

Excellence in Authorizing Strong Authorizing 2018  
Recommitment to Charter Schools as part of the Oakland Educational Landscape  
March 2018

Excellence in Authorizing Strong Authorizing 2018  
Recommitment to Charter Schools as part of the Oakland Educational Landscape

**Purpose:**

Reinforce the Charter Law and provide clarity  
Strengthen authorization responsibility and practice  
Leadership opportunity Refocus on Quality, Innovation and Solvency

**Consideration:** OUSD as Authorizer is grounded in multiple policy directives/initiatives  
Quality Schools Development policy ( Revised TBD)  
Blue Print for Quality Schools  
Pathways to Excellence: Current Strategic Plan  
Future Strategic plan of OUSD 2020- 2030  
Equity Policy  
SpED  
ELL  
Robust Charter Office implement charter laws; appropriately staffed and funded  
Reference NACSA Report Key Findings: Leadership Commitment Judgement

**Excellence in Authorizing Strong Authorizing Policy 2018**

OUSD strives to be a high-quality full-service community school district that serves the whole child, eliminates inequity, and provides each child with excellent teachers every day. OUSD as a local authorizer –and operating in the spirit of the Charter Law 0420/ Ed Code . OUSD is committed to serving All Oakland students to ensure the healthy development and growth of Oakland youth to be College, Career and Community Ready.

The BOE recognizes our responsibility to provide guidance and approval of appropriate and high quality schools in Oakland. *“The Governing Board believes that charter schools provide one opportunity to implement school-level reform and to support innovations that improve student learning, especially for low-achieving students, and to expand educational choices for parents and pupils within the public school system.* (cf. Education Code, \_ 47601) Oakland’s governing Board strives to achieve excellence in its responsibility as an authorizer.

The Governing Board believes that charter schools are a valued partner in the Oakland landscape to provide quality education in the Tk-12 education system.

The BOE recognizes improving our own practice, further stabilizes and encourages quality charters demonstrated by a transparent authorization process. Furthermore, we should align our self with the spirit of the law – with attention to access to resources, facilities and focusing on student achievement for all students.

Excellence in Authorizing Strong Authorizing 2018  
Recommitment to Charter Schools as part of the Oakland Educational Landscape  
March 2018

OUSD and Charter schools together are committed to responsibly educating – SpED, and English Language Learners students and delivering high quality education to these students.

The BOE is responsible for creating a strategic planning dedicated to student achievement and fiscal solvency of the overall district, the will encourage and maximize opportunities to collaborate and include charter operators in strategic planning, goal and value setting by the District. The BOE directs the Charter Office to include Charter operators in meaningful ways to design activities, engage, participate in planning and implementation of quality programming.

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 Alameda County, and operating in Oakland.

The BOE has established policies, practices, initiative and procedures that support OUSD in becoming a high performing - high quality school district like: *Quality Schools Development (BP 6005)*, *Full Service Community School (BP 0100)*, *Equity Policy (BP 5032)* *Wellness (BP 5030)*, and *Student Discipline (BP 5144 et seq.)* and current *Blue Print for Quality Schools Initiative (2017-2018)* process. BOE directs staff to meaningfully engage in sharing best practices, strategies and practices to operationalize the above policies and initiatives across sectors and delivery systems. Governing Board acknowledges its existing policies and administrative regulations developed to advance equitable outcomes for all students.

**Opportunity to demonstrate Best Practices as Charter School Authorizer**  
**Leadership: Focus on high quality opportunities for underperforming students, building quality network, removing barriers**

By demonstrating strong and effective leadership practices: OUSD BOE believes through its authorization process it will support the elimination of racial achievement disparities and impact our lowest achieving students. As an Authorizer of Charter schools that reside in Oakland, we demonstrate an interest and concern for supporting high quality schools, innovation, best practice with a clear focus on student achievement. As an authorizer we are responsive to the parent and student populations of Oakland.

OUSD and Charter schools are willing to commitment to sharing responsibility to educate – SpEd, and English Language Learners and delivering high quality education.

Our demonstrated practices of authorizing schools and assessing the needs of Oakland students can ensure the success of high quality public schools in Oakland

Board Policy 040.4 describes the Governing Board as having articulated the belief Charter schools provide an opportunity to support innovation to improve student achievement and expand educational opportunity and choices for parents and students within the public school system. The BOE will establish further policies that support the positive development and growth of quality Oakland public charter schools.

**Commitment: To the Act of Authorizing: Operations: Consistency**

The BOE, the Superintendent, staff across the District including the Charter staff will work in partnership and demonstrate inclusive practices to ensure OUSD vision for quality schools and student achievement is explicitly shared amongst charter providers. We value our role as an authorizer so we clearly identify the relationship and role of charter schools in our strategic work within OUSD.

Predictability as an authorizer requires a well-resourced Charter Office with high functioning staff demonstrating knowledge and capacity to further innovation The Charter office will be transparent in its practice of providing support, guidance and, technical assistance and implementing other Charter policy directives and ensuring quality charter schools.

The Governing Board expects the education program of each charter school to fulfill the intent of the Charter Schools Act as listed in Education Code 47601. In reviewing

petitions for the establishment of charter schools pursuant to this section, the Governing Board shall be guided by the intent of the Legislature.

The BOE expects regularly reporting by the Charter in the areas of fiscal accountability, sound governance practice and multiple measures to evaluate the educational programming, to that end the BOE will direct staff to share District activities in these common areas in an effort to create greater alignment. Engage in the practice to ensure overall quality exist and across sectors we are maximizing outcomes for students and families. transparent engagement, and technical assistance.

The governing board is mandated to provide oversight, the BOE will ensure there is adequate staff and infrastructure provided to review and provide quality – transformative feedback. Resource the charter office so that it will optimally operate to ensure best practices as an Authorizer are achieved. The Charter Office and BOE play a role in supporting quality charters in efforts to improve practice, share practices with other educators as well as exploring expansion of models.

**Judgement: Clarity as an Authorizer High Skilled Team Improving practice of charter Accountability Mutually desired**

OUSD BOE takes care to support and authorize charter schools that important to expand the portfolio of school choices and opportunities as an authorizer we utilize multiple measure both qualitative and quantitative to successful authorize schools. While OUSD is considering developing a diverse portfolio of schools, charter operators work in cooperation with the Superintendent to recommend the best school models, best geography and placement of schools and expanding and supporting high performing programs. Equity as a means of leadership development.

OUSD's governing board is dedicated to principles of racial equity. There is attention to limiting bias and personal agendas - serving the mission of the district or the charter organization is focused.

OUSD's governing board is dedicated to principles of equity There is attention to limiting bias and agendas not serving the mission of the district or the charter organization.