



OAKLAND PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND

2016-17 Annual Report



OAKLAND
PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND



OUR WORK

The Oakland Public Education Fund leads the development and investment of community resources in Oakland public schools so that all students can learn, grow, and thrive.

As the city's only education fund supporting all Oakland students, our work focuses on resources, partnerships, and community engagement.

The Ed Fund supports all students in Oakland public schools—District-run and charter—with a focus on those furthest from opportunity, because kids who come to school with less need more.



Dear friends,

It seems hard to believe today, but at this time last year the Ed Fund had not yet launched our Oakland School Volunteers program. Since then, nearly 3,000 Oaklanders have signed up to volunteer in schools across our city, many returning to “their schools” throughout the year to form long-term connections with staff and students.

This type of community investment was a constant in 2016-17, and it extended to our local businesses. Salesforce launched a multi-million dollar partnership with the Ed Fund and OUSD to support Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) in our middle schools, while Intel deepened its STEM pathway partnerships in our high schools. As with all of our work, equity is at the heart of these efforts, with an emphasis on boosting STEM success among students historically underrepresented in these pathways.

Data backs up these equity-based strides. Our District-wide graduation rate rose 64.2 percent to 65.7 percent in 2016, with English Language Learner graduation rates jumping 6.5 percent, African-American students’ rate rising by 4.8 percent, and Latino students showing an increase of 3.6 percent. And we know our future graduates have a plan: the number of 10th- and 11th-graders enrolled in Linked Learning college and career pathways is up more than 10 percent.

Most importantly, none of these milestones are frozen in time. Collaboration with Salesforce, Intel, and other partners grows stronger, we add new Oakland School Volunteers every week, and we expect more young women and students of color to enter STEM pathways this fall. Even during a superintendent transition, we kept a steady eye on expanding the work that works for kids—all kids.

As this year proved, public education works best when students, teachers, and the wider community all rally together. When our partnerships are grounded in the data and stories about how our students experience school, we can work together to give our kids the tools they need to thrive.

In partnership,



Brian Stanley
Ed Fund Executive Director



Bob Spencer
Ed Fund Board Chair



Devin Dillon
OUSD Interim Superintendent





PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

As Executive Director Brian Stanley said of Lyft after its drivers delivered 4,500 backpacks to schools: "This is a great community of folks chipping in and doing good work for our city. [The effort] was very cool and very Oakland."

Thanks to Lyft, our schools didn't have to lift a finger this year, leaving them free to do the important work of prepping their campuses for the first day of school.



WE'VE GOT YOUR BACKPACKS... AND PACKS...AND PACKS

In August, in the span of a few hours, 4,500 supply-filled backpacks found their way to Oakland schools in time for the first day of school.

Our 4th Annual Backpack Drive was a true community effort: Family Giving Tree donated all the packs and Ninja Movers trucked them to Tech Exchange, which was once again gracious enough to store them. Finally, volunteer Lyft drivers—grandparents, college professors, moms with their kids—delivered them to 80 campuses across our city.

Beyond being our biggest giveaway ever, it also drew the most attention, with KTVU and other news outlets visiting and covering the event.

"It truly was a pleasure working with y'all, from start to finish. We received a lot of feedback this week saying how much people enjoyed the event and the opportunity to give back to the community. We know it could not have been possible without your partnership and the amount of work your team put into the event behind the scenes."

- John Yeun
Assistant Finance Manager,
The Clorox Company



BACK-TO-SCHOOL VOLUNTEER POWER

This year's Back-to-School Volunteer Drive was bigger than ever—and perfectly timed.

The impressive turnout—350 volunteers at 30 schools over three days in August—was a fitting backdrop for the launch of our Oakland School Volunteers program that same month. Volunteers came out to garden, help set up classrooms, put up bulletin boards, prep common spaces, and help an entire school move into a new building. The volunteer days saw teams from Clif Bar, Pandora, Kaiser Permanente, and more visit campuses to get them ready for the first day of school.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Clorox led the back-to-school charge in 2016, sending nearly 150 volunteers to help Glenview Elementary move into its temporary home on the old Santa Fe campus. The Clorox team spent a full day transforming the space by organizing classrooms, installing new garden planters, repainting campus murals, beautifying the playground—and scouring just about everything.





