

# STUDENT BOARD REPORT

Director Mendoza  
Director Cruz  
May 8, 2024



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

# Summary of Report



## ACC End of Year Report

- Overview of ACC
- Key Accomplishments 2023-24

- Overview & Updates of ACC Priorities
- Student Voice on LCAP
- How to Support All City Council

- Introducing ACC Governing Board 2024-25
- What did we learn about governance as Student Directors?

# All City Council Student Union End of Year Report



# All City Council Student Union Mission & Vision

## ALL CITY COUNCIL Mission & Vision Statement



All City Council (ACC) seeks to create positive change in our schools. We amplify student voice by serving as a bridge between adult decision makers and the student body. We are a diverse team of student leaders who represent or are elected by the masses of students at our schools. ACC organizes campaigns and activities to serve the assessed needs of our constituents; including addressing internalized, interpersonal, and institutional oppression in our daily lives and the daily functioning of our schools and working towards solutions.

# Key Accomplishments

- Met with 6 OUSD departments over the year: Innovation/Blueprint (Continuous Improvement), Academics & Innovation (Curriculum, Sown to Grow), Community Schools & Student Services (Safety, Mental Health, Health Services), Office of Senior Business Office (Budget), OUSD Communications (Show UP!), High School Network
- Collaborated with community organizations to lead a Candidates' Forum for the Nov. 2022 school board elections at Fremont High School with over 180 attendees + Mock Vote Conducted
- 115 MS students (duplicated) throughout 5 general middle school meetings from 11 middle schools: Bret Harte, Claremont, Edna Brewer, Frick United, Life Academy, MLA, Roosevelt, UFSA, UPA, WOMS, and Westlake
- First year where 100% of workshops were led or co-led by students for our annual peer resource & ethnic studies conference
- Met with over 170 HS students across 11 high schools and about 70 MS students (unduplicated) from 11 OUSD middle schools throughout the year
- Collectively committed 84 hours to our ACC Board meetings, 54 hours in check ins with staff and adult allies outside of these meetings, and over 100 hours facilitating engagements with middle and high school leaders as well as through our annual events

# ACC in Middle Schools 2023-24

- School action projects - Each middle school finds one problem in their schools and comes up with a “SMART” plan to solve their problem.
  - Topics included Bathroom Cleanliness, Student-Teacher & Peer Relationships, Fights, Mental Health Concerns, and improving the overall culture and climate of the school
- What is a leader - students defining and drawing out what a leader in their community might look like (traits, characteristics, values, etc)
- Restorative Justice Training - Teaching a brief lesson on RJ showing the components of a circle and how to be a good circle leader.
- Designing for the Annual Peer Resource & Ethnic Studies Conference - Student provided input throughout the year around what the conference would look like (MCs, program/schedule, workshops, organizations, activities, theme, etc.)

# New High School Engagements Format!

## What we've done before:

- In the past, ACC has opened their meetings to all OUSD high schoolers, following the middle school model, where one site is hosting while students from across OUSD join us at the hosting site. This was not beneficial because:
  - Staff typically didn't have the ability to bring students (most leadership advisors are also full-time classroom teachers, many teach core subjects)
  - Difficult to get buy-in from students across OUSD who may have never heard of what ACC is or don't yet have a strong connection and understanding of our work
  - It was challenging for students to commute farther from their schools when hosted at a site across Oakland - may not have safe and accessible ride support

## What we've changed:

- We now go to high schools all over OUSD, we do activities and discussions with leadership students about the issues and concerns they have in their schools.
- We take note of them by categorizing them into our school priorities and bring these up in our meeting to discuss how we can take action on this.

# ACC 14th Annual Youth Action Summit Recap

*\*\*Attendance from **FIVE** High Schools including Oakland Tech, Oakland High, Skyline, Mcclymonds, and, MetWest!\*\**

## Goals Achieved:

- Fostered community and leadership among OUSD Youth through activities and leadership development trainings!
  - Elected new Governing Board members!
  - Discussed 23-24 ACC Priorities
  - Created new 24-25 school year priorities!

## ACC Priorities for 24-25:

- Drug Abuse
  - Racism
  - School Safety
- College Readiness / Career Exploration
  - Mental Health

*\*\*Priorities have not been finalized completely\*\**



# ACC in High Schools 2023-24

What we did:

- Engaged with 11 high schools all over OUSD, conducting discussions over our 23-24 ACC Priorities!
- Fostered Youth leadership and advocacy for (their) school issues!
- Spread information to students on who and what ACC is!

