

MEASURES N AND H – COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS COMMISSION

1016 Union Street, #940
Oakland, CA 94607



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Measures N and H – College & Career Readiness Commission

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October 6, 2026

Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District
Honorable Jennifer Brouhard, President
Honorable Valarie Bachelor, Vice President
Honorable Rachal Latta, Director
Honorable VanCedric Williams, Director
Honorable Mike Hutchinson, Director
Honorable Patrice Berry, Director
Honorable Clifford Thompson, Director

Oakland Unified School District
1011 Union Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Re: Demand to Restore ~\$3.5 Million to the Measure N/H College & Career Readiness Reserve

Dear President Brouhard and Members, Governing Board:

We write as the Oakland College & Career Readiness Commission — the independent oversight body established by Oakland voters under Measure N (2014) and Measure H (2022) — to formally demand that the Board restore the ~\$3.5 million to the Oakland College & Career Readiness For All Account that was removed from the Measure's reserve accounts last June.

As a reminder, the District used the ~\$3.5M from the Account to pay for expenses that had already been paid for through the District's general fund.

Why This Was Unlawful

Measure H conditions every school-based expenditure from the College & Career Account on a mandatory sequence that the District did not follow:

- The funds were not allocated on a per-pupil basis to eligible schools as the Measure expressly requires;
- The expenditures were not grounded in any school's Commission-approved Annual Education Improvement Plan as required by Measures N and H;

- The District proceeded after the Commission expressly declined to pass a motion authorizing this use of funds;
- Using restricted parcel tax revenue to backfill general operating expenses is precisely the supplantation that Measures N and H prohibit. This prohibition was put in place precisely to ensure that the community's additional investment in college and career readiness is not met by the District simply cutting high school funding by that same amount.

Further, eligible charter schools, which hold an independent per-pupil proportional entitlement to these funds under the Measure's allocation formula, may have also been denied their lawful share.

The Broader Obligation to Oakland's Voters

Oakland voters are generously supporting three active parcel taxes and multiple bond programs because they trust that the District will honor the specific terms under which that support was given. The District will likely return to those same voters to seek future support, such as renewing Measure G1.

By returning the ~\$3.5 million to the Account, the School Board has an opportunity to demonstrate that it takes its obligations to voters seriously. This parcel tax has supported marked improvements for Oakland students, and we don't want to see that progress and the trust of the Oakland voters jeopardized by the School Board's failure to act

Every parcel tax dollar diverted from a restricted fund, every plan bypassed, every oversight body overruled, makes that future support harder to earn.

Measure H passed because voters were told their dollars would flow directly to individual schools, on a per-pupil basis, through a transparent process overseen by an independent Commission. Those were not aspirational commitments. They were conditions written into the Measure. This Commission exists to enforce them, not for the sake of process, but to ensure that the District meets its obligation to Oakland students and taxpayers alike.

What We Are Asking

We respectfully demand that the Board:

1. Place this matter on a regular Board agenda for public discussion and action to restore the full ~\$3.5 million to the College & Career Account;
2. Direct staff to provide the Commission with a complete accounting of all funds swept, the schools and expenditures affected, and the methodology applied; and
3. Confirm in writing that no further funds will be expended from the College & Career Account except through the Measure's required per-pupil allocation process, pursuant to a Commission-approved Education Improvement Plan;

We request written confirmation of the Board's response by November 11, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kakishiba
Chair, Oakland College & Career Readiness Commission

Marc Tafolla
Vice Chair, Oakland College & Career Readiness Commission

James Harris
Secretary, Oakland College & Career Readiness Commission

Gary Yee
Commissioner, Oakland College & Career Readiness Commission

Tony Douangviseth
Commissioner, Oakland College & Career Readiness Commission

cc: Alysse Castro, Alameda County Superintendent of Schools Allan Garde, Alameda County Associate
Superintendent of Business Services Dr. Denise Saddler, Interim Superintendent, OUSD Jenine Lindsey, General
Counsel, OUSD