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**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

### Board Cover Memorandum

**To** Board of Education  
**From** Kyla Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent  
Tara Gard, Deputy Chief Talent Officer, Talent Division  
**Meeting Date** April 28, 2021  
**Subject** Recognition - District's 2020-2021 - Classified School Employees of the Year - Talent/Human Resources Department  


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**Ask of the Board** Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 2021-0206 - Recognition - District's 2020-2021 - Classified School Employees of the Year, as follows:

#### **EMPLOYEE CATEGORY**

Tanya Beck	Paraprofessional
Michelle Ortiz	Clerical and Administrative Services
Solomon Hutalla	Transportation Services
Nakheu Saephanh	Food and Nutrition Services
Gregory Houchins	Custodial and Maintenance Services
Melvin Phillips	Security Services
Munera Mohsin	Health and Student Services
Daniel Augustine	Technical Services
Robert Strong, Jr.	Skilled Trades

**Background** Annually the District identifies and honors its own, and OUSD's Classified School Employees of the Year program aligns with the criteria used by the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year program.

**Discussion** The purpose is to recognize and pay special tribute to the tireless efforts and outstanding performance of one experienced classified line employee in each of nine categories: Paraprofessional; Clerical and Administrative Services; Transportation Services; Food and Nutrition Services; Custodial and Maintenance Services; Security Services; Health and Student Services; Technical Services and Skilled Trades. The District's nine honorees are in turn submitted to the Alameda County Office of Education in consideration of state Classified School Employees of the Year.

**Fiscal Impact** N/A

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206**

- Recognition - District's 2020-2021 - Classified School Employees of the Year -  
Talent/Human Resources Department -

**WHEREAS**, the goal of the District's Classified School Employees of the Year program is to identify and honor outstanding classified line employees in each of nine categories: Paraprofessional; Clerical and Administrative Services; Transportation Services; Food and Nutrition Services; Custodial and Maintenance Services; Security Services; Health and Student Services; Technical Services and Skilled Trades, and

**WHEREAS**, Tanya Beck, Michelle Ortiz, Solomon Hutalla, Nakheu Saephanh, Gregory Houchins, Melvin Phillips, Munera Mohsin, Daniel Augustine, and Robert Strong Jr. were selected as Oakland Unified School District's 2020-2021 "Classified School Employees of the Year" and these employees may represent the District in the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year competition, and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Tanya Beck, Para-Educator at Coliseum College Prep Academy, is commended and recognized for being so exceptionally experienced that she helped integrate her classroom teacher into a new role in the District with confidence and a high level of commitment. She is greatly relied upon by the entire school community because of her highly honed skillset and her ability to adapt moment-by-moment to her students' complex community and behavioral needs, having often filled in as teacher over the years. During the COVID pandemic, Ms. Beck found new ways to ensure students were learning. Whether it is through the creation of curriculum or performing needed assessments, her assistance has allowed students to be an integral part of the classroom, building upon their social emotional learning and academic skills. Ms. Beck has helped the entire school community understand and implement the fact that her students needed to be included in every aspect of student life, including field trips and community involvement. Ms. Tanya is recognized for always taking initiative by participating in advanced trainings to support her team's overall knowledge and skills. She strives for excellence and takes pride in making sure that everyone has access to everything needed. She finds new, creative ways to encourage students to learn and excel, and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Michelle Ortiz, Administrative Assistant I, Bilingual, at Garfield Elementary is commended and recognized for her extreme passion for excellence, consistently regarded as the go-to person in her school. She is known for carrying out the vision of the administrative team and always putting her own organized take on all systems and processes, making everything more efficient. Colleagues say she is the glue that keeps all the paperwork, families, and staff organized and united. Ms. Ortiz is said to have a unique way of communicating with all families; her school community having students from all over the world speaking over eighteen languages. Before COVID, when the District still had in-person learning, she could be seen on the yard, in the cafeteria with students, responding to requests for classroom student support, or checking on teachers when she knew they had had a tough day. She is known for her amazing empathy and a strong ability to support and deescalate any stressful situation. Ms.