READ-INS TAKE ROOT CITYWIDE

Our favorite story from this year's Read-Ins happened outside of the classroom.

On the last day of our 2nd annual Asian Pacific American Literature Read-In Week in May, our Executive Director Brian Stanley heard from a colleague who was in a meeting where nearly all 40 attendees had participated in a Read-in this school year!

Our intention when we started organizing Read-Ins three years ago was to create a fun way for people across Oakland to feel connected to our schools and invested in students' success. This year showed that our intention is taking root and growing strong.

Through our three Read-Ins in 2016-17 (Latinx in October, African-American in February, and Asian Pacific American in May), we:

- Engaged 1,015 volunteers, including corporate teams, local authors, and individual community members—a 56% increase over last year—to read in classrooms.
- Brought 260 volunteer read-alouds, cross-grade buddy reading, and other culturally-relevant literacy celebrations to classrooms across Oakland.
- Deepened our partnerships with local organizations and public leaders like Mayor Libby Schaaf and new OUSD Superintendent Kyla Johnson-Trammell.
- Featured a record number of local authors and illustrators—always popular with kids, who get inspired to write their own stories!

We're very thankful for everyone who took part in this year's Read-Ins and helped us grow a book-loving culture in Oakland schools.

ANG PAGBASA AY KAPANGYARIHAN 閱讀賦予力量 Đọc sách mang lại năng lực การอ่านคือជាថាមពល

READING IS POWER

2nd Annual

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
LITERATURE READ-IN

MAY 8-12, 2017

#ReadingIsPower #OaklandReads
www.oaklandedfund.org/read

Photo ©2017 Hasain Rasheed Photography



OAKLAND SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Building on the momentum created during our Read-Ins, Back-to-School Clean-Up Days, and other volunteer events, the Ed Fund was excited to launch Oakland School Volunteers in August.

Through the program, we now manage all volunteering in Oakland public schools. Oakland School Volunteers helps community members find a school that's a good match, gives them ongoing support and information about new volunteer opportunities, and provides training—something school volunteers have never been offered before.

Between August 2016 and June 2017, we signed up nearly 3,000 volunteers, hosted several campus-wide clean-up days, and brought more readers than ever into schools for Read-Ins. All told, Oakland School Volunteers reached 94 percent of Oakland public schools in its first year.



Oakland School Volunteers also gave local businesses an opportunity to give back. Through our Adopt an Oakland School program, we helped teams at several companies (Salesforce, Broadly.com, 1st United Credit Union, and more) create ongoing volunteer relationships with individual schools.

To recruit volunteers, the Ed Fund used its storytelling experience to highlight the impact and joy of giving back, including launching “Volunteer Voices,” where volunteers share their experiences in Oakland schools.

Visit www.oaklandedfund.org/volunteer to learn more.



"I've learned a big lesson from volunteering: that even though I might feel inadequate, the most valuable thing I can offer is to be consistent and care. That's what's been most valuable, to the [students] and to me."

- Jessica Slice
*Community Volunteer of the Year,
Urban Promise Academy*





“[Adopting an Oakland school] has provided opportunities to strengthen the team building within our company, reinforce our connection to Oakland’s community, share our profession with potential future architects and planners, work with an invested school and their staff, and gain new knowledge from an exciting and energetic bunch of 6th-graders.”

– Cindy Ma, *Senior Planner at KTGy*
(Adopted Madison Park Business & Art Academy)

ADOPT AN OAKLAND SCHOOL: A NATURAL NEXT STEP

Even before we had launched Oakland School Volunteers, we had local companies stepping up to lead big volunteer projects like campus clean-up days. We took this momentum to the next level through Adopt an Oakland School, which matches local businesses with individual schools and helps them coordinate volunteer projects that have the most impact for kids.

