



LIGHTHOUSE

Community Public Schools

WHERE OAKLAND SHINES

2024 Impact Report



Jesus L., Lighthouse Class of 2024



A Note from Rich Harrison, CEO

Expressing Our Gratitude

Dear LCPS Community,

I want to thank our students, families, staff, friends, and stakeholders for an incredible school year. The highlights shared in this annual report embody the hope and possibilities of our community schools model, anchored in our **Core Values of Agency, Integrity, Love, Social Justice, and Community**.



I am thrilled to share the launch of our new strategic plan, which will guide Lighthouse Community Public Schools (LCPS) into the next four years as we continue to impact East Oakland and the education of our students.

This past year, we focused on how our programs unlock each child's potential, improve college and career readiness, and create lasting community impact. Serving a historically under-resourced community, we reaffirmed key commitments: building authentic relationships with families, staff and the community; enhancing talent recruitment and retention to ensure dedicated professionals for our children; and advancing instructional practices to challenge students to reach their full potential.

We recognize the need for continuous improvement to provide the best educational experience and sustain our efforts. Key areas we have identified include strengthening a unified academic vision, enhancing staff coaching and development, and refining communication and decision-making for transparency and full investment.

To address these, we've set ambitious goals to define our impact on students, families, staff, and the organization over the next four years, guided by three strategic priorities:

- 1. Ensuring Rigorous, Student-Centered Learning:** We want all students to be deeply engaged in high-quality curriculum and learning experiences every day.
- 2. Strengthening Multi-Generational Opportunities:** Students, families, community partners, and staff collectively contribute to a thriving community school through shared power, voice, and trust.
- 3. Deeply Investing in our Educators and Leaders:** All staff members experience the clear, coherent, and world-class professional development and coaching they deserve.

These strategic priorities reflect our unwavering commitment to excellence and equity in education. By focusing on these areas, we can create an environment where every student can shine, every family and community member feels valued, and every staff member is empowered to succeed.

As we embark on this new strategic journey, I am optimistic and excited about what lies ahead. Together, we will continue to build on our strengths, address our challenges, and create a brighter future for all our students. Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to LCPS's mission.

With gratitude,

Rich Harrison
CEO, Lighthouse Community Public Schools



About Lighthouse Community Public Schools

Our Vision We believe an exceptional education brings out each child's unique light and potential.

Our Mission is to prepare a diverse K-12 student population for college and a career of their choice.

Our Core Values



Community



Agency



Integrity



Social Justice



Love

Some Demographic Information



49 students
awarded
scholarships from
Oakland Promise

5%

unhoused
students



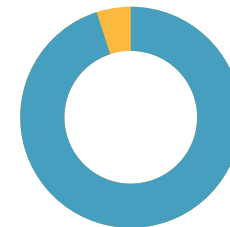
83% of the
Classes of 2024
accepted to
4-year colleges



97% students of
color



54% English
Language
learners



95% low income



15% special
education
students



The Lodestar Class of 2024

Celebrating the First Graduating Class!



80%

accepted to
4-year colleges

OAKLAND  PROMISE

students were awarded
22 scholarships from Oakland
Promise ranging in value
from \$2,000 - \$16,000



15

students will attend
colleges in the CSU
system

15

students plan to
attend community
college

5

students will attend
universities in the
UC system

1

student is headed to a
private college

7

students are entering
a trade program

2

students are going
straight to work





The Lighthouse Class of 2024

A fierce, resilient, and limitless graduating class.



30
students will attend
colleges in the CSU
system



85%
accepted to
4-year colleges



- 20 students plan to attend community college
- 9 students will attend universities in the UC system
- 1 student is joining the United States Army
- 4 students are entering a trade program
- 4 students are going straight to work

OAKLAND  PROMISE

27 students were awarded scholarships from Oakland Promise ranging in value from \$2,000 - \$16,000



Coach of the Year

Thanks to Coach Handte for 17 years of service

Athletic Director Coach Handte was recognized as the Bay Area Charter School Athletic Conference (BACSAC) Coach of the Year for the LCPS Boys' Soccer team for the 2023-24 season.

