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

Board Cover Memorandum

To   Measure G1 Districtwide Teacher Retention and Middle School Improvement Act
            Oversight Commission

From   Middle School Network

Meeting Date   March 28, 2023

Subject   Ascend Academy 2023-24 Measure G1 Proposal

**Ask of the
Commission**   Approve the Ascend Academy 2023-24 Measure G1 Proposal

Discussion Middle School Network is open to questions from the commission regarding the
            Ascend Academy 2023-24 Measure G1 Proposal.

Fiscal Impact   The recommended amount is **$92,724.72.** It's coming from resource 9332 -
            Measure G1.

Attachment(s)   Grant Application attached.

OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Community Schools, Thriving Students

2023-24
Measure G1 Proposal

Due: March 17, 2022

School Information & Student Data

School	Ascend Academy	**School Address**	3709 E 12th Street Oakland, CA 94601
Contact	Lindzey Tassano	**Contact Email**	ltassano@efcps.net
Principal	Lindzey Tassano	**Principal Email**	ltassano@efcps.net
School Phone	510-879-3140	**2022-23 CALPADS Enrollment Data (6-8 Oakland Residents Only)**	156
Recommended Grant Amount[1]	**$92,724.72**	**2023-23 LCFF Enrollment**	145

Student Demographics (%)					Measure G1 Team	
English Learners	67.4%	Asian/Pacific Islander	2.6%		Name	Position
LCFF	92.8%	Latinx	92.8%		Lindzey Tassano	Principal
SPED	11.2%	Black or African-American	2%		Shraddha Soparawala	Assistant Principal
		White	0.4%		Edgar Romero	Dean of Culture
		Indigenous or Native American	0%		Nicola Borelli	Middle School Teacher
		Multiracial	1.4%		Leticia Padgett	Art Teacher

---

[1] *Allocation of funds will be based on the prior year 20-day count for 6-8 enrollment multipled by the LCFF % and total funds collected from tax revenue.*

Chronic Absence				
Metric	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 Goal
Student Population Overall	3.53%	22.22%	26.21%	4.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0%	11.11%	15.38%	N/A*
Latinx	3.35%	21.23%	25.65%	4%
Black or African-American	16.67%	61.54%	50%	11%
White	0%	0%	0%	N/A*
Indigenous or Native American	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A*
English Learners	3.27%	19.94%	22.09%	4%
Students w/ IEPs	3.57%	33.33%	37.5%	4%
Free/ Reduced Lunch Students	4.02%	21.32%	27.93%	N/A*

* The demographic is too small for a specific goal or doesn't have a goal assigned under LCAP.

Metrics

(all data points are required)

Electives					
Metric	Area	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 Goal
Number of students taking elective courses.	Art	168 - 100%	168 - 100%	168 - 100%	168 - 100%
	Language	0%	9%	15% (25)	25 (15%)
	Music	168 - 100%	168 - 100%	168 - 100%	168 - 100%
Number of students participating in non-course experiences (e.g. after-school program)	Art	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)
	Language	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)
	Music	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)	~30 (20%)

Positive & Safe Culture					
Metric	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 Goal	
Connectedness on CHKS Survey **(SCAI SURVEY USED BY EDUCATION FOR CHANGE)**					
TOTAL	56.0	54.4	*RESULTS NOT YET IN FOR 22-23*	65.0	
Asian/Pacific Islander	Demographic information is not supplied with SCAI survey results, as the survey is entirely anonymous.				
Latinx					
Black or African-American					
White					
Indigenous or Native American					
English Learners					
Students w/ IEPs					
Free/ Reduced Lunch					
Metric	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 Goal	
Suspension Incidents *(percent of students with suspension incidents and the number of incidents given in parentheses)*					
All Students	0% (0 incidents)	3.13% (18 incidents)	1.4% (14 incidents)	1.0%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	0% (0 incidents)	0% (0 incidents)	0% (0 incidents)	N/A*	
Latinx	0% (0 incidents)	3.35% (18 incidents)	1.08% (12 incidents)	1.1%	
Black or African-American	0% (0 incidents)	0% (0 incidents)	10% (2 incidents)	0.5%	
White	0% (0 incidents)	0% (0 incidents)	0% (0 incidents)	N/A*	
Indigenous or Native American	0% (0 incidents)	N/A	N/A	N/A*	
English Learners	0% (0 incidents)	2.65% (10 incidents)	0.59% (2 incidents)	0.5%	
Students w/ IEPs	0% (0	4.92% (5	3.57% (9	2.4%	

	incidents)	incidents)	incidents)		
Free/ Reduced Lunch	0% (0 incidents)	2.6% (12 incidents)	1.64% (14 incidents)	N/A*	

* The demographic is too small for a specific goal or doesn't have a goal assigned under LCAP.

