

Superintendent Report

Interim Superintendent, Dr. Denise Saddler
June 24, 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.



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School Highlights

Life Academy & United For Success Campus Receives New Soccer Pitch

The students at the co-located Life Academy and United For Success Academy now have a beautiful new soccer pitch on their campus, and since a ribbon-cutting on June 9, it's been open for business for summer programming.

The field, which is surrounded by fencing to keep balls from hitting the people and buildings outside the field, is a product of the World Cup happening here in the Bay Area. The District partnered with the Bay Area Host Committee and EA Sports to make it a reality. The effort reflects similar projects around the country where World Cup games are being played. The presence of the games brings about lasting impacts for surrounding communities including school improvements.

The field comes with a beautiful new mural on one of the walls. We thank the Bay Area Host Committee and EA Sports for their support!



District Holds Groundbreaking for Next Big Facilities Project at McClymonds High

It was years in the making, but McClymonds High School, or the School of Champions as it's also known, is now undergoing a huge project to revamp nearly the entire campus. Along with four of our Board Directors, we held a groundbreaking on June 12, and the community turned out in force to celebrate with us.

The school will have new cutting edge classrooms and engineering labs, new building infrastructure including upgraded plumbing and electrical systems, a new HVAC system, a modernized cafeteria, a new athletic field and grandstands, among many other things.

At the groundbreaking, school staff, students, alumni, and community supporters - including Mayor Barbara Lee - showed up and said the project is exactly what the Mack Family - as they're also known - fully deserve. Construction is set for completion in February of 2029.



McClymonds Groundbreaking Highlights



Oakland Tech 9th Grader Interviews Famed NASA Scientist

With help from the Office of Equity, Oakland Tech 9th grader, Marco Alejandre Ponce, got the chance to sit down in May and interview NASA scientist, Sergio Valdez via Zoom. Valdez is a well-known former student of iconic educator, Jaime Escalante, who was depicted in the 80s movie, Stand and Deliver.

The son of Mexican immigrants, Valdez is an engineering manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory where he interned after high school. He led a team of 100 engineers working on the Mars rover, Perseverance. Now, he leads technical leadership and management support for the lab.

During the interview, Valdez talked about feeling out of place when he joined NASA because he was the youngest one by far, and also the only Latino. He advised Marco to find mentors and always ask questions.



Oakland Athletic League Crowns High School Spring Sports Champions

The 2026 spring high school sports season wrapped up in the Oakland Athletic League, and two schools brought home the most championship hardware.

Oakland Technical High School won six OAL Championships in Boys Golf, Boys Volleyball, Boys and Girls Swimming, and Girls and Boys Lacrosse.

Skyline High won four championships in Baseball (which made it to the regional playoffs), Boys Tennis, and Girls and Boys Track and Field.

Oakland High won the OAL Championship in Badminton.

Unfortunately, a player eligibility issue arose and left the Softball championship vacant.



Oakland Athletic League Crowns Middle School Spring Sports Champions

The 2026 spring middle school sports season wrapped up in the Oakland Athletic League (OAL), and two schools brought home the most championship hardware.

Edna Brewer Middle School won four OAL Championships in Boys Track & Field, Boys Volleyball, and Girls and Boys Lacrosse.

Montera Middle School won two championships in Girls Track & Field and Girls Softball.

A middle school in San Leandro is also part of the OAL and won the championship in Boys Baseball.

We congratulate all the winners at the middle and high school levels!



2026 Graduation Season is Smashing Success for Thousands of Students

The 2026 spring graduation season, which began May 22 concluded on June 1 with the final graduation at the Paramount Theater for Skyline High School (upper photo).

In all, 19 high schools held graduations everywhere from the Paramount and the Scottish Rite Center to Oakland Tech's auditorium (for some smaller schools) and La Escuelita's Great Room (lower photo shows Ralph Bunche Academy's graduation).

There were also a dozen 8th grade promotion ceremonies some of which took place at our high schools.



