

## **OEA Concerns About Common Enrollment**

**OEA BELIEVES** OUSD schools in every neighborhood should receive the support and resources needed to provide every student with a quality education, not an enrollment system that undermines their capacity to improve by directing students and resources away from them.

Many parents have expressed a desire for some degree of flexibility. The current enrollment and student assignment system has not provided an equitable and efficient methodology that addresses the needs of families. It favors those with the time, knowledge and fortitude to navigate it over those who lack such advantages. We believe the proposed common enrollment system **does not fix and, in fact, perpetuates many of the problems of the current system and adds new ones.**

- Even its advocates admit that where a common enrollment system has been implemented it has failed to fully address economic and racial inequalities.
- Site based decisions should begin with site based enrollment. Any new system that continues to keep enrollment decisions away from the site will result in mis-assignments, overages, and underages. Such was the case when enrollment for our ECE programs was taken out of the hands of those providing the service and centralized to a location to which many parents were unable or unwilling to travel. ECE enrollment dropped as parents found other, less bureaucratic, alternatives.
- Common enrollment is dishonest: It presents all schools in its system as public schools, even though charter schools are privately run and not publicly accountable.
- Common enrollment increases inequity: It will boost numbers of families applying to charters, but won't require charters to alter discriminatory admissions, discipline, suspension or expulsion policies. (District FAQ: Common Enrollment will not "control or shape admissions policies at schools.")
- Common enrollment further entrenches a market-based corporate model that intensifies competition, instability, and a perpetual cycle of school disruptions.
- The unknown cost of this proposal is yet another diversion of resources away from classrooms. Will this be borne entirely by resources that can otherwise be used to benefit OUSD students?