Student Retention from 5th Grade to 6th Grade				
Metric	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 Goal
6th Grade Enrollment	92.31% (48/52)	88.89% (48/54)	82.69% (43/52)	90% (47/52)

* Based on students enrolled from one census date to the next

---

Community and Staff Engagement

Community Engagement Meeting(s)	
Community Group	Date
Family Leadership Committee	2.22.22
Coffee with the Principal	2.24.22

Staff Engagement Meeting(s)	
Staff Group	Date
Middle School Team Meeting	2.24.23
Staff Advisory Council	2.27.23

Proposed Expenditures

Guidelines
1. In the following sections, please discuss your team's plan to address the goals of G1:
   a. Increase access to courses in arts, music, and world languages in grades 6-8.
   b. Improve student retention during the transition from elementary to middle school.
   c. Create a more positive and safe middle school learning environment.
2. Please explain how you plan to use the Measure G1 funds to meet the goals, as measured in the METRICS section of this proposal.
3. Add additional lines as needed.

4. The total of all items should equal the amount listed in "Recommended Grant Amount" on page 1
5. Expenditures must supplement, not supplant expenditures made from other funding sources. In other words, Measure G1 funds must be used for new expenditures, expenditures already funded from Measure G1, expenditures previously paid for by a funding source that has ended, or to pay for an expenditure that would have been cut, were it not for Measure G1 funds.

Summary of 2023-24 Proposed Expenditures

	All Proposed Expenditures (from sections below)	Budget Amount
1	Resource .80 FTE of a position (the middle school portion) at ASCEND that focuses on school culture and student support services - PBIS, MTSS, trauma-informed practice, RJ. This is a continued expenditure funded by Measure G-1.	$92,724.72
	Budget Total (must add up to Recommended Grant Amount)	**$92,724.72**

Proposed Expenditures By Focus Area

Proposed Expenditures for Electives (Art, Language, and Music only)			
Description of Proposed Expenditures	Number of students taking a course in art, language, or music (based on the specific investment).	Number of students participating in a non-course experience in art, language or music (based on the specific investment) + frequency and amount of time spent in each activity.	**Budget Amount**
No proposals for Electives, as are currently sourced through regular general funds.			

Proposed Expenditures for Positive & Safe Culture		
Description of Proposed Expenditures	**Which metric will this investment impact - chronic absence, suspensions, CHKS survey results, or another metric named by the site?**	**Budget Amount**
Resource .80 FTE of a position (the middle school portion) at	Chronic absenteeism,	**$92,724.72**

ASCEND that focuses on school culture and student support services - PBIS, MTSS, trauma-informed practice, RJ. This is a continued expenditure funded by Measure G-1.	and positive, safe school culture (demonstrated through SCAI survey and referral data)	

Proposed Expenditures for Retention of 6th Graders	
Description of Proposed Expenditures	**Budget Amount**
No proposals for enrollment and retention, as are currently sourced through regular general funds and goals are regularly met.	

ASCEND TK-8 School Compiled Measure G-1 Engagement Notes
Application for 2023-2024

ASCEND Vision Statement
The vision of ASCEND is to nurture a passion for learning and cultivate personal agency in order to discover who we are, what we need and how to advocate for it. Together, our community of students, families and staff explores, learns and grows through success and failure. Diverse learners thrive through an approach that develops the whole individual, which includes arts-integration, expeditionary learning, personalization, and a focus on social and emotional growth. Through a common vision guided by love, we empower each other to forge our own paths and to create a school that reflects the world we want.

Staff Howls of Focus

Compassion	Perseverance	Craftsmanship	Responsibility	Curiosity
To be open minded and flexible in my thinking	To have a mindset that celebrates success and recognizes failure as an opportunity for growth	To collaborate with staff, parents and students to ensure the best outcomes for our community	To commit to ongoing reflection, learning and growth	To dedicate time to explore and push our own practices

ASCEND Advisory Council Meeting Agenda & Notes

Date	Attendees			Roles
2/27/23	Lindzey Sopar Thalia Ana B.	Nick Morgan Edgar Jessie	Gen Jordan Leslie Anna R.	Facilitator: Lindzey Notes: Thalia Time Keeper: Jordan Culture Keeper: Sopar Process Checker: Nick
	Not in attendance: Lisa			

Agenda Item	Content/Process	Notes
Community Builder 5'	*Notes omitted*	
Announcements 10' Lindzey	● Processing Fri Announcement ● Renewal update	*Notes omitted*
HO Leadership Engagement 15' Lead	● Advisory reps share out feedback & Qs	*Notes omitted*

Site planning Overview 15' Lindzey	• Review stakeholder engagement plan • Note site-planning timeline • Proposal for narrowing inputs	*Notes omitted*
Measure G-1 Proposals '20 Lindzey	• Past use of Measure G-1 • Current culture data review • Vote on Measure G-1 Usage	• Lindzey shares Measure G-1 stipulations, requirements and history • Edgar shares overview of year-year comparison of positive/safe school culture data (SCAI, referrals, suspensions) • Team votes 12-0 to affirm continued usage of all Measure G-1 funds to fund DofC role to grow and maintain school culture (6th-8th)
ACTION STEPS Next Steps 2' *Note Taker*	Next Steps:	*Notes omitted*
Closing 2' *Process Checker*	How did we do sticking to norms? How did folks do in their roles?	*Notes omitted*

MS PLC Notes 2022/2023

Upcoming Meeting Roles & Topics

Other Important / Useful Links:

📄 MS Morning Roles 22/23 - Crew Electives Enr…   📄 MS PLC Notes 21-22

📄 MS Crew Plans 22/23   📅 Lunch Reflection 22- 23

📅 22-23 Class Lists   📅 ASCEND 22-23 Incident Tracker

• Equity of Voice • Equity of Work • Follow through	• Value each other's time • Consider the voices of people who are not in the room (students, families, other staff, etc.)