Michelle is considered one of the exemplar District clerical mentors, having created documents that were widely disseminated across OUSD, providing district-wide training to other clerical members, and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Solomon Hutalla, Truck Driver I for Warehouse and Distribution, is commended and recognized for being enthusiastic and unfailing, whether he is taking meals to food distribution sites or to student home locations; his reliability is considered unparalleled and he is known for always being willing to consistently do more than what is asked of him. Colleagues say that anything that comes up that is not part of his regular routine, he will jump in and complete without hesitation. Mr. Hutalla has supported Technology Services by helping distribute Chromebooks, hotspots, and additional needed technology for school sites so students could be supported in distance learning. And, where once he had only handled food deliveries, this year he delivers technology, mail, furniture, supplies and personal protective equipment; ensuring all have the protective equipment necessary to do their operations safely. Mr. Solomon is not only willing to change and adapt, he will volunteer to serve his department even on a Sunday, and he is known for always having a great attitude about it all, and

**WHEREAS,** Nakheu Saephanh, Food Service Manager IV for Central Kitchen/Nutritional Services, is commended and recognized, first and foremost, for being among the first courageous front-line workers during the COVID pandemic, including providing partial oversight of Central Oakland's Grab-and-Go and weekly home delivery of meals. Colleagues say she performs all of the skills required for her position consistently and with excellence, and despite the constant need to add new items or adjustments to the food service, she is ready and willing to support the changes and always with a positive attitude. Known to be skilled in customer service, whether within the school site or with her colleagues, Ms. Saephanh reinforces needed guidelines and procedures, at all times doing so kindly, committed to inclusivity. Everyone in her unit works together, all helping each other; this is the climate she sets. She has strong safety consciousness, always instructing school cafeteria staff on correct procedures for food service and operational activities, and during the time of COVID, Ms. Saephanh has ensured there was proper signage and protocols to ensure staff members and the school communities would remain safe, and

**WHEREAS,** Gregory Houchins, Custodian at LaEscuelita Complex, is commended and recognized for expertly holding down Head Custodian duties while the usual Head Custodian is out on sick leave, which is only one of the ways he has consistently gone above and beyond his assigned position to help his team. In this current role, he has done a great deal beyond his job description and pay grade. He currently coordinates the work of seven other custodians and oversees the maintenance of the facility, equipment, and adjacent grounds as well as ensuring the established standards of cleanliness are maintained. Mr. Houchins is known to have demonstrated standards of excellence and consistently led his colleagues both gently and effectively and is said to be the ultimate team player. One colleague says of him, "going the extra mile every day is his norm, and his waxed floors double as mirrors," Colleagues also say Mr. Houchins is always upright in the ways he addresses concerns. If conflict arises, he knows how to amicably resolve it and collaborate with other staff members, helping them to see things from a more composed point of view, and

**WHEREAS,** Melvin Phillips, School Security Officer II at Fremont High School, is commended and recognized as a veteran and exceptionally knowledgeable School Security Officer. He is considered an important part of his school community, one whose impact is felt on a daily

basis. Colleagues say he has a strong presence and that students notice when he is not around, because his absence is felt in such a tangible way. He is able to hold students accountable in a stern but loving way. Always professional, Officer Phillips is known for his can-do attitude, for having his administrators' backs, and for his expertise and calm demeanor in tough situations. It is said that he has diffused countless situations, supporting students to calm down and make right choices, which is why staff say he has the demeanor that it takes to effectively lead young people. Officer Phillips is considered a great team leader and representative for his SEIU members on campus. He also holds student wellbeing as a priority, making sure they feel good and happy, but he also ensures they are in class and learning. Students know he cares about them and wants them to learn and pass their classes, and

