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# District-Run Innovation Focus Areas

* Middle Schools Models

### Middle School Models Innovation

The Fall Call opens up an opportunity for Middle Schools who meet the eligibility criteria to re-imagine the school experience for their students using the five Quality School Pillars.

**Who to Contact:**

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School Improvement Partner; Middle Schools

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We want all of our Middle Schools to be the schools of choice in Oakland. We need schools who are interested in engaging significant re-design efforts with engaging and exciting options in which Middle School students will excel.

Reimagined schools have the potential to turn around the current patterns of enrollment loss that occur when students leave our schools between 5th and 6th grade. These schools will also contribute to overall enrollment growth for the district.

**INNOVATIONS**

Middle Schools interested in pursuing this opportunity will be focusing on specific middle school models, such as expeditionary learning, International Baccalaureate, personalized learning (not otherwise participating in the NGLC cohort), STEAM, etc. These are only examples. School communities that have already been in dialog about considering these types of models will be most likely prepared to answer the Fall Call 2015-16 process.

In OUSD, we are prioritizing schools that meet the following criteria, for proposal consideration:

* An experienced School Leader with at least one year as principal at current school site.
* Demonstrate elements of an asset-based inclusive school culture.
* Evidence of the Five Quality School Pillars.
* Demonstrated community support.

**Middle School Models Proposals are being considered for a 2017 Cohort 2 Launch Cycle.**

### MIDDLE SCHOOL MODELS CRITERIA

Model must:

* Exist within operating school(s)
* Be replicable and supports must be available to assist in replication, such as curriculum, professional development, and expertise available to assist in program replication design planning
* Serve a population of 60% or more Free-Reduced Lunch population

Demonstrate comparably higher or equally high outcomes in student performance than schools located within same District serving similar Socio-Economic Status population (Proposal may provide chosen performance indicators for comparison) 

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# Engagement Criteria

* **Letter of Interest**
* **Letter of intent**

**ENGAGEMENT CRITERIA**

**PREAMBLE:** The Oakland Unified School District has experienced its greatest success in ***systematically*** improving the performance of schools when it has undertaken efforts to engage and facilitate school communities in a deep and rigorous school design and planning process over an extended period of time. The goal is to engage the community (families, teachers, admin, partner orgs) in creating a well informed road map for the school program design, grounded in principles of equity as defined by closing the achievement gap for all students, that will guide the school in its first several years of implementation. Empowering and increasing school and community capacity is a central outcome of the school design process.

**All teams are responsible for proactively engaging with the community to develop their proposals in order to generate the support required by statute**. Teams who choose to advance in the process will need to present their proposals to their School Site Council, to other applicable staff and at community meetings to receive input and feedback.

**LETTER OF INTEREST**

All teams considering Cohort 1 to launch newly designed programs in **2016** see ***Letter of Intent*** below.

**NOTE:** Prospective 2016 launch teams are NOT required to submit a Letter of Interest.

All applicants considering Cohort 2 to launch newly designed programs in **2017** will submit a Letter of Interest no later than **September 21, 2015**, prior to being considered for participation in the **Exploratory Phase**. The Letter of Interest provides formal notice to OUSD regarding applicant's’ interest in exploring the relevance of a specific focus area for the re-design of their school. The Letter of Interest submission will be followed by a consultation within 5 working days. A determination letter will be sent to the school by **October 9, 2015** regarding eligibility to receive monetary assistance for the **Exploratory Phase**.

The **Letter of Interest** template is available in the next section.

**LETTER OF INTENT**

**All applicants are required to submit a Letter of Intent.**

* Applicants considering Cohort 1 to launch newly designed programs in **2016** must submit a Letter of Intent by no later than **September 4, 2015**, prior to submitting a complete proposal on **October 30, 2015**.
* Applicants considering Cohort 2 to launch newly designed programs in **2017** must submit a Letter of Intent by no later than **January 15, 2016**, prior to submitting a complete proposal on **April 22, 2016**.

The Letter of Intent provides formal notice to OUSD regarding intentions to submit a district-run proposal focused in a specifically identified Fall Call 2015-16 focus area, or a charter petition.

The **Letter of Intent** template is available in the next section.



