

Rethinking School Discipline with the Oakland Unified School District

July 17, 2015

Special presentation on how the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) has reduced school suspensions by 47% and is working to eliminate racial disparity.

Sponsors:

City of Seattle, King County, University of Washington School of Social Work - Communities in Action, Seattle Public Schools' African American Male Scholar Think Tank, Rainier Beach Action Coalition, Community Center for Education Results-The Road Map Project

Recorded Presentation: <http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos?videoid=x57138>

Presentation Slides: [Oakland's Story](#)

Background: In 2010, OUSD began an integrated 4-pronged approach to reducing discipline and eliminating racial disproportionality. They have achieved significant outcomes, including a 47% decrease in suspensions. The four evidence-based components of their approach are:

- **Restorative Justice** - See this Sept 2014 report on OUSD's Restorative Justice program and outcomes <http://www.ousd.k12.ca.us/cms/lib07/CA01001176/Centricity/Domain/134/OUSD-RJ%20Report%20revised%20Final.pdf>
- **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** - OUSD's PBIS consultant is Seattle-based Dr. Lori Lynass; see her video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZmJx-G43U> Also see PBIS website <https://www.pbis.org/> and <http://pbisnetwork.org/resources/>
- **Trauma-Informed Care (TIC)** - See TIC website <http://www.samhsa.gov/nctic/trauma-interventions>
- **Culturally Relevant Instruction** - See this video of Christopher Chatmon, Director of OUSD's African American Male Achievement Office <http://www.ousd.k12.ca.us/aama> Also see this January 2015 report on OUSD's Manhood Development Program: The Black Sonrise <http://ousd.k12.ca.us/Page/12267>