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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Are we against charter schools?

We are not against any particular charter school. Like public schools, some charter schools perform well and others poorly. We understand that families have to make difficult decisions when their only choices are a low-performing public school or a charter school.

We are against the charter industry. Although there are some charter schools that offer high-quality programs, the corporate charter organizations are increasingly dominating the education system. This not only diverts money from our classrooms, but hands our schools to direct corporate control, leaving parents, teachers and students out of the picture. The charter industry has become a vehicle for privatization, which goes hand in hand with gentrification and segregation.

Privatizers and their false "choices"

Charter advocates say that many public schools have failed our kids - especially in Black and Brown communities. That is true. But this is not because they are public - it is because they are starved for resources. Class sizes are too large, and schools lack the support staff needed to properly serve our kids.

Since the '90s, charter investors have been taking advantage of our public education crisis and offering a false "solution" that is making things much worse. They shine a light on the few high-performing charter schools to hide the fact that charters do not outperform public schools in general, even though charter schools systematically avoid high-needs students – especially students with disabilities. **Everyone should be able to choose to send their kids to a quality neighborhood school.** The charter industry is making that choice even less available to most people than it was before.

Since the charter industry took over OUSD, our district has been wasting over \$95 million a year on non-classroom costs. The waste due to charters in Oakland adds up to another \$57 million! This is harming all families, whatever school they choose.

Facts about the charter industry:

- Overall, charters do not outperform public schools.
- Charter schools are more racially segregated than public schools.
- Students of color in charter schools are disciplined and punished at higher rates than public school students. Black students are targeted the most.
- The charter school industry is full of fraud and corruption: fraud and waste in California's charter schools has reached over \$149 million.
- Many charter operators and their affiliates have used public funds to obtain and privately own urban real estate.

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