

Board Office Use: Legislative File Info.	
File ID Number	24-1972
Introduction Date	8/28/24
Enactment Number	
Enactment Date	



Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From VanCedric Williams, Board of Education, Director- District 3
Clifford Thompson, Board of Education, Director- District 7

Meeting Date August 28, 2024

Subject Resolution No. 2425-0002 - Posthumous Recognition of Eddie Dillard’s Contributions to Oakland Unified School District

Ask of the Board Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 2425-0002 - Posthumous Recognition of Eddie Dillard’s Contributions to Oakland Unified School District

Background Mr. Eddie Rudolph Dillard played a pivotal role in the City of Oakland's Office of Economic Development. He worked to educate school board members on community engagement and advocated for equity on how school districts can be more inclusive of small, minority, and Black-owned businesses in their contracting processes. He published many written pieces on school issues and directly engaged with OUSD school board members to advance inclusive community practices.

In 2022, Mr. Dillard led discussion and a resolution for OUSD to pursue a Disparity Study for small, local business participation on contracts worth tens of millions of dollars, and he successfully advocated to ensure those contracts did not move forward without adequate small minority business participation. The Oakland Unified School Board honors and celebrates Mr. Dillard's life, legacy, and invaluable contributions.

Discussion This Resolution would express the Board of Education and the Superintendent’s deep gratitude to Mr. Dillard for his dedicated service to the Oakland community.

Fiscal Impact N/A

Attachment(s)

- Resolution No. 2425-0002 - Posthumous Recognition of Eddie Dillard’s Contributions to Oakland Unified School District

**OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2425-0002**

*Resolution for the Posthumous Recognition of Eddie Dillard's Contributions to
Oakland Unified School District*

WHEREAS, Eddie Rudolph Dillard was born in 1947 in St. Louis, Missouri, and began his life of service with the U.S. Army; and

WHEREAS, after being honorably discharged from the Army, he started his journey toward higher education, earning an A.A. from Oakland's Merritt College and, in 1977, becoming one of only four Black Students to graduate from the University of California, Berkeley, earning a B.A. in Economics; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dillard's life experiences, love of the school community, quest for equity, and tenaciousness contributed to his decades-long work to empower small, minority-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dillard served as the Northern California Delegate for the first-ever White House Conference on Small Business Development in 1980, and he played a pivotal role in the City of Oakland's Office of Economic Development, helping to revitalize and advance Oakland's economic landscape; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, he established the Oakland Black Board of Trade and Commerce and served as its President and CEO, creating opportunities for Black contractors, including aiding them in securing over \$100 million in contracts; and

WHEREAS, beyond his direct contributions, Mr. Dillard worked to educate school board members on community engagement and advocate for equity on how school districts can be more inclusive of small, minority, and Black-owned businesses in their contracting processes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dillard has published many written pieces on school issues and directly engaged with OUSD school board members to advance inclusive community practices; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Mr. Dillard led discussion and a resolution for OUSD to pursue a Disparity Study for small, local business participation on contracts worth up to tens of millions of dollars, and Mr. Dillard, successfully advocated to ensure those contracts did not move forward without adequate small, minority business participation; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Rudolph Dillard's life has been one of service, advocacy, and persistence toward a more just and equitable School District, City, and Country—his contributions are immeasurable; and

WHEREAS, while he will be sorely missed, we are confident his fight for equity, inclusion, and opportunity for those who are often left out will continue through the countless individuals he has mentored, advised, led, supported, and educated;

WHEREAS, it is up to all of us to continue his legacy of equality, fairness, and opportunity in procurement for the small business and marginalized, especially Black and Brown contractors and consultants.

WHEREAS, as Eddie would say, "Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do." Rest in love and peace, Eddie. You ran your race well.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Oakland Unified School Board honors and celebrates Eddie Rudolph Dillard's life, legacy, and invaluable contributions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District this 28th day of August, 2024, by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE:

PREFERENTIAL NOE:

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION:

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

RECUSE:

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 August 28, 2024.

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OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Benjamin "Sam" Davis
President, Board of Education

Kyla Johnson-Trammell
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education