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| Introduction Date | 3/25/2026 |
| Enactment Number | 26-0548 |
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**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Community Schools, Thriving Students

Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From Dr. Denise Saddler, Interim Superintendent
Tara Gard, Chief Talent Officer
Kim Raney, Executive Director, Transportation & Logistics

Meeting Date March 25, 2026

Subject 2025-26 Transportation Plan and Home to School Reimbursement

Ask of the Board Receive with recommendation for adoption, the Transportation Plan for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year: thereby supporting the District’s eligibility for Reimbursement of Home to School Transportation Expenses per California Education Codes § 41850.1 and 39800.1. (Resolution # 2526-0014)

Background California law requires school districts to annually prepare and present a transportation plan to the governing board in order to remain eligible for state reimbursement of home-to-school transportation costs. The Transportation Plan must describe the District’s transportation services, operational structure, and anticipated expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Oakland Unified School District provides home-to-school transportation for eligible students in accordance with state law, Board policy, and applicable safety and operational standards. This includes transportation services that support students with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness or foster care placement, and other eligible student populations.

Discussion Receipt of the Transportation Plan by the Board is a required step to preserve the District’s ability to seek reimbursement for eligible transportation expenses. This action supports compliance with California Education Code sections 41850.1 and 39800.1, which establish requirements related to transportation services and reimbursement eligibility. The Transportation Plan is prepared consistent with these statutory requirements.

Statutory Basis for Transportation Reimbursement Eligibility

Education Code section 41850.1 establishes the state's ongoing home-to-school transportation reimbursement framework. Beginning in the 2022–23 fiscal year and continuing each year thereafter, the Superintendent of Public Instruction apportions funding to school districts and county offices of education that provide pupil transportation services.

Under this section, eligible local educational agencies may receive a transportation allowance equal to 60 percent of reported home-to-school transportation expenditures from the prior fiscal year, as reported in Function 3600 of the Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS). Reimbursable expenditures exclude capital outlay and non-agency costs and are subject to statutory adjustments related to prior transportation add-ons. If these adjustments reduce the calculated allowance below zero, no transportation allowance is provided for that year.

Education Code section 39800.1 sets forth the conditions that must be met in order to receive reimbursement under section 41850.1. As a condition of funding, a local educational agency is required to develop, adopt, and annually update a Transportation Plan describing the transportation services it will offer to pupils.

Specifically, the Transportation Plan must:

Describe the transportation services the District will provide, including services accessible to:

- Pupils with disabilities, and
- Homeless children and youth, as defined under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Explain how the District will prioritize transportation services for:

- Transitional kindergarten through grade 6 pupils, and
- Pupils who are low income.
- Describe how unduplicated pupils will be able to access available home-to-school transportation at no cost.

The statute further requires that the Transportation Plan be:

- Developed in consultation with classified staff, teachers, administrators, parents, pupils, regional transit authorities, air quality agencies, and other relevant stakeholders;
- Presented to and adopted by the governing board in an open meeting, with opportunities for both in-person and remote public comment; and
- Updated annually by April 1.

Education Code section 39800.1 also allows, but does not require, districts to partner with municipally owned transit systems or to provide no-cost transit passes to pupils.

Following Board receipt of the Transportation Plan, District staff will:

- Implement transportation services as outlined for the 2025–26 fiscal year
- Monitor service delivery and expenditures throughout the year
- Submit reimbursement claims in accordance with state timelines and requirements

The Transportation Plan for the 2025–26 fiscal year:

- Documents the scope of District-provided transportation services
- Describes operational assumptions, service delivery models, and cost drivers
- Supports compliance with state requirements for reimbursement eligibility
- Provides transparency to the Board regarding transportation planning and fiscal impact

Fiscal Impact

Receipt of the Transportation Plan does not, by itself, authorize new expenditures. However, Board receipt is necessary to support the District’s eligibility to claim state reimbursement for allowable home-to-school transportation costs incurred during the 2025–26 fiscal year. Reimbursement revenues help offset transportation expenditures that would otherwise be fully borne by the General Fund.

Attachments

- Oakland Unified School District Transportation Plan, 2025–26 Fiscal Year
- Resolution # 2526-0014 Adoption OUSD 2025-26 Transportation Plan

**OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education**

Resolution No. 2526-0014

2025–2026 HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR PUPILS

WHEREAS, California Education Code §§ 41850.1 and 39800.1 require school districts to develop, adopt, and annually update a Transportation Plan as a condition of receiving state reimbursement for home-to-school transportation expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Unified School District (“District”) has prepared the 2025–2026 Transportation Plan describing the District’s transportation services, operational structure, and anticipated expenditures for the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Plan includes provisions for transportation services for students with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness or foster care placement, and other eligible student populations in accordance with state and federal law;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Plan prioritizes services for transitional kindergarten through grade six students and low-income students, and ensures access to transportation for unduplicated pupils at no cost, consistent with statutory requirements;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Plan has been developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders and presented in a public meeting consistent with Education Code requirements;

WHEREAS, adoption of the Transportation Plan is required for the District to remain eligible to receive state reimbursement for allowable home-to-school transportation expenditures, which may offset General Fund costs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to implement the Transportation Plan for the 2025–2026 fiscal year, including provision of transportation services as described therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or designee is authorized to take all actions necessary to ensure compliance with California Education Code requirements and to submit all required documentation to secure state reimbursement for eligible transportation expenditures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board directs staff to monitor transportation services and expenditures and to provide updates as appropriate throughout the fiscal year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District shall update the Transportation Plan annually in accordance with Education Code requirements.

Passed by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE: None

PREFERENTIAL NOE: None

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION: None

PREFERENTIAL RECUSED: None

AYES: Rachel Latta, VanCedric Williams, Patrice Berry, Clifford Thompson, , Vice President Valarie Bachelor, President Jennifer Brouhard

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

RECUSED: None

ABSENT: Maximus Simmons (Student Director), Marianna Smith (Student Director), Mike Hutchinson

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 March 25, 2026.

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OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



 Jennifer Brouhard
 President, Board of Education



 Denise G. Saddler, EdD, Interim Superintendent and
 Secretary, Board of Education