RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2021-0045

Ratifying the Temporary Location of Bunche Academy at the West Oakland Middle School Campus

WHEREAS, the West Oakland Middle School ("WOMS") campus, located at 991 14th Street, is the current and permanent home to WOMS;

WHEREAS, Envision Academy ("Envision"), a charter middle school that has been located at the WOMS campus since 2019 is planning to move to a new location for next school year (2021-22);

WHEREAS, the permanent location for Ralph J. Bunche Academy ("Bunche Academy"), an OUSD continuation school, is 1240 18th Street;

WHEREAS, the possibility of contaminated groundwater underneath McClymonds High School ("McClymonds") discovered in February 2020 forced the District to temporarily move Bunche Academy to the WOMS campus in order to use the Bunche facility as a space for McClymonds students;

WHEREAS, Bunche Academy was still located at the WOMS campus when COVID-19 forced it (and the rest of OUSD) to close to in-person instruction in March 2020 and Bunche Academy has remained closed to in-person instruction since then;

WHEREAS, with the likely return to in-person instruction, District staff has determined that the Bunche facility is not suitable for students to return as the facility has ongoing pest infestation, dry rot, access compliance concerns, alarm deficiencies, lead paint, and trace amounts of lead in soil and many of the systems—including mechanical, plumbing, sewer, and electrical—are also at their end-of-life and need to be replaced;

WHEREAS, the Superintendent had the authority to move Bunche Academy to the WOMS campus due to the emergency situation as McClymonds, but the decision to continue to locate Bunche Academy at the WOMS campus, even if still temporary, must be ratified by the Board of Education given that the initial emergency has receded;

WHEREAS, having Bunche Academy stay at the WOMS campus will support Bunche students with a safe and healthy facility;

WHEREAS, District staff is confident that the two schools can safely share the facilities at the WOMS campus, and the WOMS and Bunche Academy principals, in partnership with OUSD leadership, have been working together to figure out the necessary details for a long-term co-location at the WOMS campus; and

WHEREAS, WOMS needs long-term stability as it has been co-located with many different schools and programs in recent years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby ratifies the decision to temporarily locate Bunche Academy at the WOMS campus and authorizes the Superintendent to keep Bunche Academy at the WOMS campus through the end of the 2023-24 school year so long as the Superintendent deems it to be in the best interest of students.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District this 28th day of April, 2021, by the following vote:		
PREFERENTIAL AYE:	Student Director Jessica Ramos	
PREFERENTIAL NOE:	None	
PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION:	None	
PREFERENTIAL RECUSE:	None	
AYES:	Gary Yee, Mike Hutchinson, Aimee Eng, VanCedric Williams, Clifford Thompson, Vice President Benjamin "Sam" Davis, President Shanthi Gonzales	
NOES:	None	

ABSENT: Student Director Samantha Pal

None

None

CERTIFICATION

Legislative File		
File ID Number:	21-0684	
Introduction Date:	3/24/2020	
Enactment Number:	21-0630	
Enactment Date:	4/28/2021	
By:	os	

ABSTAINED:

RECUSED:

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Shanthi Gonzales

President, Board of Education

Kyla Johnson-Trammell

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Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education