

LIGHTHOUSE
Community Public Schools

All In.
In Oakland.

2020 Impact Report



Brianna is a Lighthouse Class of 2020 graduate now attending California State University (CSU), Stanislaus.

Our Vision and Mission

Making an Impact

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.



Vanessa, Class of 2015

"My teachers at Lighthouse taught me to advocate for myself in college and beyond. Because of that, I got to know my professors and one of them offered me an internship at Just Cities. Now I have a job there."

-Vanessa, Lighthouse Class of 2015

Vanessa graduated from Lighthouse in 2015 and received her BA in Urban Studies from UC Berkeley in 2020. She now serves as the Transformative Justice Outreach Organizer at Just Cities, a nonprofit in Oakland. She is responsible for project coordination and management of Just Cities' Fair Chance Housing projects and its Alameda County Anti-Displacement community outreach programs. Her family immigrated from Mexico 24 years ago, inspiring her strong stance on immigration reform and education opportunities for low-income youth in East Oakland.



97% identify as students of color



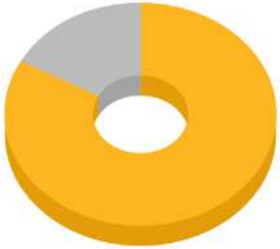
90% of graduates are accepted to a four-year college



90% will be first-generation college students



70% of students speak English as a second language



83% of families are low-income



4X the national college graduation rate for low income students of color

A Note from Rich Harrison, CEO

Expressing Our Gratitude

Dear Friends,

It is with a deep respect for the school leaders who have come before me that I proudly lead our students and staff in this unprecedented time. As former CEO, Jenna Stauffer, prepared to leave the role this summer, she told me about you, our incredible community of supporters. I truly look forward to meeting you in person and learning more about your connection to Lighthouse Community Public Schools.



Rich Harrison
LCPS CEO

Our strong community showed how we can come together in times of need: you answered the call when the COVID crisis impacted families and you stood in solidarity with our stance on anti-Blackness. I know you believe that school should be equal parts love and rigor — this belief will guide us through the current dual pandemics of COVID-19 and the inequities shaped by systemic racism.

Over the summer, principals and teachers prepared for a reopening unlike any other. On August 10, 1460 children began a new school year with Lighthouse Community Public Schools through distance learning. As a testament to students' excitement to get back to learning, we saw 95% attendance rates in the first weeks of school!

LCPS leadership and staff have launched this school year grounded in our core values. I'm proud to work alongside you and excited about what we will do as a team to support students in the coming years. Thank you for being part of the LCPS community — together, we will focus on educational justice and equity, ensuring that all children are set up for success in college, career, and community impact in East Oakland.

In partnership,

Rich Harrison
Chief Executive Officer

Our Core Values



Community



Agency



Integrity



Social Justice



Love

Black Lives Matter

Celebrating Black Excellence and Acknowledging the Work Ahead

Systemic racism is a generations-old plague that threatens our democracy and the promise of our nation. At Lighthouse Community Public Schools, we have looked deeply in the mirror and made commitments to root out anti-Blackness in our schools. We know we can and must do better to achieve equitable results for all, as we work tirelessly to bring out each child's unique light and potential.

In partnership with you, LCPS will deliver on its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Commitments, from policy to practice. Together, we will ensure that every child is prepared to pursue their passions and a meaningful career. Each student will graduate with the knowledge and skills to succeed in college and bring a richness of backgrounds, ideas and perspectives that are necessary in today's world.



Joshua Thomas

"I feel both simultaneously doubtful and hopeful that the deep change that must happen in all levels of our society – schools, communities, places of business, and our government – will happen in my lifetime."

-Joshua Thomas
Lighthouse Class of 2020
University of Puget Sound
Class of 2024



Oakland Love: A New Future

Lodestar's home in Sobrante Park in East Oakland has a stunning new mural, designed by Lodestar students, Mr. C (their Making, Art, and Design teacher), and the Bay Area Mural Program (BAMP!).

The mural was named "Oakland Love: A New Future" by an 8th grader and a 1st grader.