Teams at companies like Salesforce, Broadly, and 1st United Credit Union all adopted Oakland schools this year, bringing out volunteers in big numbers for Read-Ins, career days, Back-to-School cleanup days, and more. With the Ed Fund coordinating these structured, consistent opportunities, businesses were able to make lasting, meaningful connections with students and staff at their adopted schools. Along the

way, we were proud to partner with the **Oakland Chamber of Commerce** to connect even more businesses with schools.

On our website and social media channels, we highlighted groups that adopted schools throughout the year, and compiled year-end “impact reports” to celebrate each partnership in stories and photos.



A WARM WELCOME FOR NEWCOMERS

We believe kids who come to school with less need more—a situation truer for newcomer students than any. Of the many challenges recent immigrant students face, having a warm coat and backpack should not be among them.

To address that need for the ever-increasing number of newcomers in OUSD, this fall we launched our 2nd Annual Newcomer Supply Drive with OUSD's Refugee and Aslyee office and new partners at Roonga. We raised more than \$10,000,

and (thanks to Roonga's special bulk pricing and delivery service) were able to quickly get all the winter coats, supply-filled backpacks, and Spanish-English dictionaries into newcomers' hands so they could show up to school ready to learn.

"We can't tell you how meaningful it is for families to receive coats [and school supplies.] It's been so cold and wet lately and the coats allow kids to feel warm and comfortable on these winter days, while the backpacks make them feel equipped for school and equal to their peers."

– OUSD Refugee and Aslyee program



THE ED FUND'S 2ND ANNUAL GALA

Our 2nd Annual Gala on October 1 had it all.

From the welcoming committee of Skyline High School cheerleaders to the student drummers from Frick Impact Academy and Roots International Academy to our masterful student emcees, De'Aunte and Alondra, the Ed Fund's 2nd Annual Gala put Oakland students—all 50,000 of them—front and center.

In this spirit, that evening we launched our A to Z Fund, a citywide effort to give all students the opportunities—from art to music to work-based learning—they need to thrive. As Mayor Libby Schaaf told our guests, "Oakland, this is our moonshot. This is what every child deserves, and you are making that possible tonight. Right now is the time to invest in all Oakland schools."

The gala raised \$33,000 for the A to Z Fund, which we put to quick use in awarding our first round of mini-grants to teachers later in the school year.

Less measurable, but equally exciting, was the energy in the beautiful Scottish Rite Center for this nighttime, weekend gala. Nearly 400 guests packed the room to raise their paddles, dress to the nines, and rise to the glamorous occasion for Oakland students.



**A big congratulations to our
2016 Community Partner
of the Year, the East Bay
Community Foundation,
and special thanks to our
Gala Host Committee:**

*Jose Corona, Director of Equity &
Strategic Partnerships, Oakland Mayor's Office*

*Valerie Goode, Deputy Chief of Communications
& Public Affairs, Oakland Unified School District*

Dale Marie Golden, Vice President, Bridge Bank

*Jose Gordon, Executive Director,
Golden State Warriors Community Foundation*

*Esther Gulli, Executive Director,
Government and Community Relations, UC Berkeley*

*Jacqueline Minor, Legal Advisor,
Oakland Unified School District*

*Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator,
Contra Costa County and Director, Oakland Unified
School District Board of Education, District 1*

*Dan Quigley, Senior Program Officer,
East Bay Community Foundation*

*Brian Rogers, Chief Executive Officer,
The Rogers Family Foundation*

*Shonda Scott, CEO and Founder,
360 Total Concept Consulting*

*Nancy Skinner, Former California State Assemblymember
and Candidate for California State Senate*

*Amy Tharpe, Director of Social Responsibility,
Port of Oakland*

*Stacey Wang, Advisor to the Superintendent,
Oakland Unified School District*





CREATING OPPORTUNITY FROM A TO Z

We launched our A to Z Fund this year to give Oakland public schools money they can use for camping trips, music, sports, and other underfunded opportunities from A to Z.

The need for equity is clear. Fourteen schools, concentrated in Oakland's wealthiest neighborhoods, raised more than \$4 million in one school year. Meanwhile, 75 percent of Oakland students attended a school that raised less than \$10,000 that same year.