More 2026 OUSD Graduation & Promotion Highlights



Sojourner Truth High School



Rudsdale High School

More 2026 OUSD Graduation & Promotion Highlights



Street Academy



La Escuelita

Golden State Community Foundation Hosts End of School Year Party

Hundreds of educators from across Oakland Unified joined their colleagues from San Francisco at Generation Thrive in Downtown Oakland on Friday, June 12 for a big celebration.

The Golden State Community Foundation and the Warriors and Valkyries hosted our staff for their “Aloha to the School Year party. Everyone got to enjoy food, games, dancing, crafts, a photo booth, and raffle prizes.

It was a great afternoon of fun, celebration, and community with SFUSD, and we deeply appreciate the Golden State Community Foundation for supporting our staff.





High School Graduation Data

Preliminary Graduation Data

- Class of 2026: 2,373 active seniors
 - 2,109 students were eligible for a high school diploma
 - 141 students earned standard and honors high school diplomas, as well as a certificate of completion prior to May 2026 (this includes early graduates and 5th year students)
 - 155 seniors enrolled in OUSD Summer Academic Recovery
 - 109 seniors marked as returning next year

**Initial graduation data will be available mid-June after school sites complete transcript evaluations and Aeries data entry. Additional graduates will be marked mid-July after summer school programs are completed and additional graduates are identified.*

Financial Aid and College Applications

73%

Financial Aid Applications

12th grade seniors who completed FAFSA or CADAA.

49%

4-Year College Applications

A total of 1,152 seniors applied to 4-year institutions.



College and Post-Secondary Acceptances

Students in the Class of 2026 reported being accepted to the following colleges and universities in California:

University of California	Peralta Community College District and other 2-year colleges	California State University	Private California Colleges and Universities
Berkeley Davis Irvine UCLA Merced Riverside San Diego Santa Barbara Santa Cruz	Berkeley City College College of Alameda Laney College Merritt College Chabot College Diablo Valley College Foothill College	CSU Bakersfield CSU Channel Islands CSU Chico CSU Dominguez Hills CSU East Bay CSU Fresno CSU Fullerton CSU Humboldt CSU Long Beach CSU Los Angeles CSU Monterey Bay CSU Northridge CSU Pomona CSU Sacramento CSU San Bernardino CSU San Diego San Francisco State San Jose State Cal Poly SLO CSU San Marcos CSU Sonoma CSU Stanislaus	California Baptist University California Lutheran University Chapman University Dominican University of California Loyola Marymount University Mount Saint Mary's University Occidental College Otis College of Art and Design Pepperdine University Rivet School Saint Mary's College of California San Francisco Bay University San Francisco State University Stanford University University of La Verne University of San Francisco University of Southern California University of the Pacific Woodbury University

College and Post-Secondary Acceptances

Students in the Class of 2026 reported receiving acceptances to the following HBCU's and international universities:

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)		International Universities
Alabama A&M University Alabama State University American Baptist College Benedict College Bowie State University Central State University Clark Atlanta University Clafflin University Coppin State University Delaware State University Dillard University Edward Waters University Elizabeth City State University Fayetteville State University Fisk University Florida A&M University Florida Memorial University Fort Valley State University Grambling State University Hampton University Howard University Huston-Tillotson University Jackson State University Jarvis Christian University Johnson C. Smith University	Kentucky State University Lane College Lincoln University (Missouri) Livingstone College Morehouse College Morgan State University Norfolk State University North Carolina A&T State University North Carolina Central University Paine College Paul Quinn College Philander Smith University Prairie View A&M University Rust College Shaw University Simmons College of Kentucky Southern University and A&M College Southern University at New Orleans Talladega College Tennessee State University Texas Southern University Tuskegee University Wiley University Xavier University of Louisiana	International Universities John Cabot University McGill University Simon Fraser University St Andrews University University College Dublin University of Aberdeen University of Edinburgh University of Glasgow University of Guelph University of Maynooth University of Strathclyde University of Toronto University of British Columbia University of Victoria York University The American University of Paris

