



OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Conference Scheduled: COVID-19 Relief Fund for Oakland Kids & Schools Raises \$1,500,000; Now Sets a Much Higher Target

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The Oakland Public Education Fund, in partnership with the Oakland Unified School District and the City of Oakland, has raised over \$1,500,000 for a COVID-19 Relief Fund to support vulnerable Oakland students and families impacted by the coronavirus crisis. Now, the Ed Fund and the District are setting their sights even higher because the need here in Oakland continues to grow.

The COVID-19 Relief Fund for Oakland Students and Schools is now raising an additional \$2.5 million to continue providing food and cash assistance, as well as laptops and internet access to all high school juniors and seniors in the city. "We are seizing this moment to address the digital divide in our City," adds Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf, "because that is what our children and families deserve."

There is a press conference set for Tuesday morning.

So far, major donors include the Jewish Community Federation & Endowment Fund, the Stupski Foundation, NewSchools Venture Fund, the Kapor Center, the Hellman Foundation, and almost 1,000 individual donors from around the country. "Our community is caring for each other in unprecedented ways," said Alexandria Medina, Interim Executive Director at the Oakland Public Education Fund. "Together we are keeping our kids fed and engaged in learning."

The Oakland Ed Fund is disbursing \$600,000 in rapid cash assistance, equitably distributed to the highest needs families across our school sites, and with special attention to homeless and immigrant families. The COVID-19 Relief Fund is also supporting the school district's twice-weekly food distribution program which has already provided more than 700,000 meals, plus bags of groceries to 14,000 families.

With schools closed at least through the end of the school year, the COVID-19 Relief Fund has launched a new phase of the campaign that includes the goal of addressing the digital divide for Oakland students. "We have far too many students without computers and internet access," explained OUSD Superintendent Kyla Johnson-Trammell. "Even after distributing much of our classroom inventory to our students, we still have several thousand students needing devices and access."

Community members, businesses, and philanthropic organizations are encouraged to learn more - and donate - at www.oaklandedfund.org or by texting "Oakland" to 31996.

the Zoom link is: <https://zoom.us/j/98907203300> and the meeting ID is 989-0720-3300

About the Oakland Public Education Fund:

The Oakland Public Education Fund ("the Ed Fund") leads the development and management of community resources in Oakland public schools so that all students can learn, grow, and thrive. Learn more at www.oaklandedfund.org

About the Oakland Unified School District

In California's most diverse city, Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) is dedicated to creating a learning environment where "Every Student Thrives!" We are committed to preparing all students for college, career and community success. www.ousd.org