We believe kids who come to school with less need more. While every Oakland public school will benefit from the A to Z Fund, we will distribute more money

to schools with the most students who are low-income, English language learners, or in foster care.

After an exciting launch at our 2016 Gala, the A to Z Fund grew quickly through the fall thanks to our community of donors. By the new year, we were ready to give away our first round of mini-grants.

Altogether, we granted nearly \$33,000 for 25 amazing projects that supported Oakland students to dream bigger and explore possibilities they might not have imagined otherwise.

“Our A to Z Fund grant came at the perfect moment. We didn’t have the money for our bus, and we were getting a little panicky. Then I got the email about the A to Z grants, I applied that day, and we got the grant. I can’t tell you how much stress that took off our entire staff. I’m so grateful, and I don’t know what our environmental justice unit would be without this trip.”

- Hanna Sufrin, *Teacher, Acorn Woodland Elementary*



Among the learning experiences A to Z Fund mini-grants made possible:

- 3- and 4-year-old gardeners are planting and tending organic broccoli, carrots, and chard at Manzanita Child Development Center, while also growing healthy eating habits, fine motor skills, and more.
- New 20-sided dice are rolling across a new game board while Roses in Concrete students consult their new Monster Manual and Player Handbook in Dungeons & Dragons Club, a fun and interactive way to build math, science, reading, social, and critical thinking skills after school.
- Middle school boys in Alliance Academy’s Manhood Development Program (part of OUSD’s nationally-acclaimed African American Male Achievement initiative) shared a powerful experience of self-discovery, teamwork, bonding, resilience, and overcoming fears on the UC Berkeley ropes course.
- Bella Vista CDC preschool students received new materials for use with the “Loose Parts” curriculum (developed by their teacher!), which encourages practice of scientific method, high-level thinking, and expressive language through play.
- 50 Fremont High School newcomer students took a field trip to watch *I Am Not Your Negro* at Oakland’s historic Grand Lake Theatre and enrich their study of U.S. racial, cultural, and political history.
- Students at Allendale Elementary are enjoying an updated, culturally-relevant book selection in their school library (previously, average publication date of library books was 1992!) and related activities to learn more about global history and holidays.

"I appreciate the opportunity Intel has given us because it empowered me as a girl going into the Computer Science field. I have a mentor who is just like me, and [seeing] a woman succeeding in this field gave me an example to look up to."

- Jennifer, *Oakland Tech Senior*

BUILDING TECH EQUITY

INTEL'S STEM PATHWAY PARTNERSHIPS

In 2015, the Ed Fund partnered with Intel and OUSD to create computer-science and engineering pathway programs at McClymonds and Oakland Technical High Schools to boost the number of girls and students of color in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) pathways.

The partnership's equity-focused impact grew in 2016-17:

- Enrollment in Oakland Tech's Computer Science Academy rose from 55 students to 120.
- Intel deepened its year-round involvement by offering paid summer internships to even more students and expanding field trip opportunities (STEM-based college tours, Maker Faire, Engineering Institute at Georgia Tech, and more).
- District-wide, computer science course enrollment has jumped more than 1,000% in the last two years. Of these students, 45% are young women, 29% identify as African American, and 38% identify as Latinx, an important step toward tech equity.

Visit www.oaklandedfund.org/intel for a closer look at how Intel's partnership has opened doors for Oakland kids.



SALESFORCE AND OUSD MIDDLE SCHOOLS TEAM UP

In September, we partnered with Salesforce to announce a \$2.5 million investment to boost science and math achievement in Oakland's middle schools.

The Ed Fund worked closely with the company to build the vision for this STEM partnership, which includes bringing more computer science classes

and personalized math instruction to Oakland middle schools, as well as a Principal's Innovation Fund at six schools (Bret Harte, Frick, Roosevelt, United for Success, Urban Promise Academy, West Oakland Middle), which principals can use to fund new ideas to support student success.

The partnership is also about people power,

with Salesforce employees pledging to invest 20,000 volunteer hours in schools in Oakland and across the Bay Area. As part of our Adopt an Oakland School Volunteers, the Salesforce team adopted six Oakland schools, organized school clean-up days, hosted students at the Dreamforce conference, and played a key role in our Computer Science Education Week.