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# Letter Templates

* Letter of Interest District-Run Schools (2017 Launch)
* Letter of Intent District-Run Schools (2016 Launch)



## Letter of Interest District-Run Proposal (2017 Launch)

Submit form to [david.montes@ousd.org](mailto:david.montes@ousd.org)

**DUE DATE:** **September 21, 2015**

**Please attach** Dual Language Program Criteria Self-Assessment or Newcomer Program Criteria Self-Assessment Form.

This letter of intent (LOI) will provide formal notice to the Office of Post-Secondary Readiness in Oakland Unified School District regarding an applicant’s interest in entering into a district supported Exploration Period of Quality School Practices. This Exploratory Period is to prepare schools to create a school design proposal by April 22, 2016 for consideration and approval to enter the School Design Implementation Planning Cohort 2 in the 2016-2017 school year and a Program Launch in 2017-2018.

*\*The information presented in the LOI is non-binding and subject to change.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of School |  |
| Name of Principal |  |
| # of years Principal at this site |  |
| Level of Staff Interest  Minimum staff interest for consideration is 51%.  Optimum interest is 80% or higher. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Total # | # Interested in this change | % of Staff Interested | | All Full Time Staff |  |  |  | | Full Time Teachers Only |  |  |  |   Date(s) of staff engagement(s): |
| 2015-2016 Priority Initiatives in progress at your school. (i.e. Writer’s Workshop, Blended Learning, etc.) | |  |  | | --- | --- | | List 2015-16 Priority Initiatives | % of Dedicated  Annual PD Time | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |
| Fall Call 2015-16 Priority Focus Areas of Interest  (“X” All that Apply) | **Eligibility Areas**  \_\_\_Middle School  \_\_\_Dual Language/ Immersion Program  \_\_\_Newcomer Program  **West Oakland**  \_\_\_ Interest in participating in West Oakland Regional Innovation and Feeder Renewal Process. |
| Newcomer Enrollment | Total # Projected 2015-16 Newcomer Enrollment: |
| Dual Language | Percent of Total Projected 2015-16 Partner Language Speaking Enrollment: |
| Rationale for your interest in the Fall Call |  |
| Describe the **data analysis process** conducted by the school to date that looks specifically at the achievement gaps of student groups with your school. |  |
| Describe the **achievement or performance gap(s)** that exist in your school, which you have identified as a result of your data analysis process to date. |  |
| Key Components of the education program(s) you plan to explore in the call process |  |
| Please list key school design questions that you have entering this process |  |
| Primary Contact Person | Name: |
| Phone: |
| Email: |

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Signature of Principal Date



## Letter of Intent District-Run Proposal (2016 Launch)

**DUE DATE:** **September 21, 2015**

**Please attach** Dual Language Program Criteria Self-Assessment or Newcomer Program Criteria Self-Assessment Form.

This letter of intent (LOI) will provide formal notice to the Office of Post-Secondary Readiness in Oakland Unified School District regarding an applicant’s intention to submit a Quality School proposal for School Design Implementation Planning in the 2015-2016 school year and a Program Launch in 2016-2017.

*The information presented in the LOI is non-binding and subject to change.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of School |  |
| Name of Principal |  |
| #of years Principal at this site |  |
| Mission of School  *(May be emphasis or theme)* |  |
| Rationale for Design Effort |  |
| Level of Staff Interest  Minimum staff interest for consideration is 51%.  Optimum interest is 80% or higher. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Total # | # Interested in this change | % of Staff Interested | | All Full Time Staff |  |  |  | | Full Time Teachers Only |  |  |  |   Date(s) of staff engagement(s): |
| 2015-2016 Priority Initiatives in progress at your school. (i.e. Writer’s Workshop, Blended Learning, etc.) | |  |  | | --- | --- | | List 2015-16 Priority Initiatives | % of Dedicated  Annual PD Time | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |
| Fall Call 2015-16 Priority Focus Areas of Interest  (“X” All that Apply) | **Eligibility Areas**  \_\_\_Newcomer Program  \_\_\_Dual Language/ Immersion  \_\_\_Middle School  **West Oakland**  \_\_\_ Interest in participating in West Oakland Regional Dialogue. |
| Describe the **data analysis process** conducted by the school to date that looks specifically at the achievement gaps of student groups with your school. |  |
| Describe the **achievement or performance gap(s)** that exist in your school, which you have identified as a result of your data analysis process to date. |  |
| Newcomer Enrollment | Total # Projected 2015-16 Newcomer Enrollment: |
| Dual Language | Percent of Total Projected 2015-16 Partner Language Speaking Enrollment: |

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Signature of Principal Date