

Superintendent Report to the Board of Education August 28, 2019

Vision: All OUSD students will find joy in their academic learning experience while graduating with the skills to ensure they are caring, competent, fully-informed, critical thinkers who are prepared for college, career, and community success.

Mission: To become a Full Service Community
District focused on high academic achievement
while serving the whole child, eliminating
inequity, and providing each child with excellent
teachers, every day.

OPENING REMARKS

The purpose of the Superintendent Report is to share progress and updates on our District Priorities: Fiscal Vitality, Quality Community Schools & Organizational Wellness and the Citywide Plan that are part of the 2019-20 Superintendent Work Plan.



Focusing on these priorities are in service of reaching our mission and vision of creating quality community schools where our students can thrive.



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QUALITY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

To ensure that students with the greatest need have access to PreK-12 schools that provide quality academic and social emotional programs, excellent teachers and a nurturing learning environment to ensure that every student is college, career and community ready. Here are some highlights of progress we are making in this goal area:

- School Site Visits: After First Day of School visits by the Senior Leadership Team on Aug. 12, Kyla Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent, and Sondra Aguilera, Chief Academic Officer visited the following sites over the course of the week: Melrose Leadership Academy and Castlemont High School (Tuesday), Sequoia, La Escuelita, Lincoln and the Student Welcome Center (Wednesday), Acorn Woodland, Grass Valley and New Highland (Thursday) and McClymonds High School (Friday).
 - Weekly Visits: On Aug. 20, the Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer visited Sankofa and Ralphe Bunche Academy. Going forward, the Chief Academic Officer will visit school sites every Tuesday and the Superintendent will join her on school visits every other Tuesday.
- Back to School Support through Sept. 12: For the first month of school, we will continue to shift our central office staff to support schools in the following ways:
 - Covering Classroom Vacancies: We must ensure that our classrooms, even those with substitute coverage, start off the school year right and our central staff were asked to support the launch of classrooms even if there were substitutes assigned.
 - O Initial ELPAC Testing: We must assess every student new to our District and whose home language survey indicates they speak a language other than English within their first 30 calendar days of being enrolled in school. For many of our students, this means they must be tested between Aug. 12-Sept. 12. At a high point in the enrollment season, the number of students needing to be tested reached over 2300 students. The Student Welcome Center is responsible for coordinating this testing and they are working with various departments to successfully test all of our students.
 - Williams Mock Audits: Since many of academic staff will be administering the above described initial ELPAC tests, other central office staff will be asked to step in to support schools successfully pass their Williams Audit.

• Focus on Enrollment:

- Our enrollment and communications teams have begun meeting to strategize on an enrollment campaign for 2020-21 to increase awareness about enrollment in Oakland public schools and to streamline the process for families. The enrollment season for the 2020-21 school year will open on Nov. 4, 2019.
- Our middle school network, enrollment and communications teams are collaborating on a middle school campaign with an emphasis on student outreach via video and social media.
- School Safety: On Aug. 21, we partnered with the Oakland Police Department on a Back to School
 Traffic Safety Campaign. Officers set up outside <u>18 District-run schools</u> and two charter schools to
 welcome students and families to campuses, to inform drivers of the need to drive safely, and to



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enforce traffic laws. OPD said their primary goals are enforcement, being highly visible to the community and positive interactions with students and families.

Blueprint for Quality Schools Cohort 1 Updates:

- MetWest expanded to its new <u>Ericka Huggins campus</u> (co-located with Westlake Middle School), welcoming 40 new 9th graders (double the size of its previous 9th grade cohort)
- Elmhurst United, created by merging Alliance Academy and Elmhurst Community Prep, has met its enrollment projection and is currently serving 683 students. The school has five new teachers and has been able to offer new electives for students including music, Spanish and dance classes.

FISCAL VITALITY

Ensuring a healthy financial district is critical towards providing the necessary resources and services to provide Quality Community Schools in every neighborhood. We continue to work on a comprehensive approach to fiscal management that ensures OUSD garners and deploy financial resources in a manner that is strategic, transparent and aligned to key district priorities. Here are some overarching highlights:

• Fiscal Vitality Plan Update:

- To stay updated on our financial work and progress, please visit our Fiscal Vitality website (www.ousd.org/fiscalvitality) to view: Superintendent budget updates, Special Committee on Fiscal Vitality presentations as well as board presentations. If you are interested in obtaining more detailed financial information, please click the Fiscal Transparency Link.
- We released a <u>Fiscal Transparency Dashboard</u> for 2018-19 (available to the public on www.ousddata.org) and will do the same for 2019-20 in the next couple months.

ORGANIZATIONAL WELLNESS

The bedrock of an effective organization is people. To promote organizational resilience we must continuously invest in building the capacity of staff as we work towards creating a high quality school system. Here are some highlights of progress we are making in this goal area:

Recruitment

• Teacher Retention & Support

• Central office staff will be providing targeted and differentiated support through Sept. 12 to schools that have high numbers of new teachers.

CLOSING REMARKS

We are collectively responsible for the narrative of OUSD. While we must hold each other accountable and address areas where we must transform the system, it is equally important that we take the time to share the good news--in public forums and in our day to day interactions-- about the incredible work happening in our schools and across our district on a daily basis.