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND



In partnership with the Ed Fund, OUSD was determined to make 2016's Computer Science Education Week live up to its name: **BEYOND.**

While the week typically revolves around the "Hour of Code," this year we expanded the offerings beyond the hour, beyond the code. In fact, the week itself stretched to three, with experiences designed to give all students, not just the programmers, a chance to find their place in the tech world.

Unique experiences included a digital animation workshop for teachers hosted by Pixar, West Oakland Middle School (WOMS) students taking a trip to Google's San Francisco campus, and Coliseum College Prep Academy kids visiting Facebook.

Taking the meaning of "Beyond" even further beyond, Dr. Bernard Harris, the first African-

American man to walk in space, connected with McClymonds High students in the Intel engineering pathway about the importance of science and technology and their future careers. Big thanks to Intel for bringing this unique Computer Science Education Week celebration to Mack!

The dynamic week of tech reflects a District-wide, long-term surge in computer-science learning. As a result, more Oakland kids are starting to see themselves as future technology leaders.

"So many people who work at the Googles and Facebooks of the world did not imagine themselves there even three years ago, and definitely not 10 years ago," said Hidden Genius Project Executive Director Brandon Nicholson. "They didn't understand the range of ways to apply their skills and strengths. We're trying to build an entire ecosystem that allows for that, both in school and out of school, so kids can begin to imagine themselves in those spaces."

OUSD Manager of Computer Science Claire Shorall estimates that more than 5,000 students took part in a tech experience during "Beyond" week. As WOMS Computer Science Teacher Kennan Scott said, "Every student at our school had an opportunity to code, create, remix, and build their own unique game."

The Ed Fund was proud to be part of the celebration, helping coordinate many of the volunteer visits through the Oakland School Volunteers program.

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK
DECEMBER 5-9, 2016 // BEYOND CODE





“Computer Science Education Week has served as a catalyst for OUSD schools to add full-year computer science programs and show the indispensability of these courses for our kids.”

Claire Shorall,
OUSD Manager of Computer Science





A RECORD-BREAKING RUNNING FESTIVAL

RAISED \$25,600

This year's Oakland Running Festival was our best yet in terms of the sheer joy on the faces of our student runners.

Many students who ran last year had such a positive experience that they recruited their friends to run, too. Our 2017 team was the biggest ever: 290 people total, 230 of them students. In 2016 we had 100 students and thought that was a lot!

Students gave it their all and made us proud. One great example: Alejandro Leon of Oakland Charter High, who was first in his age group in last year's 5K, this year was first in his age group in the half marathon! Another was tiny Yahaira from Acorn Woodland Elementary who was thrilled with her first 5K finish: "I didn't think I was going to make it, but I made it!"

We were honored to be selected by Corrigan Sports Enterprises and Kaiser Permanente as an official Oakland Running Festival charity partner. Their generous support meant that for the third year in a row—in spite of the unanticipated increase in runners—we were able to once again cover all race fees for every student who wanted to run.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: RUNNING FOR A BETTER OAKLAND

Student runners weren't out on the course alone—among the many amazing things our training partners Running for a Better Oakland (RBO) provide to student runners are mentors who train and run with them. Mentors and mentees high-fived after crossing the finish line, and one pair were already excitedly talking about training tweaks they could make to do even better next year!



www.rboakland.org



TECH EQUITY SHOWCASE WITH REV. JESSE JACKSON

In support of OUSD's vision to promote equity in Computer Science (CS) education, the Ed Fund stewarded partnerships with companies like Salesforce and Intel to bring vital investment of funds and knowledge and put the right tools into the hands of our highest-need students.

As a result, OUSD is at the forefront of equity in CS education, and enrollment in CS courses has increased over 1000% in the last two years. Of students enrolled in CS, 45% are young women, 29% identify as African American, and 38% identify as Latinx, in line with overall district representation (48%, 25.9%, and 41.8%, respectively)—one important measure of equity.

