

**Pacifica School District
Protecting Quality Education
FAQ**

How are Pacifica elementary and middle schools doing?

We have excellent schools in Pacifica thanks to strong academic programs and dedicated local teachers that prepare our students to be successful in high school, college and the 21st-century world. Though our students continue to excel, the fact remains that our schools are among the lowest funded in San Mateo County.

How has local education funding helped our schools?

For the past seven years, our community has supported high quality education in our elementary and middle schools with locally controlled funding that cannot be taken away by the state. This critical source of local funding has supported our dedicated teachers and helped ensure our students receive a high quality education that prepares them for high school, college and 21st-century jobs.

However, this critical source of funding is set to expire soon unless renewed by local voters.

What action is the district considering to renew local funding?

The Pacifica School District Board of Education is considering renewing its existing \$118 parcel tax, without increase, during the June 2016 election. Without this continued source of local funding, the district would have to cut critical educational programs.

What would a renewal measure do?

If approved by voters, a renewal measure would:

- Enhance core academic programs like math, science, history, reading and writing
- Support outstanding art, music and electives critical to a well-rounded education
- Attract and retain qualified teachers
- Maintain classroom computer and technology instruction
- Strengthen school library programs
- Maintain programs to support struggling students

Would funds continue to be spent properly?

Citizens' oversight has consistently confirmed that previous funds have been spent as promised, and a renewal measure would uphold this precedent – without increasing the current tax rate:

- All funds would benefit local schools; nothing could be taken by the state
- No money would be used for administrators' salaries
- An independent Citizens' Oversight Committee ensures funds are spent as promised
- Senior citizen homeowners would continue to be eligible for an exemption
- The measure would expire in 10 years and could not be renewed without voter approval

Would all funds continue to stay in Pacifica elementary and middle schools?

Yes. Every penny from this measure would stay local to support elementary and middle school student achievement in Pacifica. None of the funds could be taken by the state or go to other communities.

Would exemptions still be available?

Yes. Seniors and people with disabilities receiving SSI would continue to be eligible for an exemption from the cost of the measure. For more information about exemptions and how to apply, please visit tinyurl.com/PSDExemptionForm.

Do parents contribute to our schools?

Yes. Parents and community members contribute to our schools year after year to help maintain critical programs. Our PTOs and the Pacifica Education Foundation (PEF) raise funds from parents, community members and organizations to support a variety of academic programs. Parent fundraising, state and federal education funding, grants and local community support through the existing parcel tax all are all important sources of funding for Pacifica schools to maintain high quality education for local students.

How can I learn more about the potential measure?

If you have questions or would like more information, please call or email Superintendent Wendy Tukloff at (650) 738-6625 or wtukloff@pacificasd.org. You can also visit www.PacificasD.org for more information about the district's budget.