**WHEREAS,** Munera Mohsin, District Family Engagement Specialist for the Office of Equity, is commended and recognized for her work helping parents skillfully navigate the educational system to ensure their children's success. She is a reliable, consistent connection between staff and the Arabic-speaking community. Ms. Mohsin provides multiple services outside her job description, assisting with translation and advocating for students within and outside of the Arabic community. She serves on the District English Language Advisory Committee (DELAC) and has helped raise the profile of families, uplifting their voices at parent conferences. Ms. Munera is dedicated to family engagement; she adeptly assists families across the District with student enrollment, which can be challenging for non-English speakers; she is a vital connection between Oakland's growing Yemeni community and the Student Welcome Center. With her support, Yemeni students have enrolled in OUSD quickly and seamlessly, in part due to her kindness and approachability. Ms. Mohsin has deep and intimate knowledge of the community she serves, and she understands cultural subtleties, she offers entire teams effective methods to serve students more effectively, and

**WHEREAS,** Daniel Augustine, Senior Network Engineer for Technology Services, is commended and recognized for leading an enormous number of technology projects over time which have moved the District network from one that was barely working to a highly functioning system for education, including the most recent project that is providing new wireless access points and network equipment to all schools, drastically improving both the technology that is delivered to classrooms and the educational experience of Oakland students. Mr. Augustine astutely realized at the start of the pandemic that conducting board meetings over Zoom would be imperative, he then designed District board meetings and published a guide that was distributed across California for other districts to follow. Colleagues say he put the whole world together in no time. Needing to learn about the procedures of every school site and their reporting structure, Mr. Augustine helped develop a form and a forum for delivering the system while working with site staff to make sure that each school community was appropriately served. This system now allows families to better communicate. His motto is, if it's not working for the user, it's not working, asking how we can make it better, and

**WHEREAS,** Robert Strong Jr., Lead Painter for Buildings and Grounds, is commended and recognized for not only demonstrating excellence in his role, but also for managing the roofing staff for the past year while their manager was out on leave. He is known for being flexible, insightful, thoughtful, and a clear communicator. Mr. Strong is said to always stand ready to volunteer and lead the way with his crew and staff. When a corporate partner came to Ralph J Bunche Academy and put on a volunteer day, (they provided the paint and materials to clean up the campus), as the lead, Mr. Robert assembled supplies and coordinated his staff to be onsite to coach volunteers. He was very instrumental in making the day a big success, which is

only one example of his commitment. He has not only created and overseen work, Mr. Strong had a vision to bring in new large-format inkjet printer/cutter laser equipment that will save the District thousands, if not millions of dollars in the future. At the start of the pandemic, the District was purchasing county signs for social distancing and play date safety signage for the students, but it no longer needs to rely on others; because of Mr. Robert's far-sightedness, District employees perform these services themselves;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District, Tanya Beck, Michelle Ortiz, Solomon Hutalla, Nakheu Saephanh, Gregory Houchins, Melvin Phillips, Munera Mohsin, Daniel Augustine, and Robert Strong Jr., collectively and individually, for exceptional service to the students and city of Oakland and honor them as the District's 2020-2021 "Classified School Employees of the Year."

**Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.**

**Shanthi Gonzales**

President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**

Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District

Passed by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE: Student Director Jessica Ramos

PREFERENTIAL NOE: None

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION: None

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE: None

AYES: Gary Yee, Clifford Thompson, Mike Hutchinson, Aimee Eng, VanCedric Williams,  
Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis, President Shanthi Gonzales

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

RECUSE: None

ABSENT: Student Director Samantha Pal

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District held April 28, 2021.


