

Ceremonial Presentation Honoring OUSD's Classified School Employees of the Year

Tara Gard, Chief Talent Officer
April 22, 2026



**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.



Ask of the Board

- This item is presented for the purpose of the adoption of Resolution No. 2526-0091 - Recognition - District's 2025-2026 - Classified School Employees of the Year in eight categories:
 - Paraprofessional Services
 - Clerical & Administrative Services
 - Food & Nutrition Services
 - Custodial and Maintenance Services
 - Security Services
 - Health & Student Services
 - Technical Services
 - Skilled Trades Services

Outline

- We will recognize and pay special tribute to their tireless efforts and outstanding performance
- We will feature eight of our most experienced, excellent classified line employees
- The order of the awardees is aligned with the categories as they have been named by the California Department of Education

Ponpoly Ty

Paraprofessional Services



Excellence in Work Performance:

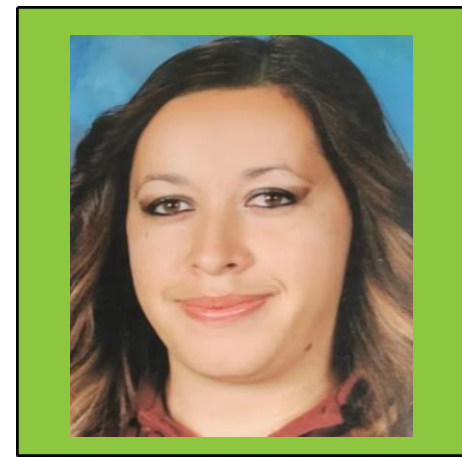
Builds strong relationships with students and fosters a love of reading by continually updating the library with engaging, popular titles, creating a welcoming and dynamic space.

Leadership & Community Impact:

Models inclusion and community connection through heritage month displays and consistently supports staff and students with kindness, generosity, and a welcoming presence.

Milagros Rodriguez

Clerical & Administrative Services



Excellence in Work Performance:

Dedicated Attendance Specialist who builds strong relationships, removes barriers to student success, and consistently goes beyond her role to support students, families, and staff.

Leadership & Community Impact:

Exemplifies leadership through bilingual support, mentoring, and advocacy, fostering a culture of belonging and ensuring all feel welcomed and valued.

Cynthia Johnson

Food & Nutritional Services



Excellence in Work Performance:

Dependable team member with a strong work ethic, proactive problem-solving skills, and commitment to efficiently producing and distributing meals to support students daily.

Leadership & Community Impact:

Demonstrates compassion and leadership by supporting colleagues, serving as a bilingual communicator, and consistently going above and beyond to ensure student safety and well-being.

Yufu Li

Custodial & Maintenance Services



Excellence in Work Performance:

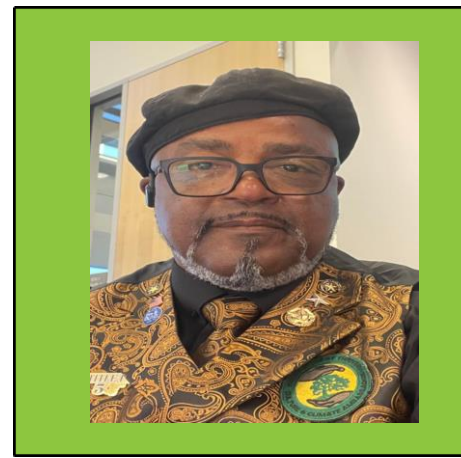
Reliable and dedicated, maintaining a clean, safe, and welcoming campus while consistently going above and beyond to support students, staff, and operations.

Leadership & Community Impact:

Proactive and positive, supporting the school community at all times and fostering a strong, connected, and safe environment.

Humphrey Garrett

Security Services



Excellence in Work Performance:

Professional and dependable, maintaining a safe and welcoming environment while consistently supporting colleagues and the broader school community.

Leadership & Community Impact:

Engages with the community through proactive safety measures and support for school events, fostering trust, collaboration, and a sense of security.

Ardean Mondy

Health & Student Services



Excellence in Work Performance:

Trusted and welcoming presence at Prescott Elementary, building meaningful relationships and ensuring everyone feels seen, supported, and valued.

Leadership & Community Impact:

Relied upon for advocacy and fostering an inclusive school culture, using experience to strengthen relationships and support the school community.

Sobrina Onate

Technical Services



Excellence in Work Performance:

Dedicated primary point of contact for Technology Services, providing responsive, thoughtful, and solutions-oriented support to staff and students.

Leadership & Community Impact:

Builds strong relationships, improves systems and processes, and consistently goes above and beyond to foster efficiency, collaboration, and a positive experience district-wide.

Sigifredo Altamirano

Skilled Trades Services



Excellence in Work Performance:

Strong work ethic and reliability, consistently delivering high-quality support for school facilities with skilled craftsmanship and attention to safety.

Leadership & Community Impact:

Contributes to teamwork and collaboration by supporting colleagues, taking on challenging projects, and ensuring school sites remain safe and functional.

Thank You to Our OUSD Classified School Employees of the 2025-2026 School Year!

For more information, please reach out:

talent@ousd.org





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www.ousd.org



@OUSDnews

1011 Union Street - Oakland, CA 94607