

**CAMPBELL UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE O**

To continue funding academic/career-training programs in math, science, engineering, technology, arts and skilled trades that support college/career readiness; attract/retain qualified teachers/specialists; provide student mental health services and maintain manageable class sizes, shall the Campbell Union High School District measure renewing the expiring school parcel tax be adopted at the current rate of \$85 per parcel (no increase), continuing \$5,000,000 in annual school funding for 10 years, with senior exemptions and all money staying local?

YES
NO

**COUNTY COUNSEL'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF
MEASURE O**

A school district may levy a special tax upon approval by two-thirds of the votes cast on a proposal pursuant to section 4 of article XIII A of the California Constitution and sections 50075 *et seq.* of the California Government Code. The Board of Trustees (Board) of the Campbell Union High School District (District) has placed on the ballot a measure to renew the existing \$85 per year school parcel tax, which will begin on July 1, 2023, and continue on an ongoing basis unless ended by voters. While the ballot measure question on the ballot references the revenue projections for 10 years, the tax would continue until ended by the voters.

State law requires the District to state the specific purposes for which the tax proceeds will be used and only spend the proceeds of the tax for these purposes. The stated purposes of the tax proposed by Measure O are to:

- Maintain or expand class offerings in academic subjects such as math, science and English.
- Teach computer and technology skills to train students for high-demand jobs, such as high tech, health care and engineering.
- Recruit and retain highly qualified teachers.
- Provide career technical education and vocational training.
- Increase offerings of Advanced Placement classes to prepare students for college.
- Provide safe and clean schools.
- Maintain or reduce class sizes.

The measure also states that tax proceeds shall not be used for administrator salaries, benefits, or pensions. State law requires the District to provide additional accountability measures for the proceeds including (1) depositing the proceeds into a fund that is separate from other District funds, and (2) providing an annual written report to the Board detailing the amount of funds collected and expended and the status of any project authorized to be funded from the tax. An independent citizens' oversight committee will be appointed or designated by the Board to provide oversight regarding the expenditure of the proceeds of the proposed tax revenues.

The proposed tax does not apply to any parcel, upon approval of an application submitted for exemption by the District, that is an owner-occupied single-family residence of one or more persons 65 years of age or older; or persons receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age. All parcels otherwise exempt from property taxes would also be exempt from this proposed tax.

A "yes" vote is a vote to renew a tax of \$85 per parcel on parcels within the District on an ongoing basis.

**COUNTY COUNSEL'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF
MEASURE O-Continued**

A "no" vote is a vote to not renew the tax.

James R. Williams
County Counsel

By: Mary E. Hanna-Weir
Deputy County Counsel

COMPLETE TEXT OF MEASURE O

To continue funding academic/career-training programs in math, science, engineering, technology, arts and skilled trades that support college/career readiness; attract/retain qualified teachers/specialists; provide student mental health services and maintain manageable class sizes, shall the Campbell Union High School District measure renewing the expiring school parcel tax be adopted at the current rate of \$85 per parcel (no increase), continuing \$5,000,000 in annual school funding for 10 years, with senior exemptions and all money staying local?

PARCEL TAX AUTHORIZATION

By approval of this proposition by at least two-thirds of the registered voters voting on the proposition, the District will be authorized to renew without increasing the existing levy of an education parcel tax of \$85 per parcel annually to maintain a high-quality education in District high schools, subject to all the accountability requirements specified below. If approved, the special tax will be levied on an ongoing basis until ended by the voters.

PURPOSES

To protect quality education in Campbell Union High School District, including Branham, Del Mar, Leigh, Prospect, Westmont, Boynton and Campbell Adult and Community Education (CACE), funding from the existing education parcel tax will be used to support the following purposes. The specific purposes of the education parcel tax are described as follows:

- Maintain or expand class offerings in academic subjects such as math, science and English
- Teach computer and technology skills to train students for high-demand jobs, such as high tech, health care and engineering
- Recruit and retain highly qualified teachers
- Provide career technical education and vocational training
- Increase offerings of Advanced Placement classes to prepare students for college
- Provide safe and clean schools
- Maintain or reduce class sizes

The Board of Trustees will not fund any program other than those listed above from the proceeds of the education parcel tax. Under no circumstances shall any of the proceeds of the education parcel tax be used for administrators' salaries, benefits or pensions.

