

Superintendent Report

Interim Superintendent, Dr. Denise Saddler
June 3, 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.



Superintendent Report Overview

School Highlights

Seal of Biliteracy Recognition





School Highlights

McClymonds Student Wins \$5,000 Attendance Challenge Grand Prize

A McClymonds junior got the shock of a lifetime on the second to last day of school, May 27. Hannah J. (in pink pants) learned during lunch that she was one of two grand prize winners in the Every Day Counts Attendance Challenge hosted by Oakland Natives Give Back (ONGB). Her take home from the win? A check for \$5,000.

ONGB has been giving out cash prizes to students this year, but until today, every prize was \$500, including one for another McClymonds student, and one to a Castlemont student. This is the first \$5,000 prize that ONGB hopes will motivate more students to be in school, and in class, on time every day.

ONGB plans to give out even more prizes to participating students next year. Our thanks to ONGB!



West Oakland Students Attend and Help Start Oakland Ballers Game

On the second to last day of school, May 27, the Oakland Ballers hosted their OUSD Field Trip Day and gave tickets to students from multiple schools to the day game. Students from Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary, Ralph Bunche Academy, and McClymonds High all attended. Two McClymonds students threw out the ceremonial first pitches and half a dozen MLK leadership students (pictured) yelled “play ball” together.

The first pitch throwers were De’Arra A. from the softball team and Madden K. from the baseball team.

The students and their schoolmates, along with staff, and families then got to enjoy a sunny game at Raimondi Field. Our thanks to the Ballers for supporting our schools and students!



OUSD Celebrates First Districtwide RJ Day

OUSD celebrated our first ever districtwide Restorative Justice Day on April 29! Inspired by the success of Edna Brewer Middle School's RJ Day, schools across Oakland joined in to build community through talking circles, workshops, games, and other engaging activities.

Restorative Justice practices help create more inclusive, equitable school communities where students, staff, and families feel welcome, connected, and heard. They also give school communities tools to navigate conflict, repair harm, and have difficult conversations in ways that support students rather than push them out of school.

Thank you to every student, RJ facilitator, and school community that helped make this first districtwide RJ Day so meaningful.



Unified Basketball is Big Success for Oakland Students

Unified Basketball is now a beloved sport for Oakland students. On May 16, the district hosted its Unified Basketball Jamboree at Fremont High. Teams from six high schools joined the fun. The teams were made up of special education students and general education students, and during games, each team could play no more than two general ed students at a time.

Families and staff filled the stands and cheered on their players and their teams.

The teams involved came from Fremont, Skyline, Oakland High, Oakland Tech, CCPA, and Castlemont. Each team played two different games, and all the players clearly thrived with the competition, teamwork, and support from the fans.



Third Year of Northeastern University Scholarship Lands More OUSD Students at Oakland Campus

This is the third year of the Oakland Opportunity Scholarship at Northeastern University, and OUSD now has six new students who have received this landmark scholarship and have committed to the school as part of the Class of 2030.

This scholarship is aimed at ensuring that Oakland students receive a post-secondary education at the school which resides on the former Mills College campus. It provides full room and board for four years here in Oakland and at the school's campuses around the world.

The six students are: Amy H. and Houtian L. from Oakland Tech, Jalal H. and Emily L. from Skyline, Mateo O. from CCPA, and Miles H. from Oakland High.

Each student's scholarship will total \$340,000.





Seal of Biliteracy Recognition

California's Global 2030

8 years ago, California launched Global California 2030 Initiative with ambitious goals to increase opportunities for multilingualism. The goals:

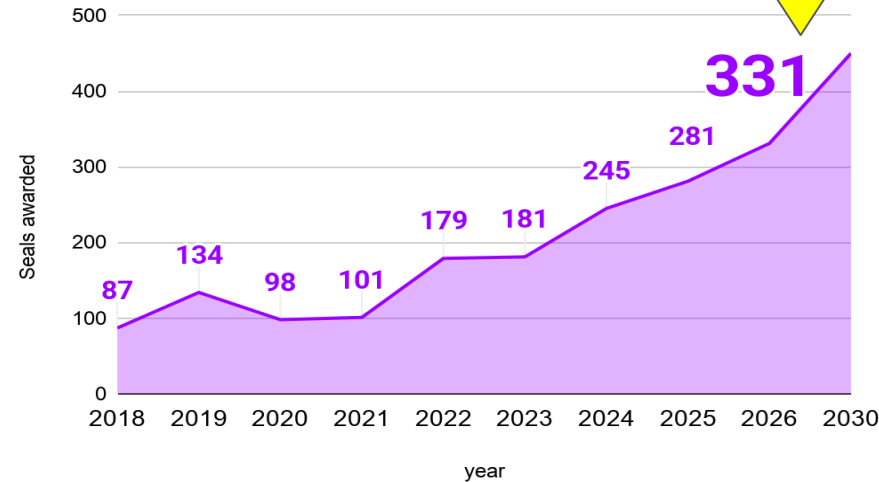


- **Half** of all K–12 students **participate in programs** leading to proficiency in two or more languages.
 - The **number of dual immersion programs** that teach languages besides English **quadruples** from about 400 in 2017 to 1,600 in 2030.
 - The **number of new bilingual teachers** authorized in world language classes more than **doubles** from 2017 to 2030.
- The number of **students who receive the State Seal of Biliteracy triples** from 46,952 in 2017 to more than 150,000 in 2030. By 2040, **three out of four graduating seniors earn the Seal of Biliteracy.**

Oakland Global 2030: The Seal of Biliteracy

The Seal of Biliteracy is an impressive state-issued recognition of graduating seniors who have demonstrated proficiency in English and another language. A Seal is affixed to students' diplomas and the recognition included in their official transcript.