In April, we joined the Rev. Jesse Jackson and his PUSHTech 2020 initiative and OUSD to host the first Oakland Public Schools Computer Science Showcase, part of Tech EQUity Week, a national collaboration initiated by Rainbow PUSH and Qeyno Labs.

Students presented their projects to a crowd of educators, community supporters, and tech leaders from companies like Pixar, Google, 3DR, Microsoft, and others. A panel discussion featured representatives from Intel, Salesforce, and SAP, who shared highlights of their partnership with Oakland schools. OUSD Computer Science Manager Claire Shorall closed with an overview of Oakland's tech equity strides to date—and where she hopes to take them next.



NEW WAYS TO APPRECIATE

This May, we took our annual Teacher Appreciation Month to the next level.

As in past years, we kicked off the thanking early, with hundreds of students and community members writing thank-you cards to teachers at our Oakland Running Festival tent on April 2.

We also sweetened the deal this year by helping parents, volunteers, and local businesses bring "Teacher Treats" to schools. As expected, the community got creative:

- Salesforce volunteers hosted United for Success Academy teachers on its San Francisco campus for a tour, happy hour, and special gifts. Salesforce volunteers also brought a taco truck to West Oakland Middle School for a teacher appreciation lunch, along with some more swag. The events were a fitting way to cap off Salesforce's year-long Adopt an Oakland School relationship with these two schools.
- Team members from Oakland-based tech company Broadly visited their adopted school, Lafayette Elementary, to help students surprise their teachers with hand-crafted thank-you cards.
- OUSD's Early Childhood Education team prepared special teacher treats for our educators who work with Oakland's littlest learners. They were thrilled to receive them: *"Got mine today!"* posted a preschool teacher on Facebook. *"Thank you so much. I felt loved."*



TEACHERS

Then, on May 25, we hosted our biggest Teacher Appreciation Party yet (and our fourth annual). A record 800 teachers gathered for the sold-out event at the Oakland Museum of California, which featured games, food, awards, and a surprise visit by the beloved Oakland A's mascot, Stomper!

Another highlight of the night (and month): our first-ever People's Choice Oakland Teacher Award winners. Throughout May, we invited Oakland students, parents, and other educators to tell us why their teacher is amazing. Each of the five winners received a \$1,000 classroom grant and pizza party.

Reading the nomination letters made us appreciate Oakland teachers even more. Here's an excerpt from a nomination for Yvonne Moultrie, a teacher at Lighthouse Community Charter School:

This year under [Yvonne's] leadership, 2nd-grade students explored not only water formation but the scientific and social challenges facing the Flint, Michigan community. She also led the development of an identity unit...which guided students through an understanding of the role of activists of color and supported our students to envision themselves as activists, which concluded with a self-portrait and a final written product to share their roles as change-makers in our society.

Oakland teachers are changing the world, and we're honored to help them do it!



DRESSED BY WEST PROM DRESS GIVEAWAY

Watching her daughter, Star, an Oakland High senior, try on a series of beautiful dresses in the Oakland High gym, Monique Selvin told us, "I didn't get to go to my prom because I had just given birth to Star and I was working full time while trying to finish school. I'm so happy that Star will be going to her prom. This event is a big help—senior year is expensive!"

Monique and Star were among the 700-plus people who came through the doors of the gym for Oakland's first Dressed by West prom dress giveaway in April. The Ed Fund team was thrilled to partner with Lesley West and the Golden State Warriors to bring this fun, positive event to our community.

By the end of the day, nearly 350 high school students had gone home with their perfect prom dress, a gift bag full of beauty products, and big smiles.

Because this event came together on a tight timeline, we were a little concerned about having enough volunteer support. We shouldn't have worried: Oakland community runs deep. Not only did volunteers help out with the event, community members helped spread the word widely on social media.

Local media took notice of all the talk, too. Both the San Francisco Chronicle and the Sacramento Bee covered the event, and KTVU's Amber Lee interviewed Oakland students and Lesley West for a segment on the evening news.



CARS AT PIXAR

Thanks to the community-minded movie makers behind the wheel at Pixar Animation Studios, we invited 250 Ed Fund supporters to join us at Pixar's Emeryville campus in June—and we're still not over it!