Legislative File	
File ID Number:	21-0617
Introduction Date:	04/28/2021
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By:	os

**OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**



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Shanthi Gonzales  
President, Board of Education



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Kyla Johnson-Trammell  
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206A**

**Recognition of Tanya Beck, as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Paraprofessional Category**

**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Paraprofessional* category highlights achievement in promoting effective delivery of educational services to students (through active direct support of teacher and students) in the classroom, and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Tanya Beck, Para-Educator at Coliseum College Prep Academy, is commended and recognized for being so exceptionally experienced that she helped integrate her classroom teacher into a new role in the District with confidence and a high level of commitment. She is greatly relied upon by the entire school community because of her highly honed skillset and her ability to adapt moment-by-moment to her students' complex community and behavioral needs, having often filled in as teacher over the years, and

**WHEREAS** – During the COVID pandemic, Ms. Beck found new ways to ensure students were learning. Whether it is through the creation of curriculum or performing needed assessments, her assistance has allowed students to be an integral part of the classroom, building upon their social emotional learning and academic skills. Ms. Beck has helped the entire school community understand and implement the fact that her students needed to be included in every aspect of student life, including field trips and community involvement, and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Tanya is recognized for always taking initiative by participating in advanced trainings to support her team's overall knowledge and skills. She strives for excellence and takes pride in making sure that everyone has access to everything needed. She finds new, creative ways to encourage students to learn and excel;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Tanya Beck for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Paraprofessional* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206B**

**Recognition of Michelle Ortiz, as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Clerical & Administrative Services Category**

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**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Clerical & Administrative Services* category highlights achievement in promoting and supporting strong school community and effective delivery of educational services to children through contributions performed in an administrative/clerical role, and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Michelle Ortiz, Administrative Assistant I, Bilingual, at Garfield Elementary is commended and recognized for her extreme passion for excellence, consistently regarded as *the* go-to person in her school. She is known for carrying out the vision of the administrative team and always putting her own organized take on all systems and processes, making everything more efficient. Colleagues say she is the glue that keeps all the paperwork, families, and staff organized and united, and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Ortiz is said to have a unique way of communicating with all families; her school community having students from all over the world speaking over eighteen languages. Before COVID, when the District still had in-person learning, she could be seen on the yard, in the cafeteria with students, responding to requests for classroom student support, or checking on teachers when she knew they had had a tough day. She is known for her amazing empathy and a strong ability to support and deescalate any stressful situation, and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Michelle is considered one of the exemplar District clerical mentors, having created documents that were widely disseminated across OUSD, providing district-wide training to other clerical members;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Michelle Ortiz for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Clerical & Administrative Services* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District





**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206C**

**Recognition of Solomon Hutalla, as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Transportation Services Category**

**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Transportation* category highlights achievement in promoting and supporting strong school community and effective delivery of educational services to children through contributions performed in a service role, and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Solomon Hutalla, Truck Driver I for Warehouse and Distribution, is commended and recognized for being enthusiastic and unfailing, whether he is taking meals to food distribution sites or to student home locations; his reliability is considered unparalleled and he is known for always being willing to consistently do more than what is asked of him. Colleagues say that anything that comes up that is not part of his regular routine, he will jump in and complete without hesitation, and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Hutalla has supported Technology Services by helping distribute Chromebooks, hotspots, and additional needed technology for school sites so students could be supported in distance learning. And, where once he had only handled food deliveries, this year he delivers technology, mail, furniture, supplies and personal protective equipment; ensuring all have the protective equipment necessary to do their operations safely, and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Solomon is not only willing to change and adapt, he will volunteer to serve his department even on a Sunday, and he is known for always having a great attitude about it all;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Solomon Hutalla for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor him as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Transportation Services* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District



**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206D**

**Recognition of Nakheu Saephanh, as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Food & Nutrition Services Category**

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**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Food & Nutrition Services* category highlights achievement in promoting healthy children, families, and school community through Nutrition Services' role and contributions, and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Nakheu Saephanh, Food Service Manager IV for Central Kitchen/Nutritional Services, is commended and recognized, first and foremost, for being among the first courageous front-line workers during the COVID pandemic, including providing partial oversight of Central Oakland's Grab-and-Go and weekly home delivery of meals. Colleagues say she performs all of the skills required for her position consistently and with excellence, and despite the constant need to add new items or adjustments to the food service, she is ready and willing to support the changes and *always* with a positive attitude, and