- **49 HBCUs** represented
- **15+ international universities** represented
- Strong concentration of admissions to **public flagships, private selective institutions, California colleges, and HBCUs**
- Significant student interest in the **Pacific Northwest** (Oregon, Washington, Colorado) and **Bay Area institutions.**

College and Post-Secondary Acceptances

Students in the Class of 2026 reported receiving acceptances to the following colleges and universities outside of California:

Colleges and Universities Outside of California			
American University Amherst College Bard College Belmont University Bennington College Boston College Boston University Bryant University Caldwell University Case Western Reserve University Chaminade University of Honolulu Charleston Southern University Chatham University Chestnut Hill College Clark University Cornell College Cornell University DePaul University Drexel University Duke University D'Youville University Emerson College Emory University Florida Institute of Technology Fordham University	Gonzaga University Goucher College Grand Canyon University Hardin-Simmons University Hawaii Pacific University Hofstra University Hult International Business School Illinois Wesleyan University Ithaca College Johns Hopkins University John Cabot University Johnson & Wales University Kenyon College Lawrence University Lehigh University Lewis & Clark College Loyola University New Orleans Macalester College Marian University (Wisconsin) Marist University Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) Marquette University McGill University Middlebury College Mount Holyoke College	New York University (NYU) Northeastern University Notre Dame Oberlin College Ohio Northern University Pace University Princeton University Reed College Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) Sacred Heart University Sarah Lawrence College Seattle Pacific University Seattle University Simon Fraser University Simpson University Smith College St. Andrew's University St. John's University Swarthmore College Syracuse University Temple University Thiel College Tufts University Tulane University	Union College University College Dublin University of Aberdeen University of British Columbia University of Denver University of Edinburgh University of Glasgow University of Guelph University of New England University of New Haven University of Pennsylvania University of Puget Sound University of Rochester University of Stathclyde University of Toronto University of Victoria Vanderbilt University Vassar College Wellesley College Wesleyan University Whitman College Willamette University Williams College Yale University York University

College and Post-Secondary Acceptances

Students in the Class of 2026 reported receiving acceptances to the following career training and workforce development programs:

Career Training and Workforce Development Programs	
<p>Skilled Trades & Apprenticeships Cypress Mandela Training Center Northern California Terence J. O'Sullivan Laborers Training Center Local 342 Apprenticeship Programs</p> <p>Healthcare Career Training: Highway to Work (EMT, CNA, RN Programs)</p> <p>Workforce Development & Employment Programs Rising Sun Center for Opportunity Youth Employment Partnership (YEP) Civicorps OakTown Leaders Bridges Fellowship (BAVC Media)</p>	<p>Community-Based Career & Support Programs Lao Family Community Development Unity Council New Door Ventures Job Corps</p> <p>Career Technical & Industry-Specific Training: Laney College Cosmetology Program Laney College Culinary Arts Program Barber School Programs</p>

*OUSD students have access to a **diverse network** of postsecondary partners that provide **pathways into college, apprenticeships, healthcare careers, skilled trades, workforce development programs, and industry-recognized credential programs**, helping students transition successfully into careers that lead to economic mobility and family-sustaining wages.*



Middle School Highlights

6-8th Grade Improvements

1. Spring iReady Reading (on grade level)

- a. 2023-24 - 25.1%
- b. 2024-25 - 27.9%
- c. 2025-26 - 29.9%

1. Chronic Absence

- a. 2024-25 - 30.67%
- b. 2025-26 - 28.65%

3. Suspended Students

- a. 2023-24 - 443 (7.9%)
- b. 2024-25 - 399 (7.3%)
- c. 2025-26 - 275 (5.1%)
 - i. 124 fewer than last year
 - ii. 168 fewer than two years ago

4. Suspension Incidents

- a. 2023-24 - 770
- b. 2024-25 - 665
- c. 2025-26 - 497
 - i. 168 fewer than last year
 - ii. 273 fewer than two years ago



Pre-K and Elementary Promotion Highlights



CREEO Highlights



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