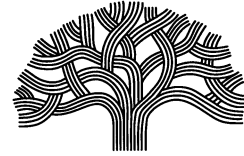


# CITY OF OAKLAND



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Mayor

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Dear OUSD Board of Education,

It is our collective responsibility, as a city, to ensure that every child graduates high school with the expectations, resources, and skills to complete college and be successful in the career of their choice.

Lighthouse exemplifies these values and has a proven record of preparing students for success in college. 94% of the Class of 2015 were accepted to a 4-year college. 90% are the first in their family to go to college. I was on the board when Lighthouse was founded because I believe deeply in this vision.

Unfortunately, Lighthouse cannot serve all the students that apply and every year there is a waitlist. Some families are on the waitlist for years, hoping that a spot will open up. Imagine the impact if Lighthouse were able to double the number of students they serve.

The Superintendent and I share a vision that puts students first and specifically, those who have traditionally been furthest from opportunity. Approving Lodestar will not only double the number of students served at a high quality school, but also has the potential to set a precedent for how district and charter public schools work together. Lodestar and OUSD have discussed an unprecedented joint commitment to address equity issues - increasing transparency and partnering to ensure equitable access for all populations across our city. Lodestar's willingness to work with the district towards these shared goals shows their deep commitment to Oakland and paves the way for other charters to do the same and a new era of partnership.

In order for Oakland to truly thrive and be the city we know it can be, we need high quality schools that are preparing students to graduate, get jobs, and give back to the community. Lodestar can play a vital role in this future.

Lodestar is committed to working with and for Oakland students and families and I urge the school board to support their bid for approval.

Sincerely,

Mayor Libby Schaaf  
City of Oakland