

AAMA Publication

The Black Sonrise: Oakland Unified School District's Commitment to Address and Eliminate Institutionalized Racism

“Manhood Development helped me choose my long-term goals and make them bigger and better than they were before.” -MDP student



To uncover the seeds of courage and determination that spurred a school district to make an unprecedented commitment to the education of African American male students. We invite you to read and discuss the findings of *The Black Sonrise*.

In 2011, the Office of African American Male Achievement piloted the Manhood Development Program (MDP), an elective course offered during the school day, taught by African American males for African American males. Today, the MDP serves more than 450 students at 15 school sites and the program is making great strides in engaging, encouraging, and empowering African American male students.

The Manhood Development Program supports African American male achievement through:

- Culturally relevant curriculum
- Leadership and character development activities
- Transcript evaluation and college and career guidance
- Family engagement focused on college readiness and parent leadership development
- Recruitment and development of African American male instructors
- Cultural, college, and career field trips