start a Measure H Contingency Fund
- Provides time for staff to develop new Measure H guidelines, processes and forms

### **ACTION REQUEST OF THE MEASURES N AND H - COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS COMMISSION**

Adoption by the Measures N and H - College and Career Readiness Commission of 2023-24 Funding Transition Recommendation