Mr. C, Artist & Teacher

COVID-19 Response

Doing More for Our Community

COVID-19 has affected all of us. Unfortunately, the zip codes where Lighthouse and Lodestar are located are seeing the highest rates in Alameda County — disproportionately affecting Black and Latinx families.

Our physical campuses closed on March 13, but together we stepped up for students. When we asked for your help in responding to this crisis, you answered with generosity and love. You gave $130,000 to provide much-needed meals to children, distribute financial assistance to families who lost wages, and purchase internet "hot spots" for families to access learning from home.

As the 2020-21 school year launches with distance learning, you continue to be an essential part of the team. Thank you for being there when students need you most.



"Food distribution is working wonderfully for my family. This is a major help for me as a single parent. And I sometimes pick up boxes of food for another family that doesn't have a car."

-Veronica, LCPS Parent

450 families who lost wages received financial assistance

250 students in grades K-4 received an art kit for hands-on learning at home

1000 families picked up a 5-day supply of breakfast, lunch, and snacks per child every week

100% of families have free tech support for distance learning

100% of students have access to a laptop computer for learning at home

95% attendance online in the first weeks of distance learning

From Kindergarten to College

Living the Core Value of Love



Julian, Lodestar 2nd Grader

"I chose Lodestar for my son, Julian, because of how the principals and teachers speak to students and parents. It felt right. When Julian first started kindergarten, he was shy, but now in 2nd grade, he has grown so much!

Starting in kindergarten, my son is being prepared for college and future jobs. He's not afraid to raise his hand and ask questions. His teachers tell him that he's bright and that he's a good student. They never write him off or give up on him. And they don't let his mistakes dictate what type of person he is.

I hope that he thrives in school and goes further than me. I want him to go to college, finish, and get to be what he wants to be."

-Kayla, Lodestar Parent

"I have been at Lighthouse since kindergarten. I'm in 8th grade now and getting excited for high school. Lighthouse has shown me Love since kindergarten.

This is a special school because everyone's work is celebrated on the walls, from kindergarten through high school. Our school cares about our work and our progress.

In 7th grade I was voted onto the Lighthouse Student Council. It was a proud moment for me to join this group because we're showing that students, not just adults, can bring good ideas to the school. For example, we planned and hosted bake sales and other fundraisers to install sustainable water fountains at Lighthouse."

-Sasha, Lighthouse 8th Grader



Sasha, Lighthouse 8th Grader

From Lighthouse to Law School

Empowering Students to Achieve Greatness

College graduation day in 2015 was a huge moment for Eduardo Figueroa: the culmination of a lot of hard work, attaining a goal he didn't think was possible for him just a few years earlier — that is, before he attended Lighthouse High School.



Eduardo Figueroa
Lighthouse Class of 2011

"I have that moment ingrained in my mind," Figueroa says now, looking back. "It was one of the greatest feelings. I was the first in my family to do it. It was a proud moment."

Before attending Lighthouse, he was lost in the shuffle at a large high school in Oakland. Access to a high-quality, college and career-focused public school like Lighthouse was a game-changer for Eduardo.

"I felt like I could do something important with my life. Our principal, Mr. Sexton, would see me in the hallway and ask me if I was doing alright or sometimes he'd say, 'You need to get going on this.' It was clear what I was supposed to be doing."

Eduardo earned his BA in Criminal Justice at California State University (CSU) Chico, where he was a Legal Research Assistant at the Butte County Jail and helped people in custody research their cases. Eduardo was also Co-Director of the Penal Law Project at the Community Legal Information Center, a student-run legal clinic that provides members of the community with free legal information.

After graduating from college with a degree in criminal justice and a paralegal certificate, Figueroa returned to Oakland. He was hired at the Oakland Law Collaborative, where he worked on immigration, criminal defense and employment law matters.

Eduardo returns to speak to Lighthouse students whenever he's asked. This past December, he spoke before the Oakland Unified School District Board of Directors. That experience was empowering and he was grateful to share his testimony as part of Lighthouse's charter renewal.

"I had never gotten an opportunity to speak with leaders like that," he says. "I let out frustration, told them when I was in other public schools, no one ever mentioned college to me, or what you're going to do after graduation. I told them that, thanks to Lighthouse, I was given an opportunity."