**WHEREAS** – Known to be skilled in customer service, whether within the school site or with her colleagues, Ms. Saephanh reinforces needed guidelines and procedures, at all times doing so kindly, committed to inclusivity. Everyone in her unit works together, all helping each other; this is the climate she sets, and

**WHEREAS** – She has strong safety consciousness, always instructing school cafeteria staff on correct procedures for food service and operational activities, and during the time of COVID, Ms. Saephanh has ensured there was proper signage and protocols to ensure staff members and the school communities would remain safe;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Nakheu Saephanh for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Food & Nutrition Services* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

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**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

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**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206E**

**Recognition of Gregory Houchins, as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Custodial & Maintenance Services Category**

**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Custodial & Maintenance Services* category highlights achievement in promoting healthy and safe children and school communities through proactive maintenance and support of the physical school structure and plant, and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Gregory Houchins, Custodian at LaEscuelita Complex, is commended and recognized for expertly holding down Head Custodian duties while the usual Head Custodian is out on sick leave, which is only one of the ways he has consistently gone above and beyond his assigned position to help his team. In this current role, he has done a great deal beyond his job description and pay grade. He currently coordinates the work of seven other custodians and oversees the maintenance of the facility, equipment, and adjacent grounds as well as ensuring the established standards of cleanliness are maintained, and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Houchins is known to have demonstrated standards of excellence and consistently led his colleagues both gently and effectively and is said to be the ultimate team player. One colleague says of him, "going the extra mile every day is his norm, and his waxed floors double as mirrors," and

**WHEREAS** – Colleagues also say Mr. Houchins is always upright in the ways he addresses concerns. If conflict arises, he knows how to amicably resolve it and collaborate with other staff members, helping them to see things from a more composed point of view;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Gregory Houchins for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor him as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Custodial & Maintenance Services* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District



**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206F**

**Recognition of Melvin Phillips, as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Security Services Category**

**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Security Services* category highlights achievement in promoting and supporting strong school communities and effective delivery of educational services to children (through contributions performed via delivery of ancillary student or school site support services), and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Melvin Phillips, School Security Officer II at Fremont High School, is commended and recognized as a veteran and exceptionally knowledgeable School Security Officer. He is considered an important part of his school community, one whose impact is felt on a daily basis. Colleagues say he has a strong presence and that students notice when he is not around, because his absence is felt in such a tangible way. He is able to hold students accountable in a stern but loving way, and

**WHEREAS** – Always professional, Officer Phillips is known for his can-do attitude, for having his administrators' backs, and for his expertise and calm demeanor in tough situations. It is said that he has diffused countless situations, supporting students to calm down and make right choices, which is why staff say he has the demeanor that it takes to effectively lead young people, and

**WHEREAS** – Officer Phillips is considered a great team leader and representative for his SEIU members on campus. He also holds student wellbeing as a priority, making sure they feel good and happy, but he also ensures they are in class and learning. Students know he cares about them and wants them to learn and pass their classes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Melvin Phillips for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor him as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Security Services* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District



**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206G**

**Recognition of Munera Mohsin, as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Health & Student Services Category**

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**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Health & Student Services* category highlights achievement in promoting and supporting strong school communities and effective delivery of educational services to children (through contributions performed via delivery of ancillary student or school site support services), and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Munera Mohsin, District Family Engagement Specialist for the Office of Equity, is commended and recognized for her work helping parents skillfully navigate the educational system to ensure their children's success. She is a reliable, consistent connection between staff and the Arabic-speaking community. Ms. Mohsin provides multiple services outside her job description, assisting with translation and advocating for students within and outside of the Arabic community. She serves on the District English Language Advisory Committee (DELAC) and has helped raise the profile of families, uplifting their voices at parent conferences, and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Munera is dedicated to family engagement; she adeptly assists families across the District with student enrollment, which can be challenging for non-English speakers; she is a vital connection between Oakland's growing Yemeni community and the Student Welcome Center. With her support, Yemeni students have enrolled in OUSD quickly and seamlessly, in part due to her kindness and approachability, and

