



OAKLAND TEACHERS' VOICE

NOVEMBER 2018

Teacher working conditions are student learning conditions.

Oakland teachers are fighting to end the teacher retention crisis and provide a great education for all our students. We've been working without a contract for 1.5 years, and since the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) is refusing to meaningfully engage with our demands, we are preparing for a possible strike in early 2019.

OUSD spends extravagantly on consultants and administrators in their central office; yet when we say we need smaller class sizes, more student support, and a living wage for educators, they say the funding just isn't there. We are fighting for a public education system that puts students first, and we hope you will join us.

OUR DEMANDS

We demand smaller class sizes!

Our classrooms are crowded — some of us teach up to 36 students at a time. We see that larger classes are worse for students' learning, and the research backs that up.

Putting students first means reducing class sizes by 4 in high needs schools, and by 2 everywhere else. All students deserve individual attention!

We demand more student support!

With one academic counselor for every 600 students in grades 6-12 and 21 nurses total for our student population of 37,000, our students are not receiving the support they need.

We want nurses, counselors, psychologists, and speech pathologists for all students who need them.

We demand a living wage!

We are the lowest-paid teachers in Alameda County, so it's no surprise that the district loses 1 in 5 teachers every year.

We demand a 12% raise over the next three years, and we know the district can afford it. We can attract and retain the best educators for our students and end the teacher retention crisis by winning a living wage for our educators!

STAND WITH OAKLAND TEACHERS. JOIN THE FIGHT.

· **LET THE DISTRICT KNOW WHERE YOU STAND:** Call 510-879-8199 or email boe@ousd.org.

Sample script:

Hi, my name is (your name). My student, (your student's name), attends (name of your student's school) in Oakland. I'm calling to say that I support our teachers, who are fighting for smaller class sizes, more counselors and support services for our students, and a living wage. We demand better schools for our students! Again, my name is (your name), and my number is (your phone number).

Oakland Teachers' Voice is the monthly newsletter published by teachers in the Oakland Education Association. Learn more at oaklandea.org.