For 17 years, Coach Handte has shaped the lives of hundreds of students. She transformed a small athletics program into a championship-winning powerhouse that welcomed all players. She developed students into athletes, ensuring everyone willing to put in the effort could participate. Her dedication went above and beyond in countless ways, leaving an indelible mark on the community and its students. We are saying goodbye to Coach Handte, who is moving to the East Coast, but we will forever cherish her commitment to LCPS students and the East Oakland community.



Coach Handte, second from the far right

Coach Handte, when asked about what LCPS athletics means to her: "It's everything to me. It was a huge chapter of my life. I have seen kids go from teenagers to adults and it's always amazing to see the paths they are on. I had a player take his first running steps to me while coaching his older siblings. I have lost student-athletes and helped those left behind mourn those amazing teammates. I have players who have children, and they now call me Granny Handte or Auntie Handte. I have been to joyful celebrations. I have been there for players in their darkest days. Athletics is not just about the games and winning or losing but the bond a team builds throughout the seasons. I care so much about this program that I have my left foot covered in championship tattoos to honor the sacrifice, determination, and drive it took teams to reach the ultimate goal."



Beyond the Classroom

Expanded Learning

After-School Program



Oscar Bermeo has been a valuable part of our after-school program and the broader LCPS community for 18 years.

Thanks to funding from the California Department of Education's 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens (ASSETs) Program and the After School Education and Safety (ASES) grant program, both Lighthouse and Lodestar offer free after-school care and programming including snack time, academic and literacy support, enrichment classes, clubs, athletics, and more!



Lighthouse students in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade performed Willy Wonka Jr, the Musical, for their families and classmates this last May. **A special thanks to all the families who came out to set building day, the teachers who committed their extra time to direct the show, and the operations team for their continued commitment to our students and their passions.**



Beyond the Classroom

Lodestar Sports and Career Pathways

Athletics

- The Lady Cobras soccer team made the league finals for the first time and had an epic battle against Impact Academy. **Not only are they the school's first-ever high school girls' team, but they are also the Division B BACSAC runners-up!**
- The Cobras Flag Football team made history by winning the first ever championship for Lodestar.

Lodestar High School Girls Soccer Team



CTE Pathway: Lodestar Media Arts

In February, Lodestar High School Media Arts took over the **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's (SFMOMA)** theater to screen their photography and short films. The screening included students' work from their photography and film classes. Students shared their work before the screening and voted for their favorites in three categories: photography, microfilms, and documentaries. Award winners were presented at SFMOMA after the screening. Students also worked with **Soul Beat TV** and interviewed award recipients at the Lodestar Media Arts Screening.

Watch the Soul Beat video at lcps.exposure.co



Lodestar high school students presenting their projects at SFMOMA



Health and Wellness at LCPS

Sharing in Community, Resources, and Knowledge

Read more at lcps.exposure.co

At LCPS, we are committed to promoting and providing resources for the health and wellness of our students, staff, families, and community members. Last spring, Lighthouse and Lodestar hosted multiple events focused on mental health, community resources, and more. LCPS received grant funding to increase the number of health and wellness coaches from the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI), a five-year, \$4.6 billion initiative that is transforming the way California supports children, youth and families. LCPS also received funding from the Golden State Pathways Program (GSPP) to add a career pathway for students to explore healthcare careers and to prepare for entry-level paraprofessional roles or further studies in medicine, behavioral health, and human services.



Wellness Fair

On Saturday, April 20th, LCPS hosted a Wellness Fair at the Lighthouse outdoor space, where community partners, family businesses, and other health and wellness organizations shared resources and created connections with East Oakland and LCPS families.

Ghosted: A Play Spreading Awareness about Mental Health

On April 29th, Lighthouse invited Kaiser Permanente to present a live production of the play **Ghosted** to our middle school students.