February 24, 2023

Facilitator: Nick Note Taker: Jaime Time / Culture Keeper: Jess	
AGENDA	NOTES

Check In 5'	WE ARE IN MS. JACEY'S ROOM! Share about one student who made you laugh (or at least smile) this week with a partner. We have checked in.
Whole MS Check In	
Soccer Playoffs 2'	Just a reminder that the playoffs are this weekend!

Priority Conf.
Follow Up
5'
	● Has everyone been scheduled?
	  ○ 6th conference schedule
	  ○ 7th conference schedule
	  ○ 8th conference schedule
	● Does anyone need help with scheduling?
	● Do we need committee time to figure out point people for each conference?
	  ○ 6th + 8th - figuring out which classroom teachers will attend

Minimum Day Schedule 3'	Kids didn't get one – a committee to prepare sign for where to go; the teacher they go to will hand out the schedules. Find a student-friendly version to distribute Student-facing schedule
ELPAC 3'	Is everyone clear on the plan? - Time built in to the schedule on Tuesday Proctors need to take the training. Jaime will start pulling students for speaking test - will send out email List of students taking elpac - cannot be pulled for other things 9:30-11:40 on Tuesday
Updates and Input Items 10'	Measure G-1 application was received - plan is to vote at Advisory to affirm the same funding usage (Dean of Cult.) to support MS school culture - share input before then - No questions from team Advisory will also be voting on shifting PA to a 2nd PE teacher due to staffing
Action Steps	*Omitted*

From Family Leadership Council: 2.22.23

(also shared at Coffee with the Principal on 2.24.23)

Measure G-1 Funding

- Funds a variety of needs across Oakland middle schools, including arts, languages, school culture support
- **ASCEND has put this funding toward MS culture for several years with strong results**
- Review the culture data handout
- *What questions do you have?*

- Financia una variedad de necesidades en las escuelas intermedias de Oakland, incluidas las artes, los idiomas y el apoyo a la cultura escolar.
- **ASCEND ha destinado esta financiación a la cultura de la EM durante varios años con buenos resultados**
- Revise el folleto de datos culturales
- *¿Qué preguntas tiene usted?*

Suspension Rates

Suspension Rate						
	Current	**0%** (1/493) 100% (493/493) complete	**1%** (3/496) 100% (496/496) complete	**1%** (5/497) 100% (497/497) complete	**1%** (5/500) 100% (500/500) complete	**1%** (5/500) 100% (500/500) complete
	Prior	**0%** (0/502) 100% (502/502) complete	**0%** (0/503) 100% (503/503) complete	**0%** (1/503) 100% (503/503) complete	**2%** (8/509) 100% (509/509) complete	**3%** (16/511) 100% (511/511) complete

Grade What % of students are chronically absent by grade?

ASCEND			
	TK	22-23	42.1% (8 / 19)
		21-22	33.3% (6 / 18)
	K	22-23	33.3% (16 / 48)
		21-22	22.9% (11 / 48)
	1	22-23	40.4% (21 / 52)
		21-22	39.6% (21 / 53)
	2	22-23	32.7% (17 / 52)
		21-22	21.8% (12 / 55)
	3	22-23	27.8% (15 / 54)
		21-22	30.8% (16 / 52)
	4	22-23	34.6% (18 / 52)
		21-22	28.8% (15 / 52)
	5	22-23	21.2% (11 / 52)
		21-22	19.2% (10 / 52)
	6	22-23	10.7% (6 / 56)
		21-22	11.1% (6 / 54)
	7	22-23	14.8% (8 / 54)
		21-22	5.5% (3 / 55)
	8	22-23	12.7% (7 / 55)
		21-22	19.3% (11 / 57)

FLC Attendance 22-23

A	B
February 22, 2023	
Parent	**Student**
Martha Alcazar	Yoandri, Gretchel, & Katherine
Ivon Reyes	Ivonne & Michelle Escalante
Cesar Trevino	Thady Trevino
Sloan Thompson	Grayson Palafox
Adam Vollmer	Grayson Palafox
Maricela Gonzales	Elena Andrade
Lucy Paredes	Jesus, Yahir, & Dylan Rodriguez
Sandra Castillo	Randy & Alex Guzman
Maria Lopez	Jessica Trinidad
Jinneth Munoz	Sara Zuno
Maria Fletes	Diana Rivas