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Introduction Date	8/11/2021
Enactment Number	
Enactment Date	



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

Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From Mike Hutchinson, Board Director

Meeting Date August 25, 2021

Subject Resolution No. 2122-0003 - Requiring COVID-19 Testing At All School Sites

Ask of the Board First Read/Adoption by Board of Education of Resolution No. 2122-0003 – Requiring COVID-19 Testing At All School Sites

Background COVID-19 and, most recently, its delta variant present an urgent and immediate health and safety risk to the students and staff of the Oakland Unified School District. The State of California has increased its support for testing by offering COVID tests and staffing to school districts and federal and state funds have been provided to help school districts cover the cost of COVID testing and the associated costs such as staffing. Yet, the guidance provided by federal, state, and county health officials does not require that testing be offered at each school site and the District is not currently offering COVID tests to all students and staff at each school.

Discussion The Resolution would direct the Superintendent to ensure that COVID tests are offered at each school consistent with the following parameters:

- Tests shall be offered to all students and staff,
- Tests shall be offered on a weekly basis,
- Tests shall be offered to all students and staff regardless of vaccination status, and
- Students and staff shall not be required to take the test unless it is recommended pursuant to public health guidance.

The Resolution was introduced on August 11, 2021. It now comes before the Board for action and/or a discussion.

Fiscal Impact Vestra, an outside contractor, is providing staffing for test administration. The State is paying for 30 testers and has authorized an additional 30 testers for one month. This level of staffing (30 or 60) is insufficient to provide testing one a week at all school sites. At least a total of 70 staff would be required. At approximately \$50,000 for each tester the District must fund (plus additional cost of new coordination staff), the annual staffing cost is estimated to be at least \$2 million.

Even more staffing would be needed to do twice weekly testing at sites at which there is a modified quarantine.

The District is similarly relying on the State to pay for and provide a sufficient number of tests. If every student, staff member, contractor, and volunteers agreed to be tested weekly by OUSD, OUSD would need at least 40,000 tests per week. Additionally tests would be needed for testing due to modified quarantines. The State is unable to provide this volume of tests and, thus, the District would need to contract directly with test providers to ensure an adequate supply – at least 8,000 per week. At \$25 per test, the annual cost for purchasing tests is estimated to be at least \$6 million. Currently, there is a test shortage and companies are not able to deliver the number of tests that the District needs.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution No. 2122-0003 - Requiring COVID-19 Testing At All School Sites

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

Resolution No. 2122-0003

Requiring COVID-19 Testing At All School Sites

WHEREAS, COVID-19 and, most recently, its delta variant present an urgent and immediate health and safety risk to the students and staff of the Oakland Unified School District;

WHEREAS, the guidance provided by federal, state, and county health officials does not require that testing be offered at each school site;

WHEREAS, the State of California has increased its support for testing by offering COVID tests and staffing to school districts;

WHEREAS, federal and state funds have been provided to help school districts cover the cost of COVID testing and the associated costs such as staffing; and

WHEREAS, the District is not currently offering COVID tests to all students and staff at each school.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby directs the Superintendent to ensure that COVID tests are offered at each school consistent with the following parameters:

- Tests shall be offered to all students and staff,
- Tests shall be offered on a weekly basis,
- Tests shall be offered to all students and staff regardless of vaccination status, and
- Students and staff shall not be required to take the test unless it is recommended pursuant to public health guidance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on _____, 2021, by the Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE:

PREFERENTIAL NOE:

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION:

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

RECUSED:

ABSENT:

CERTIFICATION

We 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 on _____, 2021.

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OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Shanthi Gonzales
President, Board of Education

Kyla Johnston-Trammell
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education