Parent/Guardian Mental Health Workshops

For three weeks in April, the Lodestar Counseling team, consisting of Marisol Perez-Alcala, Norma Hernandez, and Kim Mora, hosted Mental Health Workshops. These sessions were designed for Lodestar parents and guardians to learn about risks, tips, and resources concerning their students' mental health, both at school and in general.

- **Week 1 - Understanding Mental Health**
- **Week 2 - Recognizing Risks**
- **Week 3 - Online Safety**



Growth Data

California School Accountability Dashboards Released

For the first time since before the Pandemic, the California Department of Education recently updated the California School Dashboards. The Dashboards track the annual progress of K-12 students on factors such as standardized test scores, chronic absenteeism, suspensions, and graduation rates.

Highlights

1. On the **College Career Indicator**, which measures the percentage of students in the Class of 2023 who are prepared for college, Lighthouse is one of two "blue" high schools in Oakland. Lodestar graduated its first class this spring and will receive a score next year.
2. **English Language Arts (ELA)** student growth percentiles across Elementary, Middle School, and High School were very high compared to similar local district, charter, and state schools.
3. **English Learner progress** is strong. 45% of LCPS students are multilingual learners, and their growth progress is particularly strong at Lighthouse High School and Lodestar.
4. Our **student subgroups** performed better than state comparisons: our African American, English Language Learner, Special Education, and students who did not meet the academic standard previously had, on average, a student growth percentile of 85 in ELA.
5. Our **Middle Schools' growth** is promising. Lodestar had the highest Math and ELA growth in Oakland, and Lighthouse was in the top 5 in ELA growth!

Read more at lcps.exposure.co



Jalen T. and Sheny M.,
Lodestar Class of 2024



Lodestar's Community Closet

Addressing the Needs of Staff, Students, and the Community

Lodestar's Culture & Expanded Learning Program Coordinator, Dr. Sabunmi Woods, actively supports LCPS's mission to **create a better, brighter Oakland by providing families with essentials**. Working at Lodestar, Dr. Woods found that students were in need and that she could help. She created Jada's Closet, named after her late cousin, which serves the community surrounding Lodestar. The closet on campus provides food, shoes, toys, clothing and more.

Jada's closet began as a small act of kindness: When an elementary student stepped in a puddle on a rainy day, ruining her shoes. Dr. Woods noticed the student sitting at the front desk drying her shoes, and took that as a moment to act.

This student's small challenge sparked the idea of making items available to students on campus. Students can pick up items whether they face something as small as stepping in a puddle, or something much more profound.

Today Jada's Closet has grown into a consistent resource for the full range of community members, including staff, students, and families. Donors include the All Good Living Foundation, as well as countless, generous parents, staff and members of the community.

Read more about this community effort and other stories at lcps.exposure.co



"Jada's Closet is all about going into the space like you are a little girl, dressing up and finding something that's new or slightly used and makes you feel good. It makes students feel good to grab things they need or want and has brightened so many people's day."

-Dr. Woods



Celebrating Parents and Families

Lit for Literacy and Raise the Bar Awards

Read more at lcps.exposure.co

In December, **LCPS and Families in Action for Quality Public Schools (FIA)** celebrated the first graduates of the **LCPS/FIA Lit for Literacy Campaign**. The campaign's goal is to develop parent leaders to improve their children's reading proficiency and to increase the literacy rates of all of our students.

Lighthouse parents Chrisciel Ramirez, Jerania Torres, Lila Wiley-Booker; Marisol Chavez, Monica Valencia, Naimah Churchill, Patrice Burns and Chabree Keil, and Lodestar parents Alondra Perales, Angela Fuentes, Elsa Rodríguez, Silva Pablo, Paz Estrada, Marisol Acosta, Priscila, Erlinda Arévalo and Elsa Rodríguez joined the Lit for Literacy campaign, making the commitment to understand how students learn to read by attending 12 weekly training sessions.

