

Ontario-Montclair

School District

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Bank of America Charitable Foundation Awards \$10,000 Grant to Support College & Career Pathways for Ontario-Montclair Students

Ontario, CA — The Ontario-Montclair School District (OMSD) and the Ontario-Montclair Schools Foundation (OMSF) are proud to announce they have been awarded a \$10,000 grant from Bank of America Charitable Foundation. This generous funding will directly support the **Promise Scholars** program—an innovative, universal college access initiative that serves OMSD students from kindergarten through college in the Inland Empire.

The grant titled *Expanding Opportunities for Our Students Along the Path to College and Career*, will help fund outreach and programming in grades K–College across OMSD schools and Chaffey, Ontario, and Montclair High Schools within the Chaffey Joint Union High School District.

OMSD Superintendent Dr. James Q. Hammond remarks, "This invaluable support from Bank of America significantly reinforces our shared commitment to cultivating a foundational culture within our district, where every student, from their earliest elementary years, envisions themselves on a path toward college and career readiness."

Promise Scholars offers a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate curriculum that introduces college and career readiness beginning in kindergarten. Key milestones include:

- **Elementary Grades (K–4):** Lessons that explore postsecondary pathways and careers.
- **5th Grade:** Visit local community colleges, including campus tours, lunch, a Promise Scholars t-shirt, and a reflective survey.
- **6th Grade:** Career presentations from local professionals highlighting real-world applications of classroom learning.
- **8th Grade:** University campus visits featuring admissions guidance, major exploration, and a panel of first-generation college students.
- **9th Grade:** Personality assessments to align strengths with future career paths.
- **11th–12th Grades:** College readiness assessments (EAP), financial aid support, FAFSA and DREAM Act workshops, and step-by-step college application assistance.

“Our Community, Our Children, Our Commitment, Our Future”

Bank of America's support extends beyond financial contributions. Through its **Better Money Habits** initiative, the bank offers volunteer-led financial literacy workshops covering topics such as savings, credit building, and homeownership. In addition, Bank of America volunteers are ready to assist with mentoring and community service projects across the district.

"We are grateful to have Bank of America as a true partner in this journey," OMSF President Albert Maldonado added. "Their commitment to economic mobility and educational opportunity aligns perfectly with our mission to serve all students regardless of their background, or performance level."

The Promise Scholars program also collaborates with seven partner colleges and universities: Azusa Pacific University, Cal Poly Pomona, Chaffey College, CSU San Bernardino, CSU Bakersfield, University of La Verne, and University of Redlands, whose presidents have signed agreements guaranteeing a place in college for every OMSD student who completes the pathway and graduates from a local CJUHSD high school.

For more information about Promise Scholars or to support the Ontario-Montclair Schools Foundation, visit www.promisescholars.org.



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