Continuing Academic Excellence in South Pasadena



South Pasadena Unified School District has a proven track record of academic excellence. Many families choose to live here because of the outstanding educators and educational programs offered at Arroyo Vista, Marengo and Monterey Hills Elementary Schools, South Pasadena Middle School and South Pasadena High School.

To protect our high-quality, public education and create schools that meet future instructional needs of our students, the South Pasadena School District Board has placed a bond measure on the November 8, 2016 ballot. The measure would raise up to \$98 million in bonds to fund necessary improvements for the schools and cost property owners approximately \$60 per \$100,000 of their property's assessed value, annually.

Strengthening South Pasadena Schools and Improving Educational Opportunities

Most of South Pasadena's school facilities were built more than 50 years ago and are in need of critical safety updates and renovations that support 21st-century learning. A comprehensive facilities assessment revealed the need for basic repairs to remove asbestos, repair leaky roofs, make seismic repairs and improve security to provide a safe and modern learning environment for all students. Additionally, by upgrading classrooms and labs, schools will support continued student achievement in math and science and technology.

Voter surveys and in-person meetings with community groups shed light on project priorities including state-of-the-art instructional spaces for visual and performing arts, science, technology, engineering and robotics as well as requests for upgraded locker rooms, fields, courts and playgrounds.

In California, general obligation school facility bond measures are the primary source of funding for major capital maintenance and improvement projects. Refer to the back of the fact sheet for a list of proposed projects to be completed using bond funds.

Ensuring Fiscal Accountability

All funding from this bond measure will stay local and will only be spent on South Pasadena schools.

Additionally, the following accountability measures will be included:

- A Citizen Oversight Committee and annual independent audits would ensure funds are used for voter-approved purposes only
- No funds would be used for administrators' salaries, pensions or benefits
- A facilities bond makes our schools eligible for future state matching funds, which otherwise would go to other school districts