"I don't speak very much English, but I can sit with my child and read to her in Spanish, and she teaches me English. I found this program helpful because I can help my child. I'm excited to continue and keep working at literacy." -Lit for Literacy Parent of two Lodestar students, Angela Fuentes



In March, FIA hosted an award ceremony at Learning Without Limits public school in Oakland to honor schools and community leaders dedicated to improving education outcomes for Black and Brown students. The event recognized efforts to reduce educational disparities and improve standards based on findings from FIA's 2023 Student Data Report on Oakland Public Schools' performance.



Establishing Safer and Healthier Learning Environments

LCPS Wins Bipartisan Safety Grant

Read more at lcps.exposure.co

LCPS received one of 26 awards across the state of California from the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, totaling in \$2.1 million over the course of three years. This grant will fund security guards, upgraded security equipment like cameras and visitor monitoring, expanded athletic programs, increased Restorative Justice and crisis intervention programs, and improved behavioral management systems. The grant features partnerships with two longtime Oakland non-profit organizations, Youth Alive and Higher Ground, who will work alongside our schools to implement the initiatives connected to this grant.

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act — Stronger Connections Grant serves to increase the capacity of schools to establish safer and healthier learning environments; prevent and respond to acts of violence, bullying and harassment; address mental health needs; develop safety assessments, corresponding plans and strategies; and promote a positive school climate and culture.

LCPS actively pursued these state funds to meet the needs of Lighthouse and Lodestar students, and generally to contribute to improving the neighborhoods surrounding the LCPS schools in East Oakland.

Creating an environment where students, staff, and families feel secure is paramount; it's the bedrock upon which dreams of academic achievement and future success are built. Our shared commitment to safety isn't just about protecting physical spaces; it's about safeguarding the very essence of learning, and the pursuit of college and career aspirations. By fostering this sense of security, we illuminate a path for every student, encouraging them to thrive, learn, and ultimately triumph in their educational journey.





Our Partners

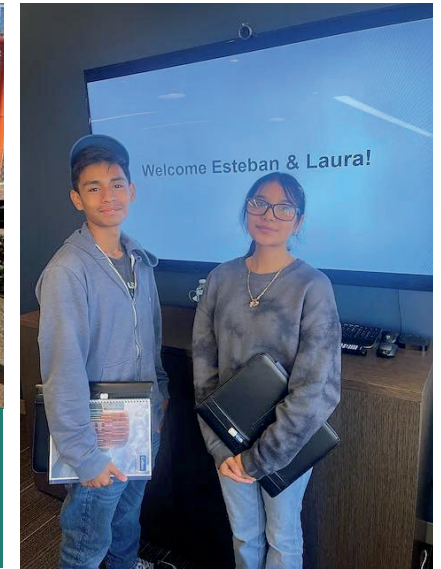
Making the Work Possible

Community Partners

Alder Graduate School of Education
Destiny Arts
EL Education
Euniece Law, the Legacy Continues
Families in Action for Quality Education
Fulcrum Institute
Headwaters Institute
Higher Ground
NAACP
Neighborhood Council 31YZ
Vision Quilt
Oakland Undivided
Pacific Charter School Development
Project Touchdown
Seneca Family of Agencies
SoulBeat
Sobrante Park RAC
Treva Reid, Oakland City Council
Member District 7
Youth Alive



Laura and Esteban at their internship with Pacific Charter School Development



Last fall, **Pacific Charter School Development (PCSD)**, a non-profit real estate development firm who works with charter school partners in their mission to address inequity in education, **chose two Lighthouse juniors, Laura Ramirez-Avalos and Esteban Martinez, to participate in their paid, eight-week internship.** Laura and Esteban enjoyed a front row seat by working with PCSD and their community partners on ongoing development projects. They were included in site visits, and met with brokers, construction project managers, architects, lawyers, contractors, and lenders, learning about every aspect of project development and commercial real estate.

To complete their work-based learning, the two students delivered a final presentation to Lighthouse staff, PCSD, and partners. During their presentation, they highlighted some memorable moments from their experience working with PCSD.

