



**College &
Career for
All Fund**

Established by Measure N



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Lodestar High

2023-2024 Measure N Education Improvement Plan Presentation



Presented to the Measure N Commission

April 18, 2023

www.ousd.org



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Overview of School

- Lodestar is Oakland's newest high school, currently serving 181 students in grades 9-11. We will add 12th grade next year to serve about 250 students in 9-12.
- Our graduation requirements are aligned with A-G requirements as well as our graduate profile

Key Facts and Figures

- ★ 99% students of color
- ★ 90% Free & Reduced Lunch
- ★ 90% First Generation College
- ★ 39% Non-reclassified ELLs
- ★ 18% SPED

Our Mission: At Lighthouse Community Public Schools we believe that all young people have the potential to become lifelong change-makers who realize their unique vision—rooted in their identity, knowledge, and skills—to create equity in their own lives and in the community, leading to a healthier, more joyful world. We are an innovative model for public education that puts each child at the center of their own learning. The LCPS community is equal parts love and rigor where children discover their unique light within.

Our Pathway



Media Arts Pathway

- Intro: Intro to Media Arts
- Concentrator 1: Film Production
- Concentrator 2: Audio Production
(Planned for 2023-24)
- Capstone: Advanced Media Arts
(Planned for 2023-24)
- CTE Electives: Digital Photo, Screenwriting

Reflections on Past 3 Years

What are you most proud of in terms of Pathway development?

- 100% of students at Lodestar are taking Pathway classes.
- Students have access to over \$100,000 of professional-quality media arts equipment!
- Student film and photography showcase at SF MOMA was amazing!
- Tapping into grant funding outside of Measure N/H has allowed us to expand programs and supports in:
Dual Enrollment Work-Based Learning
MTSS
- Expanded understanding of and commitment to



Reflections on Past 3 Years

What have been some of the challenges?

- COVID upended Lodestar's high school opening in 2020-21, as well our experiential learning model and other core components of our instructional program. It also contributed to significant turnover in our teaching staff and leadership. We are still picking up some of these pieces.
- As a new school (we don't even have seniors yet!), we are constantly creating what comes next and developing systems to ensure everything runs smoothly. The more time and energy we spend on planning, the less time and energy we have to focus on high-quality implementation.
- Many of our students at Lodestar have come to us with significant gaps in their knowledge and skills and/or major traumas that they are working through.

Reflections on Past 3 Years

What have been your biggest learnings?

- You can't support what you don't see. Outreach, communication, and collaboration - with staff, students, families and community - are critical to the success of our Pathway
- People make plans happen. Hiring a Work Based Learning Coordinator and Dual Enrollment Coordinator has greatly expanded the capacity of our College/Career Success program.
- Our partnership with Youth Beat has been extremely beneficial, but we also learned that there are drawbacks to sub-contracting out instructional positions.

Looking Ahead

What have you learned through creating this new plan for the next 3-year cycle?

- Implementing high-quality interdisciplinary projects takes advanced planning and discipline. Teachers barely have enough time to plan for their own classes; collective planning takes extra time, effort and commitment. We aim to make progress here by identifying collaborative teaching partnerships at each grade level in advance, setting aside planning time in our curriculum institute in May, and holding ourselves accountable when competing priorities arise.
- Industry partnerships are key to making our Pathway relevant and meaningful. We're striving to create structures that embed these partnerships in the fabric of our school.
- We need to do a better job of tracking, monitoring, and communicating student progress. This is key to ensuring positive outcomes for students and achieving our Measure N/H goals.

Looking Ahead

What are you most excited about?

- Hiring a second Media Arts Teacher. Know anyone?
- Building out the other two courses in our Pathway
- Gaining some traction with our advisory board and industry partners
- Redefining passage and graduation requirements to include work-based learning at every grade level including an internship or similar experience before graduation.
- Continuing to expand and improve our dual enrollment program.

Looking Ahead

What are your biggest challenges moving forward?

- Finding and protecting collaborative planning time as other demands and priorities emerge - this is key to interdisciplinary projects and other Pathway initiatives
- Figuring out how to better engage and support our target population (IEP) so that outcomes improve for this sub-group and all students
- Navigating forces beyond our control - interest of industry professionals to partner with us, the quality of dual enrollment professors, etc...
- Tapping into other funding streams to maintain staffing and resources as some of our current grants time out

Equity



How are your Pathway(s) helping to close equity gaps in your school? (through the lens of your LCAP focal groups)

- Media Arts has helped engage many students who are reluctant learners in other classes
- Our target group over the next 3 years is students with IEPs. Both data and experience suggest that these students are more likely than others to struggle academically, including in our CTE classes and women. Our goal is to do a better job of reaching these students by adapting our program to reflect their interests, correspond to their goals, and meet their needs.

Questions?

EVERY STUDENT THRIVES!

