

OAKLAND NOT FOR SALE

Our coalition stands with thousands of Oaklanders to demand:

1. STOP SCHOOL CLOSURES

Scrap OUSD's "Blueprint for Quality Schools" and declare a moratorium on school closures until the summer of 2022, giving time for us to assess the impact of the Schools and Communities First Act, if it passes in November, 2020.

2. STOP THE CHARTER SCHOOL TAKEOVER

Reverse the Community of Schools board policy BP6006, that will help turn the rest of our public schools over to charter school management companies.

3. END THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE

Don't fund the Alameda County probation camp while starving public schools. Eliminate OUSD police in accordance with the **Black Organizing Project's** People's Plan and redirect the OUSD police budget to restorative practices at high-need schools.

4. LET THE PEOPLE SEE THE MONEY

Involve the People of Oakland in reforming and making decisions around OUSD finances.

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Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) management claim they must close schools to save money due to the district's financial problems. However, the District ended last year with a \$21 million budget surplus, and has ended 5 of the last 6 years with a surplus as well. OUSD received \$4,285 more revenue per pupil than the median in Alameda – the second highest among our county's districts. Per-student funding has increased by 46% since 2012-13, growing faster over this period than a large majority of districts statewide.

They claim they need to "right size" the District because it has declining enrollment. But according to OUSD data, overall student enrollment has increased by 4200 students since 2004. Of course, public school enrollment in itself is decreasing, but that is caused by the expansion of the charter industry in our city. Furthermore, both OUSD's own studies and third-party research show that school closures do not even save money, and they result in the loss of students and qualified employees.

Yes, there are financial problems in our District – manufactured ones. OUSD has exhibited egregious fiscal mismanagement for years. In 2017-18, **the District spent about \$95 million more on non-classroom costs than the median amount spent by 37 Bay Area districts.** The charter schools in Oakland are causing a waste of \$57 million a year in funding. If that wasn't enough, the added cost to public schools of serving the high-needs students that charters neglect to serve has run up to an additional \$51 million. Considering that the total budget of OUSD is around \$736 million, this is an enormous squandering of our public resources and neglect of our students.

In September 2019, the OUSD School Board voted to continue to close and consolidate schools, moving forward with their so-called "Blueprint for Quality Schools" and "Citywide Plan." The District's plan arises from the lobbying efforts of billionaire privatizers who seek to expand charter school growth in Oakland at the expense of neighborhood public schools. Since 2004, 18 Oakland public schools have been closed by OUSD, and more than half of them have been replaced by charter schools, causing violent displacement and increased segregation. Today, one-third of the city's schools are charter schools.

The real agenda of the current OUSD Board is not to create quality schools or support our kids, but to hand our public education to the corporations and billionaires who funded their election campaigns. **They are turning public education into a business for profit.**

Sources linked at: oaklandnotforsale.com/more-info

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