Eduardo is passionate about ensuring students from Oakland are prepared for college and meaningful careers. He is currently a second-year law student at UC Berkeley and the newest member of the Board of Directors at Lighthouse Community Public Schools.

"I grew up here and this is what I want to do, help the kids out; help students like me reach their fullest potential."

-Eduardo Figueroa, CSU Chico Class of 2015
UC Berkeley School of Law Class of 2022
LCPS Board of Directors

The Future of the Teaching Force

Investing in Teachers

Sam Carter is an LCPS Resident Teacher with a special connection to Lighthouse. Growing up in foster care, Sam shared that he was not on track for college when he arrived at Lighthouse: "I was 17 when I came to Lighthouse, but I only had enough credits for 9th grade. I had a choice: graduate unprepared or stick around, finish high school and go to college."



Sam Carter
Lighthouse Class of 2012

With hard work and support from his teachers, Sam graduated from Lighthouse in 2012 and from Cal State Northridge in 2018 with a BA in Africana Studies. Now he has returned to East Oakland as a Lighthouse Resident Teacher.

In partnership with The Alder Graduate School of Education, LCPS trains teachers who represent the backgrounds of our students and families. Residents work towards a Masters' Degree and teaching credential in LCPS classrooms, partnered with a mentor teacher and a supervisor through Alder. Lighthouse alumni and non-teaching staff now have a pipeline to become credentialed teachers.

92% of LCPS Resident Teachers identify as people of color. In 2020, LCPS hosted twelve resident teachers across grades K-12. Eight are Lighthouse alumni and/or former non-teaching staff.

"Lighthouse teachers took me in and held me to high expectations; they believed in me. That is why I was able to graduate from high school and go to college. And that is why I'm becoming a teacher now. I want to be an example for other students like me."

-Sam Carter
CSU Northridge Class of 2012
LCPS Resident Teacher



Sam Carter met Kristin Mateer, Co-Founder and Executive Director at East Bay Children's Law Offices (EBCLO), when she represented him in juvenile court. They stayed in touch even after he empancipated and later moved to Southern California for college. Now Sam is a college graduate, LCPS Resident Teacher, and the newest member of the Board of Directors at EBCLO where he will empower the voices of Alameda County's foster youth.

A Beautiful Home

Realizing a Dream for East Oakland

With your support, Lodestar officially moved into its permanent home in East Oakland in the fall of 2018. Now, the project to renovate the existing buildings and build a brand new high school is complete. This is a huge feat for a new charter school. When in-person learning resumes, Lodestar is poised to welcome 650 students with a beautiful new playground, basketball courts, and state-of-the-art high school facility. See more project updates here.

Partnerships with Pacific Charter School Development, First Republic Bank, The Rogers Family Foundation and the Kenneth Rainin Foundation were critical to this project's success.

And your individual generosity made this dream a reality for generations of students and families in East Oakland. You have made it possible for hundreds of students to see a clear path to college and a fulfilling career of their choice. The *Raised in Oakland Capital Campaign* goal was reached because of you.

In just four years, the founding class of Lodestar High School will graduate and head to college. Keep an eye out for your invitation to Lodestar's first high school graduation ceremony in 2024!



Lodestar playground



Lodestar High School

The Barnes-Dholakia Family
Beaver Foundation
Roosevelt Callahan
City Fund
Chris and Kay Dann
Wayne and Lynn Delker
Ronald and Marianne Dreisbach
D'Lonra Ellis and Osagie Obasogie
Tina Enagbare
Len and Lynn Epstein
Karen and Mike Fee
Christina and Brian Greenberg
William G. Irwin Foundation
Maurilio Leon
Lodestar Families
Jon and Kristen Malan
Mark and Valerie Milner
Alicia and Brett Moore
Lisle and Roslyn Payne
Jim Price, in honor of Jane Price
Brian and Katie Rogers
The Rogers Family Foundation
Bob Salmons and Mildred Brown
Jenna Stauffer
The Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation
Jonathan Velline and Victoria Varieur
Brandon and Ada Wall
Shelby Winkler and Mary Schmidt
Carina Wong and David Chai
Sarah and Mike Yoell

Raised in OAKLAND
LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Capital Campaign

Against seemingly insurmountable odds, the following people believed in the vision of Lodestar High School, giving their time and treasure to see this project across the finish line — thank you!