# ACC 23-24 Priorities Data: Mental Health

- *There are therapists at schools but it is very limited and not known*
- *Adults such as counselors, teachers, and admin do not understand mental health, therefore it is hard to talk about mental health*
- *Small schools feel a great sense of community compared to our larger high schools - administrators, culture keepers, and other staff are more visible and present*
- *Confidentiality is often not kept between students and staff - staff may tell other staff, students or students' families*
- *Overall, resources and information aren't typically communicated about through the correct channels for students at most sites*

# ACC 23-24 Priorities Data: Safety

- *Culture keepers are seen as unprofessional (attire, language, attitude) and not welcoming at most schools. Would like to see better quality culture keepers (students understand that pay is connected to this).*
- *Students generally feel safe within their schools*
- *Sexual harassment and assaults continue to be an issue some schools experience more than others.*
- *Bullying continues to be an issue - some comes from lack of understanding someone's background/culture/identity but not all of it. More opportunities to build community could be helpful*
- *Students want more safety protocols but also don't want to feel policed. Students named wanting to be included in making these decisions about new safety protocols implemented at their school, not just "randomly" decided by administrators.*
- *Communication needs to be better when issues arise. When administrators sound scared/overwhelmed or do not give enough information, causes more fear and anxiety for everyone in school*

# ACC 23-24 Priorities Data: Mental Health

- *Separately, most students do not feel like they have power in their schools outside of leadership activities (event planning)*
  - *Not a lot of opportunities to see their ideas and opinions be utilized when feedback is asked, not a lot of options in what they are able to do (concurrent enrollment, pathways, etc)*
- *School cleanliness came up in a number of conversations - how can students be better at maintaining our own facilities?*
- *More sex ed/consent workshops/conversations outside of 9th grade*
- *Students generally feel prepared to transition to college or career by what their schools are able to offer them and the support of school staff*





## Core Leaders Committee

Coalition where youth members of organizations that support OYV including ACC help facilitate and plan outreach and curriculum

# Oakland Youth Vote Background

As of November 2020 measure QQ - a bill to allow 16 and 17 year olds to vote in school board elections passed with  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote. Since then it has failed to be implemented and adopted into our voting system. Though support is strong, some have concerns with the bill.

# Highlights of What CLC Has Accomplished This Year

- 1. Candidates Forum for District 5 board member elections and mock youth vote**
- 1. Student leaders helped to develop a voter rights curriculum to be trialed by OUSD teachers**
- 3. Students leaders speak in front of city council member in support of OYV, urging them to start implementing it in the upcoming election**
- 4. Students worked to create media campaigns and surveyed over 100 students**

# OYV Update

- Board of Supervisors approved contract with Runbeck to update voting software that would allow youth to vote in school board elections and 5 positions in the Registrar of Voters department to support this work
- Article: <https://piedmontexedra.com/2024/04/plan-for-youth-vote-in-oakland-berkeley-school-board-elections-moves-forward>



# Suggestions for Future LCAP/Budget Engagements

## *LCAP Directors Recap:*

- Attended about 5 PSAC meetings during 23-24 ACC Governing Board year!
- Presented about **ACC engagements** (Including High School Engagements + Middle School Engagements), **data** from engagements, and **represented the student voices** pertaining to budget related discussions

## *Suggestions for next year:*

- More communication between OUSD LCAP & ACC LCAP Directors (Emails, Virtual Meetings, Etc.)
- Opportunities to get student feedback on LCAP Goals

# How Can OUSD Champion Meaningful Student Engagement & Support All City Council

- Share more about what All City Council is across OUSD
- Provide more funding for student leadership + improvement projects
- Organize more district-wide events that celebrate and honor the work all student leaders across OUSD do to improve our schools
- OUSD School Board: Be present at our engagements, especially with schools in your districts! Reach out to us!

# Thank you to the 2023-34 All City Council Student Union Representatives

**Student Director:** Anevay Cruz & Vida Mendoza

**Health & Wellness Director:** Sophie Mehoulley

**LCAP Directors:** Ariana Astorga Vega & Emily Barajas

**Culture & Climate Director:** Maximus Simmons

**Media Director:** Amber Johnson

**President:** Marianna Smith

**Vice President:** Ashley Tchanyoum

**Secretary:** Joanne Diakon-Assoua

**Historian:** Calupe Kaufusi



From the 26th annual peer resource & ethnic studies conference

# Welcome to the 2024-25 ACC GB

## Congratulations to the 2024-25 All City Council Governing Board

**Student Directors:** Maximus Simmons & Michele Vasquez

**LCAP Directors:** Ariana Astorga Vega & Lina Nguyen

**Health & Wellness Director:** Sophie Mehouelley

**Culture & Climate Director:** Inara Shafiq

**President:** Marianna Smith

**Vice President:** Ashley Tchanyoum

**Historian:** Calupe Kaufusi



**Left to Right:** Ashley Tchanyoum, Marianna Smith, Calupe Kaufusi, Sophie Mehouelley, Michele Vasquez, Ariana Astorga Vega, Lina Nguyen, Inara Shafiq, Maximus Simmons (below)



# Thank You:

- Middle & High School ACC and Adult Allies
- Community Partners & Meaningful Student Engagement Collaborative
- Office of Equity/Targeted Initiative Staff
- OUSD Staff
- OUSD Students!



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# Governance - What Did We Learn as Student Directors?



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# Community Schools, Thriving Students

[www.ousd.org](http://www.ousd.org)



@OUSDnews



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# Thank you

For more information, please reach out to the Student Directors and/or the ACC coordinator & Student Engagement Specialist, Citlali Espinoza:

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