It's not every day that Pixar releases a new movie; when they do, the slots available for these benefit events are few. So you can see why we're still feeling incredibly grateful that they gave us this chance.

Guests took selfies with LEGO Buzz and Woody, ate delicious food, bid on unique auction items donated by Pixar, and enjoyed an exclusive sneak-peek screening of "Cars 3" in the state-of-the-art Steve Jobs Theater.

The best part is that we had fun AND raised funds to support students and teachers in Oakland's public schools. Of course, that's just how we do parties here at the Ed Fund, but this event was a once-in-a-blue-moon opportunity to celebrate with current supporters and welcome new ones.

Our most animated thanks to Pixar for supporting the Ed Fund and championing Oakland kids!





OAKLAND STARTING SMART AND STRONG

Now in its second year, the Oakland Starting Smart and Strong Initiative (OSSSI) deepened its work in pursuing “a future where every Oakland child starts kindergarten ready to learn, grow, and thrive.”

The Ed Fund continued to lead the project management for the initiative, which established itself this year as the “citywide table” that brings together the leading partners committed to early childhood education (ECE) in Oakland. Growing into that role, OSSSI added a staff member and created an executive committee to support the work of getting Oakland’s youngest learners ready for kindergarten.

Backed by the Hellman, Packard, and Rainin Foundations, OSSSI’s network of more than 100 partners collaborated on a range of projects, including:

- Professional development for Child Development Centers (CDC), with a new focus on trauma-informed teaching
- Increased focus on work in the “informal care community,” offering support for innovative community-based parent engagement and leadership projects
- Use of data to inform the work, including the pilot of the Ages and Stages Questionnaire at 19 preschools
- Deeper integration of ECE into the wider pre-K-12 system

True to its founding goal of “creating universal access to high-quality early learning,” the team also laid out plans for a system of universal preschool across Oakland, which City and District leaders hope to launch in 2018.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OPEN HOUSE

The Ed Fund's Community Schools Open House in January showcased the work of OSSSI and OUSD's Early Childhood Education (ECE) department.

Through breakout sessions on literacy, nutrition education, social-emotional support, and more happening in our preschools, the Open House highlighted the unique ways OUSD is preparing our youngest students for success in kindergarten and beyond.

The session on reading highlighted the Literacy Lab learning stations being used in all 55 pre-K sites. With its innovative blend of texting, tablets, and other tools, the program is building out customized reading support for students and their families, particularly English Language Learners.

"I'm excited to [bring] Literacy Lab to libraries," said Laurie Willhalm of the Oakland Public Library after the Open House. "We're already supporting this [Early Childhood Education] work with storytimes and playgroups, but the more connections we can make the better."

"[This Open House] was an awesome overview of all the wonderful things occurring in the ECE department," said ECE Site Administrator Ofelia Asencios-Mendoza. "Even as an inside person I feel like 'Wow, this is what we're doing and how they all connect'...It's really good to see."





THE CENTER

In 2016-17, The Center—a central kitchen, instructional farm, and education center to serve all OUSD schools—broke ground in West Oakland. While construction of the building has been slower than planned, the Center is expected to open in Winter 2018-2019.

The Ed Fund has continued to project manage the development of the Center, and this year convened a cross-departmental team that made exciting progress on an innovative instructional curriculum. Through a hands-on approach to learning, the Center will provide OUSD students with diverse and integrated health, science, and nutrition programming that will improve student health and well-being as well as prepare students for academic, career, and life success.

The project is being studied by a team of researchers who were awarded a prestigious research grant from the Berkeley Food Institute at UC Berkeley. The Center is the hub of OUSD's "Rethinking School Lunch Oakland" (RSLO), a visionary approach to reform the District's nutrition program. The study will help OUSD (as well as other school districts nationally) address issues of food justice, health equity, and career pathways in agriculture through school lunch reform.

As one of the nation's most diverse school districts, OUSD is becoming a model for new possibilities in urban public education, school nutrition, and linked learning, and the Center will strengthen our district's leadership.