Seals awarded



We have increased the Seals awarded to graduating seniors by more than almost **400% over the last 8 years**. This year we awarded 331 Seals, 50 more than last year. Our goal is to reach 450 by the year 2030!

State Seal of Biliteracy: By the Numbers!

11 languages

Students earned the Seal of Biliteracy in a record ELEVEN different languages: **Amharic, Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Lao, Mien, Spanish, Vietnamese**

11 schools are represented by their students

**Castlemont
CCPA
Fremont
Life Academy
Madison Upper
Metwest**

**Oakland High
Oakland International
Oakland Tech
Skyline
SJT**

80% of recipients are ELLs or former ELLs

55% of seniors at **Life Academy** earned the Seal!

Meet our Seal Recipients

Lulya Kebedom, Oakland Tech Class of 2026 and Future UC-Riverside Civil Engineering student. Trilingual in Tigrinya, Amharic, and English!



Hear from Lulya

Lulya Kebedom reflects on how language and identity are deeply connected in her life as someone who has moved across countries and cultures. Born in Eritrea and fluent in Tigrinya, she shares her journey of learning Amharic to communicate with family and navigating English with her sisters as they grow and adapt to new environments. She shares:

"[my home language] holds my culture — not just my culture, but my identity, my background, where I'm from, and who I am."

"Learning a language is the best thing You can communicate with anybody and everybody. I think that's beautiful!"

Derick Ayala, Oakland High School Class of 2026 and future UC-Davis Business and Economics student on a full ride!

Derick Ayala, originally from El Salvador, reflects on what receiving the Seal of Biliteracy means to him: not just as an academic achievement, but as recognition of his growth as a bilingual learner. He has seen how speaking two languages has helped him support his community and open doors for his future. He also speaks about his family's dreams and the power of stepping outside your comfort zone.

"Receiving this seal is the acknowledgment of all my hard work during this journey — practicing my writing, my reading, my listening skills."

"During past summer internships, I worked as a tutor, and I had a lot of elementary kids who didn't know a lot of English. Being bilingual was very important because I could connect with them. I could help them."



Hear from Derick

Congratulations to all of our Seal Recipients!

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CELEBRATES

The 2026 recipients of the

Seal of Bilingualism

WE ARE SO PROUD OF OUR GRADUATING SENIORS WHO HAVE EARNED THE SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE SEAL BY DEMONSTRATING PROFICIENCY IN BOTH ENGLISH AND ANOTHER LANGUAGE.



THE CRITERIA

- English:
- Completed 40 credits of ELA with 3.0 gpa or higher OR
 - "Standard Met" achievement level on SBAC in ELA OR
 - AP English test with score of 3 or higher
- World Language:
- Completed 40 credits of WL with 3.0 gpa or higher OR
 - Passed the AP exam or AVANT test

LANGUAGES AWARDED

AMHARIC: 1	JAPANESE: 1
ARABIC: 9	LAO: 1
BURMESE: 2	MIEN: 1
CHINESE: 17	SPANISH: 290
FRENCH: 6	VIETNAMESE: 2
GERMAN: 1	



WHY IS THE SEAL IMPORTANT?

- Honors the language assets of our graduates
- Opens up career opportunities in areas such as education, health, law, social work
- Used towards college admission and academic credit

BY THE NUMBERS

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| • Castlemont: 8 | • Oakland High: 42 |
| • CCPA: 38 | • Oakland Int'l: 5 |
| • Fremont: 54 | • Oakland Tech: 55 |
| • Life: 33 | • Skyline: 47 |
| • Madison: 31 | • Sojourner Truth: 4 |
| • Metwest: 14 | |



[See here for the full list of awardees!](#)

Celebrating Multilingualism Beginning in PK!



[Watch this joyful video](#) of 4-year Sunny showing her bilingual skills in school and in play!

This year we awarded 574 **Biliteracy Pathway Awards** at grades PK, K, 3, 5, and 8 at our Dual Language schools, celebrating students who are on track to earning the Seal of Biliteracy as evidenced by Spanish and English reading skills and a writing reflection in Spanish.

Additionally, we hold an annual **Multilingual Writing Contest** in Spanish and Chinese in which students reflect on the value of being bilingual.

Enjoy these videos and more at ellmaspotlights.wordpress.com



Community Schools, Thriving Students



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Community Schools, Thriving Students

www.ousd.org     @OUSDnews

1011 Union Street, Oakland, CA 94607