# OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Community Schools, Thriving Students

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May 28, 2014

To:

**Board of Education** 

From: Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Board Representative, Council of the Great City Schools

Subj:

Males of Color Pledge - Members, Council of the Great City Schools

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 1314-1144 - Pledge - Males of Color - Oakland Unified School District, Member, Council of the Great City Schools.

#### DISCUSSION

We as a District, other urban school districts, the President, other individuals and entities are making a concerted effort to focus on the problems and to provide remedies to life complexities that have resulted in a disproportionate number of Males of Color - Black, Hispanic and others - from being more well educated and productive members of society.

The Council of the Great City Schools (CGCS), of which the District is a member, has provided leadership over many years on issues around Males of Color – Black, Hispanic, and other males – in the nation's urban school systems. The White House and the U.S. Department of Education have recently asked the CGCS to work with the Obama Administration in improving educational outcomes for Males of Color. The Council, as part of the collective response, is asking member districts, like Oakland Unified, to adopt the attached Pledge regarding educational outcomes for Males of Color.

Given that the District is presently doing and/or committed to the activities, and more, in the Pledge, and the CGCS believes that together, its member districts, can be instrumental in the development of national policy, initiatives for Males of Color, the District is being asked to formally adopt said Pledge.

I recommend, as your representative to CGCS, that the Board adopt the Pledge and, by so doing, authorize, the Secretary/Superintendent to transmit a certified copy of the adopted Resolution to the CGCS forthwith.

### RECOMMENDATION

Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 1314-1144 - Pledge - Males of Color - Oakland Unified School District, Member, Council of the Great City Schools.

JHH:ER:st

Attachment: Resolution No. 1314-1144

File ID Number: Introduction Date: Enactment Number: 14-**Enactment Date:** By:

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# RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNNING BOARD OF THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Resolution No. 1314-1144

# Males of Color A Pledge By Oakland Unified School District, Member, Council of the Great City Schools

WHEREAS, some 32 percent of the nation's African American males and some 39 percent of the nation's Hispanic males attend school each day in one of the Great City Schools systems; and

WHEREAS, the academic achievement of Males of Color in the nation's urban school systems and nationally is well below what it needs to be for these young people to be successful in college and careers; and

WHEREAS, disproportionate numbers of Males of Color drop out of urban schools and often have low attendance rates; and

WHEREAS, Males of Color disproportionately attend under-resourced schools and are taught by the least-effective teachers; and

WHEREAS, the nation's Great City Schools have an obligation to teach all students under their aegis to the highest academic standards and prepare them for successful participation in our nation,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District pledges to ensure its pre-school efforts better serve Males of Color and their academic and social development; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will adopt and implement elementary and middle school efforts to increase the pipeline of Males of Color who are succeeding academically and socially in our urban schools and who are on track to succeed in high school; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will keep data and establish protocols that will allow it to monitor the progress of Males of Color and other students in our schools and appropriately intervene at the earliest warning signs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will adopt and implement promising and proven approaches to reducing absenteeism, especially chronic absenteeism, among Males of Color; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will develop initiatives and regularly report on progress in retaining Males of Color in school and reducing disproportionate suspension and expulsion rates; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will develop initiatives and regularly report on progress in increasing the numbers of our Males of Color and other students participating in advanced placement and honors courses and gifted and talented programs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will strongly encourage colleges of education to adopt curriculum that addresses the academic, cultural, and social needs of Males of Color, and that the district will maintain data on how these teachers do with our Males of Color; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will develop initiatives and regularly report on progress in increasing the numbers of Males of Color and other students who complete the FASFA; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will work to reduce as appropriate the disproportionate numbers of Males of Color in special education courses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will work to transform high schools with persistently low graduation rates among Males of Color and others and to provide literacy and engagement initiatives with parents; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oakland Unified School District will engage in a broader discussion and examination of how issues of race, language, and culture affect the work of our district.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** on May 28, 2014, by the Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District, Oakland, California, by the following vote:

AYES:

Jody London, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Roseann Torres, Christopher Dobbins,

Vice President James Harris and President David Kakishiba

**NOES:** 

None

ABSTAIN:

None

ABSENT:

Anne Campbell Washington

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted on the date and by the vote stated.

Secretary of the Governing Board Oakland Unified School District

File ID Number: A-1135
Introduction Date: 5-28Enactment Number: 14-0

Enactment Number:

Bv: