

Superintendent Report

Superintendent, Dr. Kyla Johnson-Trammell
October 23, 2024



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Our Vision

All OUSD students will find joy in their academic experience while graduating with the skills to ensure they are caring, competent, fully-informed, critical thinkers who are prepared for college, career, and community success.

Our Mission

Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) will build a Full Service Community District focused on high academic achievement while serving the whole child, eliminating inequity, and providing each child with excellent teachers, every day.



Superintendent Report Overview



School Highlights

Update: Literacy Priority Areas

Water Quality Update



School Highlights

Latino Heritage Month Has Joyful & Educational Read-In

Latino Heritage Month ended last week, and it was filled with joyful and educational events. One such event that lasted an entire week was the Oakland Public Education Fund's Latine/X Read-In. Volunteers visited 18 schools the week of October 7 to share the love of reading with students through Latine/X literature.

The volunteers included groups from our partner organizations the Oakland Literacy Coalition, the Oakland Zoo, and the Bank of Marin. The schools visited included Melrose Leadership Academy, Cleveland Elementary, Highland Community School, Sankofa United, and Esperanza Elementary.

We thank the Ed Fund and our partners for doing this wonderful Read-In.



Initiative: Strong Readers

www.ousd.org/strategicplan

Reigning State Champs Meet with New Valkyries Coach

October 10th was an exciting day for the reigning State Champion Girls Basketball Team at Oakland High School. They got to meet with the leaders of the WNBA's newest team, the Golden State Valkyries. General Manager Ohemaa Nyanin came to the school and brought the team's new head coach, Natalie Nakase, on the same day the team announced Nakase's hiring.

They spoke with the O High players, gave them advice, did a public speaking exercise, talked about career goals, and took lots of pictures.

Nakase, who is the first Asian American head coach in the WNBA, came to Golden State from the Las Vegas Aces, where as an assistant coach, she helped the team win back to back championships. That's exactly what the girls told her they hope to do this year, win their second championship in a row.



Initiative: Empowered Graduates
www.ousd.org/strategicplan

Three OUSD Teachers of the Year Celebrated by County

On October 3, Teachers of the Year from across Alameda County came together in Castro Valley for the annual County Teacher of the Year event.

It was a great celebration of outstanding educators in districts across the region, including our three Teachers of the Year, Claudia Hung-Haas from Lincoln Elementary, Jazmine Njissang from West Oakland Middle School, and Sarah Ben-Israel from Edna Brewer Middle School.

In the end, two teachers from other districts took top honors. We celebrate all the honorees, especially our Teachers of the Year!



Initiative: Diverse and Stable Staff

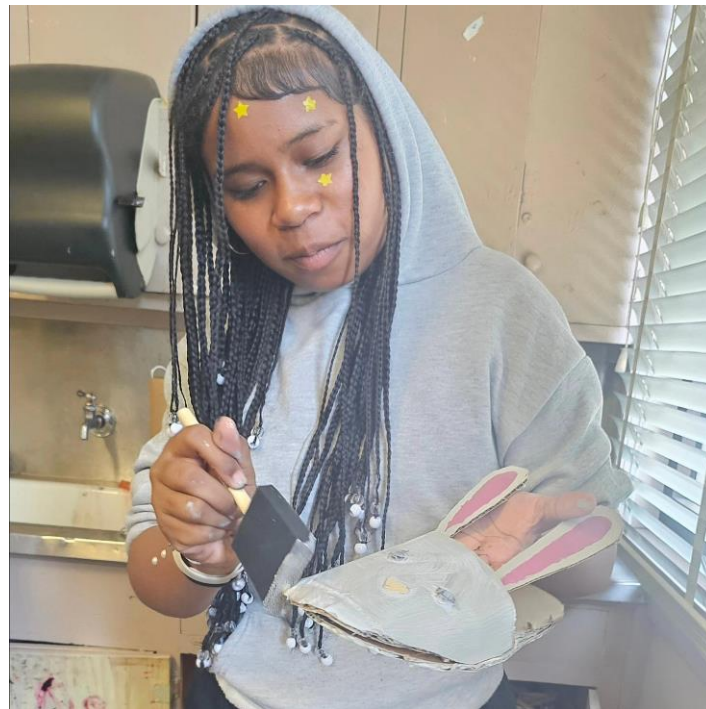
www.ousd.org/strategicplan

Roosevelt Middle School Students Find Joy in Shoemaking

6th grade students in Ms. Padua's class at Roosevelt Middle School tried their hand at engineering and creating shoes. They had to follow several rules in making their creations:

- Shoe must fit your foot.
- Shoe must include a base to protect the bottom of your foot.
- Shoe must have a strap or way to hold onto your foot.
- Shoe must be practical and aesthetically pleasing.
- Shoe design is unique and has an aspect that represents the student's personality.

Animals including rabbits and sharks were popular designs, as were bedazzled shoes.



Initiative: Joyful Schools

www.ousd.org/strategicplan

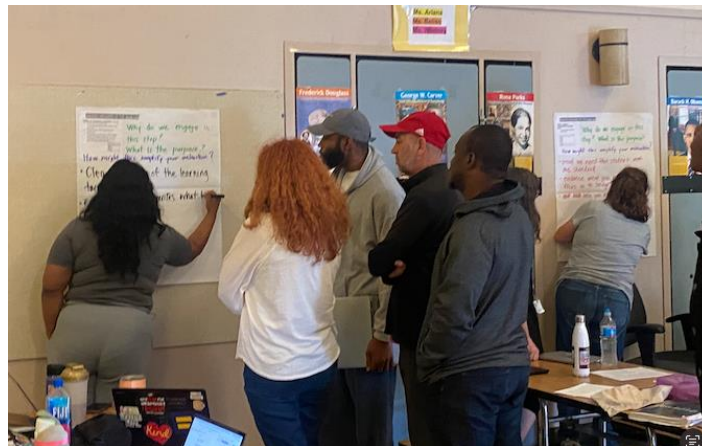


Update: Literacy Priority Areas

Priority 1: Deepening Curriculum Implementation

Focus Areas: Let's Get Aligned and Invest in our Educators

- **September 20 Professional Learning Day**
 - Curriculum Embedded Assessment Analysis to drive instruction
- **New Teacher PD Series** focused on Literacy implementation
- **TSA Coaching collaborative** focused on observation and feedback
- Expansion of **EL Ed Hub school work** from 3 schools to 6 schools: Allendale, Hoover, Redwood Heights, Burckhalter, TCN, Emerson



Priority 1: Deepening Curriculum Implementation

Focus Areas: Let's Get Aligned and Invest in our Educators

Looking ahead:

- Community Convening to share OUSD Early Literacy updates and Intentional Partner Alignment
- Tier 1 Pilot for Foundational Skills
 - 95% Phonics (OAK, Hoover)
 - UFLI (Acorn, Cleveland)

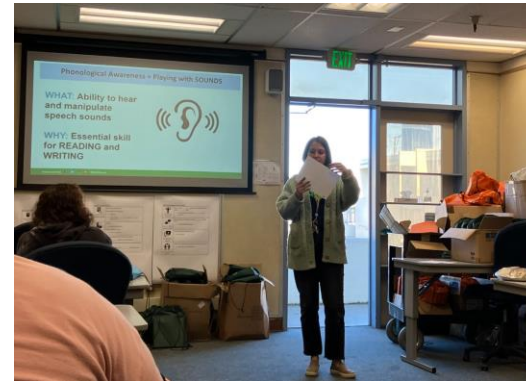


Priority 2: Strengthening Family Partnership

Focus Area: Put Families in the Driver's Seat

Strengthening Family Partnership by:

- Summer Professional Learning for Literacy Liberators
- September 20 Literacy Liberator Professional Learning Session
- Report Card Resources shared with families