**WHEREAS** – Ms. Mohsin has deep and intimate knowledge of the community she serves, and she understands cultural subtleties, she offers entire teams effective methods to serve students more effectively;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Munera Mohsin for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Health & Student Services* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District



**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206H**

**Recognition of Daniel Augustine, as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Technical Services Category**

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**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Technical Services* category highlights achievement in promoting and supporting strong school communities and effective delivery of educational services to children (through contributions performed via delivery of ancillary student or school site support services), and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Dan Augustine Senior Network Engineer for Technology Services, is commended and recognized for leading an enormous number of technology projects over time which have moved the District network from one that was barely working to a highly functioning system for education, including the most recent project that is providing new wireless access points and network equipment to all schools, drastically improving both the technology that is delivered to classrooms and the educational experience of Oakland students, and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Augustine astutely realized at the start of the pandemic that conducting board meetings over Zoom would be imperative, he then designed District board meetings and published a guide that was distributed across California for other districts to follow. Colleagues say he put the whole world together in no time, and

**WHEREAS** – Needing to learn about the procedures of every school site and their reporting structure, Mr. Augustine helped develop a form and a forum for delivering the system while working with site staff to make sure that each school community was appropriately served. This system now allows families to better communicate. His motto is, if it's not working for the user, it's not working, asking how we can make it better;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Daniel Augustine for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor him as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Technical Services* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District





**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 2021-0206I**

**Recognition of Robert Strong Jr., as Oakland Unified School District's  
2020-2021 "Classified School Employee of the Year," Skilled Trades Category**

**WHEREAS** – in alignment with the State of California Classified School Employees of the Year (CSEY) Program, the goal of OUSD's CSEY program is to identify and honor experienced, skilled, and dedicated classified line employees for their outstanding contributions to Oakland's children and to celebrate and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts, and

**WHEREAS** – numerous OUSD employees were nominated for consideration and recognized within each of nine applicable categories identified by the State of California CSEY program, and

**WHEREAS** – The *Skilled Trades* category highlights achievement in promoting healthy and safe children and school communities through proactive maintenance and support of the physical school structure and plant, and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Robert Strong Jr., Lead Painter for Buildings and Grounds, is commended and recognized for not only demonstrating excellence in his role, but also for managing the roofing staff for the past year while their manager was out on leave. He is known for being flexible, insightful, thoughtful, and a clear communicator, and

**WHEREAS** – Mr. Strong is said to always stand ready to volunteer and lead the way with his crew and staff. When a corporate partner came to Ralph J Bunche Academy and put on a volunteer day, (they provided the paint and materials to clean up the campus), as the lead, Mr. Robert assembled supplies and coordinated his staff to be onsite to coach volunteers. He was very instrumental in making the day a big success, which is only one example of his commitment, and

**WHEREAS** – He has not only created and overseen work, Mr. Strong had a vision to bring in new large-format inkjet printer/cutter laser equipment that will save the District thousands, if not millions of dollars in the future. At the start of the pandemic, the District was purchasing county signs for social distancing and play date safety signage for the students, but it no longer needs to rely on others; because of Mr. Robert's far-sightedness, District employees perform these services themselves;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Robert Strong Jr. for outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor him as OUSD's 2020-2021 Classified School Employee of the Year in the *Skilled Trades* category.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, in Oakland, California.

**Shanthi Gonzales**  
President, Board of Education  
Oakland Unified School District

**Kyla Johnson-Trammell**  
Superintendent  
Oakland Unified School District