



MISSION

The Latino Student Achievement initiative was created to inspire excellence and accelerate academic achievement among Latino students and their families through institutionalizing systemic change in Oakland Unified School District.

Launched in 2017, the Latino Student Achievement (LSA) initiative creates the systemic conditions, culture, and competencies necessary to advance student achievement in Oakland Unified School District (OUSD). In partnership with the community, LSA provides the academic, social, and emotional support needed to succeed in college, career, and life. LSA works toward this goal by recruiting and retaining Latino educators, affirming Latino identity, history, and culture through Chicano/Latino Studies, supporting Latino student leadership and affinity circles, providing care management and academic support for literacy gains and college readiness, and strengthening Latino family engagement linked to student learning. The LSA initiative serves more than 650 students across 20 schools.

Building on this foundation, LSA offers additional opportunities at the high school level. Students enroll in the A-G Chicano/Latino accredited course, where students can earn elective credit on their Transcript, further preparing them for college and beyond.

FIRST YEAR ACTIVE
2017

TARGETED SPECIALISTS
Eve Delfín, Raúl Hernandez



HIGHLIGHTS

LSA Classes

A-G Chicano/Latino Studies courses, gender-specific groups, and academic/social-emotional learning (SEL) support.

Student Affinity Clubs

- Latino Student Union (LSU)
- Mam student clubs
- Raza Student Union Heritage Celebrations

Latino Literacy Peer Mentoring

Latino high school students are trained and supported to become literacy and mentors for elementary students.

Latino Parent Advisory

The Latino Parent Advisory Group convenes to engage families on non-English Learners and address the unique needs of 2nd and 3rd generation Latino students.

Honor Roll

In 2024, over 4,200 Latino students were recognized for having a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

District-Wide Professional Development Support

The LSA initiative provides cultural responsiveness professional development. Providing consultation and thought partnership on celebrating Latino heritage and creating structures for the ongoing engagement of Latino students and families.

Retention of Latino Teachers and Staff

- The Maestros Teacher Pathway and Affinity Circle
- The Latino Staff Acknowledgement and Celebration

IMPACT

Increased Attendance/Reduced Chronic Absence

In January 2024, 78% of students enrolled in LSA targeted programs had positive attendance of 95% or more, in comparison to the district average of 39% positive attendance for Latino students.

BEYOND THE DATA

During Fall of 2023, Oakland Academy of Knowledge (OAK) Elementary hosted a 10-week Latino Family Literacy workshop series on how families can best support bilingual students with their literacy skills at home. Families also had the opportunity to participate in social-emotional learning activities that helped improve communication with their students and teachers. At the conclusion of the program, one participating parent, Ms. Ydelma, was so inspired by the transformation and improvement of her daughter that she asked the Community School Manager, Dr. Salinas, for resources to attain a GED. Ms. Ydelma went on to take adult education classes at McClymonds and enrolled in English courses with a local non-profit. Ms. Ydelma increased her confidence and planned to enroll in English classes at Laney College as a result.