



# OCS Update

From the Office of Charter Schools, Oakland Unified School District



The mission of the Office of Charter Schools (OCS) is to first, fulfill the obligations of a quality authorizer ensuring high quality schools are the established norm for Oakland's charter schools by protecting their autonomy in exchange for strong accountability and second, act as a vehicle by which charter school lessons have a positive impact on the entire public school system.

TENTH EDITION

AUGUST 2012

If you have feedback on the format or content, please let us know ([gail.greely@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:gail.greely@ousd.k12.ca.us)).

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Charter Leader Welcome: August 21<sup>st</sup>**

Get it on your calendar! OCS's annual Charter Leader Welcome is schedule this year for August 21<sup>st</sup>, at Tilden Educational Center's auditorium, from 4 to 6:30 pm. This year's meeting will include new materials on charter oversight and monitoring protocols, plus an opportunity for you to connect with other charter leaders on specific issues of common concern. Refreshments provided.

### **Annual Charter Leader Survey: PLEASE RESPOND**

Back in July we sent out the annual OCS Charter Leader Survey that helps our office to evaluate and improve its performance. In the past, we've shared the results of this survey at the Charter Leader Welcome. Unfortunately, we have had few responses to date. Please take a few minutes to click on the below link to access the survey:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dGV3c2tYbXFSYk92Yk9kSnd4SWV2cHc6MQ>

### **Student Cum Folders from Closing OUSD Schools**

A note for all charter schools that may be welcoming students coming from OUSD schools closed for 2012-2013: to obtain cum folders for students coming to you from Santa Fe, Lakeview, Maxwell Park, Lazear or Marshall, please contact Denise Saddler at [denise.saddler@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:denise.saddler@ousd.k12.ca.us).

## KEY UPCOMING DATES

- **August 21:** Oakland Charter Leaders Welcome 4 pm – 6:00 pm; Tilden Educational Center Auditorium
- **August 23:** Attendance Month 1a due to Minh Co, if school started before 8/22 (**signed**)
- **August 31:** Board approved Financial report: Unaudited Actuals for 2011-2012 school year due to OUSD/OCS (2 **signed copies** plus emailed to [Minh.Co@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:Minh.Co@ousd.k12.ca.us))
- **August TBD:** Request for application (RFA) of the 2012-2013 Charter School Facility Grant (SB 740) due to CDE.

- **September 4th, 6th and 11th:** CELDT Administration training. For registration – call 510.451.4164 ext 1108 or email: [ramona.stokes@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:ramona.stokes@ousd.k12.ca.us)

## PEOPLE NEWS

- OCS Compliance Specialist **Guadalupe Navarro** started her maternity leave on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and we are now thrilled to announce the arrival of her baby boy on August 10<sup>th</sup>! Mother and son are doing well. Lupe will be gone until November.
- Please welcome the newest member of OCS team: **Philip Dotson**. Phil is joining us as a Compliance Specialist, with a focus on District-charter partnerships and instructional quality. In addition to participating in the OCS processes for charter renewal and initial petition review, Phil will be acting as liaison between charters and the District in the areas of facilities, special education and other District services. Phil comes to us from Summit Leadership Academy, a charter high school, in Apple Valley, California, where he served as director from 2008. Before that he was a special education teacher at the high school level, plus a track and field coach. Education is a second career for Phil, who earlier served in the Army and as a law enforcement officer.

## POLICY ALERTS

### *From the State Superintendent: Charter-Specific Items in the 2012-2013 State Budget*

An excerpt from Tom Torlakson's August 6<sup>th</sup> communication. For the full text, go to:  
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/el/le/yr12ltr0806.asp>

#### *Charter Schools*

- The budget package provides \$54 million to fund growth in charter school enrollment. Additionally, the budget package authorizes COEs and county treasurers, with approval of the county board of education, to make loan funds available to charter schools in the same manner as for school districts.
- The budget also allows a COE to issue Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS) on behalf of all charter schools over which it has supervisory authority and authorizes charter schools to issue independent TRANS.
- The budget authorizes a charter school to directly seek an exemption from intra-year deferrals and requires the charter authorizer be notified of the request.
- Further, the budget requires the governing board of any school district that is seeking to sell or lease any real property designed to provide direct instruction or instructional support it deems to be surplus property to first offer that property for sale or lease to any charter school that has submitted a written request to the school district to be notified of any surplus property offered for sale or lease by the district.

## RESOURCES

### *OUSD BTSA Induction Program*

OUSD's BTSA program will be enrolling new charter school teachers in its induction program for the 12-13 school year under the terms of an agreement with the charter school. For more information or to submit a Letter of Intent, please contact Kafi Payne at [kafi.payne@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:kafi.payne@ousd.k12.ca.us).

### *OUSD Offers Training for State Assessments*

OUSD will again be making available training for all state assessment to OUSD-authorized charter schools. A calendar and fee schedule will be provided at the Charter Leader Welcome. First up – CELDT training to take place September 4<sup>th</sup> (elementary), 6<sup>th</sup> (middle school) and 11<sup>th</sup> (high school). For registration – call 510.451.4164 ext 1108 or email: [ramona.stokes@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:ramona.stokes@ousd.k12.ca.us)

## CHARTER DATA SNAPSHOT

Statewide rankings and similar schools rankings based on 2010-2011 results were finally released by CDE. Here's how the Oakland charter schools performed on this measure:

School	2010 State Rank Decile	2010 Similar School Decile	2011 State Rank Decile	2011 Similar School Decile
American Indian Public Charter	10	10	10	10
American Indian Public Charter School II	10	10	10	10
American Indian Public High	10		10	10
Aspire Berkley Maynard Academy	7	10	7	10
Aspire Lionel Wilson College Preparatory Academy	8	10	8	10
Conservatory of Vocal/Instrumental Arts	8	10	8	10
KIPP Bridge Charter	9	10	10	10
Lighthouse Community Charter High	6	10	7	10
Oakland Charter Academy	10	10	10	10
Oakland Charter High	10		10	10
World Academy	5	8	6	10
Achieve Academy	5	9	6	9
Aspire Golden State Academy	1	6	4	9
Lighthouse Community Charter	4	8	5	9
Oakland Military Institute, College Preparatory Academy	5	6	6	9
Oakland Unity High	3	7	5	9
North Oakland Community Charter	9	9	9	8
Aspire ERES Academy	1	3	3	7
Aspire Monarch Academy	7	10	4	7
Reems (Ernestine C.) Academy of Technology and Art	1	6	1	6
Aspire Millsmont Academy	3	4	2	4
LPS College Park	1	3	1	3
Oakland School for the Arts	6	1	7	3
Bay Area Technology	2	2	3	2
ARISE High	1	1	1	1
East Oakland Leadership Academy	3	2	5	
East Oakland Leadership Academy High	1		1	

## OUR GOALS 2011-2012

- ✓ OUSD-authorized charter schools will achieve measurable improvement in student achievement.
- ✓ OUSD-authorized charter schools will show improved compliance with federal, state and local requirements.
- ✓ OCS will develop a clear, comprehensive, rigorous set of standards and procedures for its charter authorizing work.
- ✓ OCS will pilot an on-line database containing current information regarding the operation and performance of charter schools in Oakland.
- ✓ OCS will improve communication with OUSD Departments on charter school issues impacting the District.
- ✓ OCS will facilitate the exchange of best practices among OUSD-authorized charter schools through events, communication and coordination with charter organizations.

**Join us for August 21<sup>st</sup> Charter Leader Welcome to help us evaluate our performance and set goals for 2012-2013!**