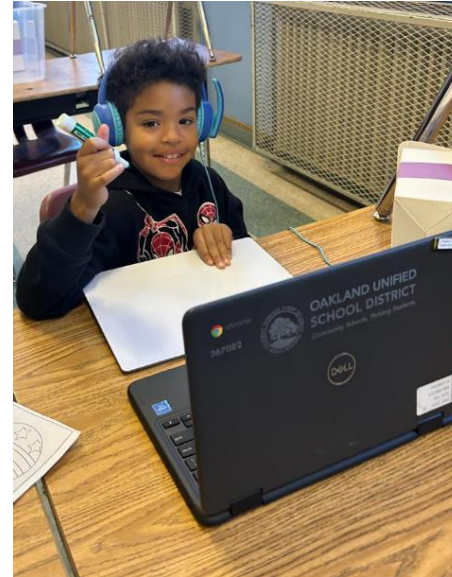


Priority 3: Improving DDI and Tiered Supports

Focus Area: Using Data to Make the Best Decisions

Improving Data Driven Instruction and Tiered Supports by

- Eat.Learn.Play commitment to support Tier 3 Tutor pilot
- Literacy Liberators receiving consistent on SIPPS routines and data analysis
- Monitoring impact of literacy tutoring
- SIPPS data monitoring to assess impact



Tier 3 Pilot Programs

ignite!
reading

Open
Literacy

Hoot



Water Quality Update

Background

In August, we informed [Group 1 and Group 2 schools](#) that a number of water outlets we tested showed elevated lead levels. **It is important to note the majority of outlets we tested in every school were found to be at or below the Board of Education-mandated standard of 5 parts per billion (ppb).** In the first round of testing, more than 82% of water outlets tested below 5 (ppb), and in more recent testing, it has been 90%. So far, we have tested water sources - faucets, fountainheads, and water bottle filling stations - in 59 schools.

As a reminder, the test results fall into one of three categories:

1. 5 ppb or lower (within the District's limit)
2. Above 5 ppb and below the State and Federal limit of 15 ppb
3. Higher than the State and Federal Limit of 15 ppb

We will continue testing outlets at the remaining OUSD schools over the next two months, and we have instituted improved protocols to ensure we are more transparent and more consistent in our communication with our families and staff. We will inform you before any testing begins at your school. Detailed information, testing results, and resources can be found on the [OUSD Water Quality website](#).

Response

All fixtures that tested at or below the District's limit are in service. We take all fixtures that show elevated levels (in categories 2 and 3) out of service. As our teams test more schools, they are also fixing problematic outlets that are out of service before retesting the water. Once the tests show that the water meets the District standard, they are returned to service. All outlets now in service have a sticker that looks similar to this image, verifying that they were tested and provide water that meets the District standard.



FloWater Update: Expanding Dependable Water Sources in Schools

Our immediate focus has also been to ensure there are trusted water sources at every school. The simplest way to do that is to add to the filtered water systems across the District. Most schools have at least two, and many have more. Since the start of the school year, we have installed 60 additional [FloWater machines](#) in schools to ensure that every student has access to highly filtered water. In phase 2 of the project, the District plans to install 88 more FloWater systems across the District to further increase that access. **We ask everyone to take care of these machines and NOT dump anything aside from water in the drains.** Anything beyond water can clog the drains and cause other problems. We are developing a dashboard that will go live at the end of the month, allowing the community to see how many filtered water systems there are at every school.

Background on Lead Testing in Oakland

Throughout our testing and fixing of water sources districtwide in 2017 and 2018, we worked closely with the Alameda County Healthy Homes Department and the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. They told us that over the course of 20 years, they had encountered 6,000 cases of lead poisoning across the county, and that not a single case could be traced to water. In Oakland, the cases most often result from lead-based paint and contaminated soil. For all faucets in your homes and elsewhere, it is recommended that you run the water for a few seconds to flush/clear out the fixtures to reduce the risk of contaminants including lead. For more information, please visit the [California Department of Public Health's website](#) where there are excellent resources and information about [sources of lead exposure](#) and [how to get tested](#).

Ongoing Updates

In order to keep everyone better informed about all that we are doing to ensure schools have safe water, we will be sending regular updates to the entire District, and to specific schools when they see progress on these issues. In the meantime, if you have any questions, you can contact us at waterquality@ousd.org.



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