OAKLAND EDUCATION FUNDERS FORUM

In partnership with the East Bay Community Foundation, the Ed Fund hosted another full year of quarterly forums to keep funders up to date on the progress, challenges, and funding needs of Oakland public schools.

To offer clearer paths to action and collaboration, this year we made a deeper effort to center meetings around specific areas in need of funding. For example, our December Funders Forum focused on the hundreds of recently immigrated students welcomed into OUSD this year, with Refugee & Asylee Program Specialist Nate Dunstan, Newcomer Program Director Tom Hughes, and Oakland International High School Principal Carmelita Reyes joining us to give the room a clear picture of the District's needs and how funders can plug in. Similarly, our March Funders Forum outlined partnership possibilities to support summer programs and linked learning internships.

This year's meetings also offered a space for District leadership to share OUSD's priorities and plans during a superintendent transition. Throughout the year we welcomed Board President James Harris, Interim Superintendent Devin Dillon, and new Superintendent Kyla Johnson-Trammell to offer their thoughts on navigating the transition.



FISCAL SPONSORSHIP

The Ed Fund is proud to be the 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor for a range of Oakland public schools, OUSD departments, and education-focused projects—more than **70+ active fiscally sponsored projects in 2016-17** in all. As their fiscal sponsor, we help these partners responsibly manage the funds they hold with us. And as a small, independent nonprofit, we are able to respond quickly and flexibly when they need to pay for materials or hire people. When they need to move fast—which is often—we are here to help.

All of the projects we serve do work aligned with our mission to support public education in Oakland. By acting as fiscal sponsor and providing financial and human resources capacity, we free these projects to maximize their focus on Oakland schools and students.

AMONG THE PROJECTS WE'RE PROUD TO SERVE AS A FISCAL SPONSOR ARE:



The **Oakland Promise** is a cradle-to-career initiative that aims to triple the number of college graduates from Oakland within the next decade. Their Brilliant Baby, Kindergarten to College, and Future Centers programs promote a college-oriented mindset, and Oakland Promise scholarships ensure higher education is financially accessible to many more students as OUSD's graduation rate climbs.



Tech Exchange is dedicated to providing digital equity to all East Bay residents. Through their environmentally sustainable, re-use model, they refurbish donated computers and provide them to families, schools, and community organizations at low cost or for free.

African American Male Achievement is an ambitious project that creates the systems, structures, and spaces that dramatically improve academic and ultimately life outcomes for all African American male students in OUSD. OUSD is the first district in the United States to create an initiative that specifically addresses the needs of African American male students, and AAMA has drawn national acclaim.



The **Radical Monarchs** is a network of troops that create opportunities for girl-identified youth of color in 3rd-5th grades to form fierce sisterhood, celebrate their identities, and contribute radically to their communities.



2016-17 FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

REVENUE, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT	ED FUND CORE OPERATIONS	FISCALLY SPONSORED PROJECTS & PROGRAMS	TOTAL
Family and grant-making foundations & organizations	564,000	15,091,000	15,655,000
Individuals & local businesses	209,000	764,000	973,000
Local government agencies	0	128,000	128,000
Special events (net)	26,000	511,000	537,000
Investment income	0	2,271,000	2,271,000
Earned revenue	1,459,000	1,047,000	2,506,000
Total Revenue, gains, and other support	2,258,000	19,812,000	22,070,000
ED FUND EXPENDITURES	FISCALLY SPONSORED CORE OPERATIONS	PROJECTS & PROGRAMS	TOTAL
Programs	641,000	18,884,000	19,525,000
Management & General	459,000	0	459,000
Fundraising	366,000	0	366,000
Total Expenditures	1,466,000	18,884,000	20,350,000
Change in net assets	792,000	928,000	1,720,000

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017. *These are unaudited financials. Audited financials will be placed on our website when available.*

“THANK YOU for the support [the Ed Fund] showed Madison Park Academy’s Athletic Department and the quickness whereby you ensured purchase of much-needed items... The timing couldn’t have been better: it was our last home game for this season and finally our field was complete with all the trimmings of the sport! [The field] looked beautiful and professional, and it would not have happened without your support.”

- Madison Park Academy Athletics Department



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