



# The OPEF Leaflet

### Meet OPEF'S Newest Board Members!



**Massimo Cibelli**  
Board Member,  
Communications Chair




**Rebecca Furman**  
Board Member,  
Development Committee



**Darren Smith**  
Board Member,  
Development Committee


### Meet our OPEF Ambassadors!




**Meera Sapatnekar**  
OPEF Ambassador @ Red Oak Elementary School



**Deet Ezra**  
OPEF Ambassador @ Oak Hills Elementary School



**Arianne Walker**  
OPEF Ambassador @ Brookside Elementary School & Medea Creek Middle School



**Carmela Barbieri**  
Development Chair since 2018, taking on the additional role of OPEF Ambassador @ Oak Park High School

### OPEF Board Chairman, Brandon McFadden, Shares September Highlights!

Dear OPUSD Community,

It is with much excitement that I introduce our latest edition of the OPEF Leaflet. We have much on which to update you. A big thank you to our all volunteer Board for the recent programs we've approved to fund this year and to a successful 1st annual Golf Fore! the Schools fundraising event at Wood Ranch Country Club.

Thank you to the families who have already donated at the start of the school year. We appreciate that there were many requests for support at the beginning of the year across all of the schools. Let's get that school spirit and those competitive juices flowing on our participation contest for our Back to School annual appeal. Check out the updated standings below. It's a close race! Don't standby while others are helping. Every single donation is meaningful to support your kids.

I am thrilled to announce three new additions to the Oak Park Education Foundation's Board of Directors, as well as the appointment of OPEF Ambassadors to each of our schools. Please join me in welcoming Darren Smith, Rebecca Furman, and Massimo Cibelli to our Board of Directors. They each bring unique skill sets and a passion for giving to OPUSD. We have also appointed Arianne Walker as OPEF Ambassador to Brookside Elementary School and Media Creek Middle School, Deet Ezra as Ambassador to Oak Hills Elementary, Meera Sapatnekar as Ambassador to Red Oak Elementary School and Carmela Barbieri, Development Chair for OPEF, is also assuming the role of Ambassador at Oak Park High School.

We are looking for additional volunteers who want to roll up their sleeves and help. Please see below for positions we are looking to fill and reach out to anyone on our Board or our Executive Director, Vicki Raven, to express your interest (or to nominate a friend!).

Sincerely,

**Brandon McFadden**  
OPEF Board Chairman

### OPEF Board Announces Bold, New Funding Plan for OPUSD Programs

In August 2019, the OPEF Board discussed and voted to fund the following OPUSD staff positions and programs:

- K-3 Trained Instructional Aides at the Elementary Schools
- An Additional Counselor at Medea Creek Middle School
- A part-time College & Career & Internship Coordinator at Oak Park High School (OPHS)
- OPHS Choir Accompanist for Fall & Spring Performances
- OPHS Rocket and Aviation Team
- OPHS Cheer Team
- OPHS Debate Team
- K-12 Odyssey of the Mind

The OPEF Board still realizes that the number one primary motivation for giving to the Foundation is maintaining OPUSD as one of California's best school districts. Because of that, the Board approved to support \$500,000 worth of priorities for the 2019-2020 school year.

In order to sustain OPEF's ability to fund year-after-year, we as a community, as parents, as relatives supporting our OPUSD children need to come together and give generously. Our ask per family is \$1,000, and to help get each family get started, OPEF is kicking off our **Dollar a Day Campaign!**

For just a dollar a day, \$365 or \$30/month, you can be a part of making a difference in our children's education at OPUSD. Click on the blue button below to donate today!

Make a Difference!  
DONATE

### Fundraising Update: Donor Participation Contest!

OPEF's donor participation contest ends on **September 30th!** As of today, the schools in the top 3 spots are:

- 1st Place - Medea Creek Middle School
- 2nd Place - Oak Park High School
- 3rd Place - Brookside Elementary School

Right now, MCMS is less than 2% higher in donor participation than OPHS, which means the high school can still win it!