Our Gratitude

Investing in the Future

Will you pledge a multi-year gift to transform lives? Lightkeepers are individuals and companies who make a lasting impact with a multi-year financial pledge of support. These gifts fill the gap between public school funding and what is needed to provide an exceptional education. Thank you to our 2020 Lightkeepers! Click here to join the community and help students reach their full potential.

Lightkeepers

Mark Barnes
Kevin and Patricia Bohm
Ron Codron and Avis MacDonald
Wayne and Lynn Delker
The Barnes-Dholakia Family
Marianne and Ronald Dreisbach
Mark and Kim Drucker
D'Lonra Ellis and Osagie Obasogie
Lynn Greenberg and Michael Rothschild
Hibser Yamauchi Architects, Inc.
David Hofmayer and Ashlee Tran
Michael Hofmayer and Ann Tipton
Esther Kretschmar
Karen and Wes Lybrand
Mark and Valerie Milner
Paul and Valerie Minney
Alicia and Brett Moore
Chuck and Julie Palley
Brian and Katie Rogers
The Rogers Family Foundation
Signature Development Group
Rhonnel and Kris Sotelo
Jonathan Velline and Victoria Varieur
Kimi Kean and Alexandre Yamamoto

"The Irene S. Scully Foundation is proud to be a longtime supporter of Lighthouse Community Public Schools because of their unwavering dedication to students and families in Oakland. The LCPS team is steadfast in efforts to create the conditions necessary for students to thrive. They model self-reflection, take honest feedback from the community, and turn it into action. Lighthouse unapologetically puts choice and equity at the center, as evidenced by their DEI work and commitment to anti-racism, ensuring Oakland students can access the education they deserve."

- Kathleen Maloney, Executive Director, Irene S. Scully Foundation

Foundation Partners

California Department of Education
Crescent Porter Hale Foundation
Cognizant Foundation
East Bay Community Foundation
Educate 78
Environmental Volunteers
John Legend's Show Me Campaign
Lambert Byrd Foundation
The National Writing Project
NoVo Foundation
Oakland Public Education Fund
Oakland Fund for Children and Youth
Olivann
Philanthropic Ventures Foundation
Quest Foundation
Kenneth Rainin Foundation
Rogers Family Foundation
Silicon Schools
Irene S. Scully Foundation
The Stocker Foundation
The Uplands Community Foundation
Warriors Community Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation



The LCPS Making, Art, and Design Program allows students to dive deeply into rigorous and relevant topics. They demonstrate their knowledge and skills through "making" — the act of tinkering, hacking, designing, and building. Generous support from Cognizant Foundation, Quest Foundation, Wells Fargo Foundation and our Lightkeepers make this program possible.

Our Partners

Making the Work Possible

Community Partners

California Charter Schools Association
Families In Action
First Republic Bank
GO Public Schools
National Equity Project
Pacific Charter School Development
The Oakland Public Education Fund
The Oakland REACH
Seneca Family of Agencies
Vision Quilt

Partner Highlight:
For four years, Vision Quilt has partnered with Lighthouse middle school students and teachers to lift up student voices against gun violence. This partnership empowers students to create their own solutions to gun violence through the art and inclusive dialogue.

VISIONQUILT



Partners in College-Going Success

Alex R. Graf Memorial Scholarship Fund
Braven Career Booster Program
Destination College Advising Corps (DCAC)
East Bay Consortium
Expeditionary Learning
Google Giving Week Donors
Oakland Promise
The Posse Foundation
Peter Sategna Educational Foundation

Partner Highlight:
In 2020, six Lighthouse students were awarded Oakland Promise Scholarships, which include personalized mentoring throughout college. Viridiana, pictured below, is a 2020 scholarship recipient, now attending UC Merced.