Read more at lcps.exposure.co



Our Partners

Making the Work Possible

Foundation Partners

Kenneth Rainin Foundation
Rogers Family Foundation
Irene S. Scully Foundation
The Stocker Foundation
Quest Foundation
Warriors Community Foundation

Partners in College-Going Success

Chabot Community College
Destination College Advising Corps
(DCAC)
East Bay Consortium
Genesys Works
Global Glimpse
HealthPATH
Mentoring in Medicine and Science
Oakland Promise
One Goal Bay Area
Peter Sategna Educational Foundation
Peralta Community College District
Project Touchdown
UCSF Center for Science, Education, and
Outreach
Youth Law Academy



Mr. and Mrs. Golden with LCPS CEO, Rich Harrison

LCPS became a partner with Project Touchdown, a free tutoring and college-prep program run by Antoine Golden and his wife, Catherine Golden. Project Touchdown was started decades ago by Antoine's mother to further develop math and science skills for disadvantaged youth. Now, every Thursday, BART engineers and other Project Touchdown tutors, including the Golden family, work with Lighthouse and Lodestar students.



Now Open!

Lodestar Field Construction

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the LCPS community, we raised over \$140,000 to build a new field at Lodestar! This field construction was part of a larger project completed over the summer of 2024, which included classroom updates. We're excited to provide our 750 students, from TK through 12th grade, with a dedicated space for athletics and recreation.

We'd love to host you for a visit to see the new field!



Read more and watch the student-made video of the ribbon cutting event at lcps.exposure.co



School Leaders

Working for the Future

School Principals



Alicia Blacknell
Lighthouse 6-12



Shaina Hurley
Lighthouse K-5



Latora Baldridge
Lodestar 6-12



Cody Marshall
Lodestar TK-5

A group of stakeholders worked with school leaders and Bellwether to develop a new strategic plan to guide a work for the next four years. To view a copy, please email info@lighthousecharter.org

Board of Directors

Eduardo Figueroa, Lighthouse Class of 2011, Associate Attorney, Morrison & Foerster LLP
Jumoke Hinton, Emerita, Oakland Unified School District Board of Education, Director
Jillian Kwan-Jacobs, Financial Management and Operations at EdVoice
Billy Manning, Certified Financial Planner
Mark Milner, Risk Management and Finance Executive (retired)
Alberto Ocegueda, Lighthouse Class of 2016, Assistant Development Coordinator, Lampert Group
Robbie Torney, Chief of Staff, Common Sense Media
Rodolfo Ornelas, Oakland Educator

Executive Leadership and Principals

Rich Harrison, Chief Executive Officer
Tina Hernandez, Chief Academic Officer
Megan Bacigalupi, Chief of Staff
Anna Martin, Chief Operations Officer
Shaina Hurley, LCPS Lead Principal, Lighthouse K-5 Principal
Alicia Blacknell, Lighthouse 6-12 Principal
Latora Baldridge, LCPS Lead Principal, Lodestar 6-12 Principal
Cody Marshall, Lodestar K-5 Principal

"I appreciate the availability and the openness, and it's just always welcoming (on campus). I never have an issue and I do a lot of dropping by and I do attend the parent-teacher conferences and student-led conferences and the programs, and it's always a friendly atmosphere."
- Lodestar Parent

Lighthouse Middle School Students





Lodestar Upper School Students

LIGHTHOUSE

A Lighthouse Community Public School

Lighthouse Campus
444 Hegenberger Road
Oakland, CA 94621
K-5* Front Desk: (510) 562-8801
6-12 Front Desk: (510) 562-8825
*TK coming in 2025!

LODESTAR

A Lighthouse Community Public School

Lodestar Campus
701 105th Ave
Oakland, CA 94603
TK-5 Front Desk: (510) 775-0255
6-12 Front Desk: (510) 775-0382

To view financial reports and annual
audit email info@lighthousecharter.org

Read more at lcps.exposure.co

www.lighthousecharter.org

A special thank you to
Evan Blaser Photography