**Remember!** In order for each school to get credit and place 1st-3rd in the participation contest, each parent that donates ANY AMOUNT to Oak Park Education Foundation will be given credit. The payout for each school that places is below and will be paid out to each PTA/PFA.

- 1st Place - \$1,500
- 2nd Place - \$1,000
- 3rd Place - \$750

Click Here To Give Now!

### You're Invited to Join the OPEF Board at our Monthly Board Meetings!

JOIN US!

OPEF is dedicating the first 15 minutes of our monthly board meetings to hearing feedback and/or updates from folks within our OPUSD community. Though we may not have time to hear all comments during this short time frame, we consider your feedback valuable and encourage you to **join us from 7:00PM - 7:15PM** on any of the following dates throughout the 2019-2020 school year:

- October 14, 2019
- November 4, 2019
- December 9, 2019
- January 13, 2020
- February 10, 2020
- March 9, 2020
- April 6, 2020
- May 11, 2020

### OPEF Hosts its Inaugural Golf Tournament, Raises \$17,000!



On September 9, 2019, Oak Park Education Foundation hosted Golf FORE! The Schools at Wood Ranch Golf Club in Simi Valley. Several members of the OPUSD community were in attendance and enjoyed a day of golfing, bidding on their favorite silent auction items, and doing their part in securing a better future for our children. Thank you to all who not only attended but volunteered to make this event a great success! We raised ~\$17,000 as a result, and OPEF is so grateful!

### We Need Volunteers!

GET INVOLVED  
WE NEED YOUR HELP!  
VOLUNTEER

OPEF is looking for folks who are interested in getting involved with what we do here at OPEF. [Click here](#) to find the right role for you and reach out to [vicki.raven@oakparkeducationfoundation.org](mailto:vicki.raven@oakparkeducationfoundation.org) TODAY to let us know you're interested!

#### Treasurer

OPEF is looking to fill a Board position that will be available soon. If you're interested and qualified to fill the role of Treasurer, please let us know. The Treasurer leads the Finance Committee and is responsible for oversight of bookkeeping, paying invoices, financial budgeting and reporting, account maintenance, and regularly attending Board meetings.

Requirements include some bookkeeping experience, proficiency in Quickbooks and Excel, and a collaborative approach in working with the OPEF Board and it's Executive Director.

#### Bookkeeper

OPEF is looking for a volunteer to assist in performing the bookkeeping function. Requirements include bookkeeping experience (3+ years), as well as proficiency in Quickbooks and Excel.

The individual will work under direction of the Executive Director, Treasurer, and/or Finance Committee to classify donation sources and expense types, process invoices, and generate basic financial reports.

#### Graphic Designer

OPEF is looking for a volunteer to assist in designing graphics for marketing and social media campaigns. Will conceptualize, design, and create mock-ups from small enhancements to entirely new designs. Will design clear, engaging graphic communications for print and the web.

Work closely with the Executive Director, Marketing Chair, and/or Development Chair to translate messaging concepts into marketing materials.

### Odyssey of the Mind (OM) is starting its 6th season in OPUSD!



Odyssey of the Mind is an acclaimed international STEAM program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Teams of up to seven students apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics.


Each year, OPUSD teams have put their STEAM skills into action with the support of their parent coaches. They have placed highly at Regionals, advancing to State, and in recent years have gone to compete and place at the World Finals.

All children and families are welcome to learn more. If interested or already have a team formed for this season, please fill out this [OM Google Interest Form](#) by Friday, September 27, 2019.

The 2019-2020 Long-Term Problem Synopses can be found in the attached/linked PDF.

For more information, please visit: Odyssey of the Mind and/or send an email to [ootmopef@gmail.com](mailto:ootmopef@gmail.com)

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**Oak Park Education Foundation**  
"A Promise to our Children"  
is a 501(c)(3) non-profit education foundation supporting the Oak Park Unified School District.  
Tax ID # 58-2676917.  
Contributions are tax deductible and may be eligible for corporate gift matching programs.

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A Promise to our Children