Viridiana, Lighthouse Class of 2020

Photo credit: Jessica Christian/The Chronicle

Our Leadership

Working for the Future



Vi Le, Lodestar Assistant Principal with partner, Mike, and children, Rosa (4th Grade) and Joseph (Kindergarten)

"Our Core Values keep my family deeply connected to Lodestar. I have the honor of working alongside amazing colleagues who are committed to improving learning and elevating the voices of our students — my own children included! We lean into our strengths, are honest where we need to grow, and know we shine brightest when we are in community."

-Vi Le, Lodestar Assistant Principal and Lodestar Parent

Board of Directors

Melissa Barnes-Dholakia, Executive Director, MBD Partners

Wayne Delker, Chief Innovation Officer (retired), Clorox

Eduardo Figueroa, Student, UC Berkeley School of Law

Kimi Kean, Project Lead, Families in Action for Quality Education (Board Chair)

Mark Milner, Risk Management and Finance Executive (retired)

Alicia Moore, Head of Global ATM Partnerships, Visa

Soo Zee Park, Chief Business Officer, Leadership Public Schools

Brian Rogers, CEO, Rogers Family Foundation

Sara Solar, Director of Talent Partnerships & Programs, Educate78

Brandon Wall, Data Scientist, InClassToday

Kenya Williams, Director of Operations, Novato Charter School

Executive Leadership and Principals

Rich Harrison, Chief Executive Officer

Shannon Wheatley, Chief Academic Officer

Tina Hernandez, Lighthouse K-8 Principal

Kelly Lara, Lighthouse High School Principal

Robbie Torney, Lodestar K-5 Principal

Jeff Camarillo, Lodestar 6–8 & Founding High School Principal

Lighthouse graduates are lifelong change-makers who realize their unique vision — rooted in their identity, knowledge, and skills — to create equity in their own lives and in the community, leading to a healthier, more joyful world.

Alex Graf Memorial Fund

Planning with Care and Intention



Rudi and Dorothy Graf with Alberto Ocegueda
Lighthouse Class of 2016

Rudi and Dorothy Graf established the Alex R. Graf Memorial Scholarship Fund to commemorate the life of their son, Alex, who tragically passed away in 2003. A close relationship with his cousin, Laura Kretschmar, a founding Lighthouse teacher, made Alex a welcome and frequent visitor to Lighthouse.

Because of his educational opportunities, Alex was able to pursue his dream of living in China and working in the film industry. The Grafs wanted Lighthouse students to be able to follow their passions as Alex did. The ARG Memorial Scholarship has awarded up to four full college scholarships every year since 2009. As of 2020, 25 Lighthouse High School graduates have received a combined $400,000 in college scholarships.

The Grafs also gave generously in April 2020 to assist LCPS families impacted by COVID-19.

Public Charter School Facts

Supporting All Students

What is a public charter school?

All charter schools in California, including Lighthouse Community Public Schools, are tuition-free public schools, operated by non-profit organizations that are required to hold board meetings open to the public. Enrollment is open to all students regardless of zip code, income, or ability.

A charter is a contract with an authorizer, often a local school board, detailing the school's mission, program, performance goals, and methods of assessment. Authorizers hold charter schools accountable for compliance with operating agreements. Charter schools can operate with greater flexibility than traditional public schools in exchange for increased accountability. At LCPS, that increased flexibility allows us to hire our staff, manage our resources, and set ambitious goals, giving us the freedom to provide much of the unique programming and student supports highlighted in this report.

Increased accountability includes:

- Financial reporting and monitoring.
- A rigorous renewal process every 2-5 years.
- Annual oversight visits by the Oakland Unified School District.
- A review of categorical programs through the Federal Program Monitoring process.

Local Authorizer for Lighthouse Community Public Schools:

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Community Schools, Thriving Students

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



Chanyah is a Lighthouse Class of 2020 graduate joining the US Army.





LIGHTHOUSE

A Lighthouse Community Public School

Lighthouse Campus
444 Hegenberger Road
Oakland, CA 94621
K-8 Front Desk: (510) 562-8801
9-12 Front Desk: (510) 562-8825

LODESTAR

A Lighthouse Community Public School

Lodestar Campus
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Oakland, CA 94603
K-5 Front Desk: (510) 775-0255
6-9 Front Desk: (510) 775-0382

Email: info@lighthousecharter.org

www.lighthousecharter.org

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