EDUCATION PARCEL TAX AND PROCEDURES

Amount of Education Parcel Tax. Subject to two-thirds approval of the voters, the existing education parcel tax of \$85 annually per parcel levied on an ongoing basis until ended by the voters (except exempt parcels, as described below), shall become effective commencing with fiscal year 2023-24 and shall be collected by the Santa Clara County Tax Collector at the same time as and along with, and shall be subject to the

COMPLETE TEXT OF MEASURE O-Continued

same penalties as general *ad valorem* taxes collected by said tax collector.

Definition of Parcel. A parcel shall be defined as any unit of land in the District that receives a separate tax bill from the Santa Clara County Tax Collector.

Exemptions. The following exemptions shall apply to the levy of the qualified special tax.

- Otherwise Exempt Property. All property that would otherwise be exempt from property taxes shall also be exempt from the education parcel tax.
- Senior Citizen Exemption. An exemption shall be available to persons who are 65 years or older and own and occupy as a principal residence a parcel subject to the education parcel tax.
- Supplemental Security Income Exemption. An exemption shall be available to persons who receive Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") for a disability, regardless of age, and own and occupy as a principal residence a parcel subject to the education parcel tax.

Property owners seeking the Senior Citizen, SSI or SSDI exemption must apply to the District for such exemption under procedures established by the District or otherwise as required by law or by the Santa Clara County Tax Collector.

Exclusive Procedures. The procedures described herein with respect to the levy and collection of the education parcel tax and exemptions, and any additional procedures established by the Board of Trustees of the District, shall be the exclusive claims procedure for claimants seeking an exemption, refund, reduction, or re-computation of the qualified special tax. Whether any particular claim is to be resolved by the District or by the County shall be determined by the District, in coordination with the County as necessary. The District's Board of Trustees may adopt such additional or supplemental procedures as it deems necessary or convenient for the administration of the education parcel tax.

ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

Government Code Accountability. In accordance with the requirements of California Government Code sections 50075.1 and 50075.3, the following accountability measures, among others, shall apply to the qualified special taxes levied in accordance with this Measure:

- the specific purposes of the education parcel tax shall be those purposes identified above under the heading "PURPOSES,"
- the proceeds of the education parcel tax shall be applied only to those specific purposes identified above under the heading "PURPOSES,"
- a separate, special account shall be created into which the proceeds of the education parcel tax must be deposited; and

COMPLETE TEXT OF MEASURE O-Continued

- the chief fiscal officer of the District shall file an annual written report with the Board of Trustees of the District showing (1) the amount of funds collected and expended from the proceeds of the education parcel tax and (2) the status of any projects, programs or purposes identified above under the heading "PURPOSES."

Citizens' Oversight Committee. In addition to the accountability measures required by the Government Code, an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees to advise the Board on the expenditures funded by the measure in order to ensure that said funds are spent for the purposes approved by the voters. The Citizens' Oversight Committee will monitor the expenditures of these funds by the District and will report on an annual basis to the Board and community on how these funds have been spent.

PROTECTION OF FUNDING

Current law forbids any decrease in State or Federal funding to the District because of the District's adoption of an education parcel tax. However, if any such funds are reduced because of the adoption of this education parcel tax, then the amount of the education parcel tax will be reduced annually as necessary in order to restore such State or Federal funding.

SEVERABILITY

The Board of Trustees of the District hereby declares, and the voters by approving this measure concur, that every section, paragraph, sentence and clause of this measure has independent value, and the Board of Trustees and the voters would have adopted each provision hereof regardless of every other provision hereof. Upon approval of this measure by the voters, should any part be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, all remaining parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent allowed by law.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE O

VOTE YES on Measure O to protect the outstanding education students receive at Boynton, Branham, Camden, Del Mar, Leigh, Prospect, and Westmont High Schools **without raising tax rates!**

Our high schools are a key part of what makes the Campbell Union High School District (CUHSD) community unique. Great teachers—a rigorous math, science, engineering, technology, and arts curriculum have prepared generations of students to succeed in college/careers.

Unfortunately, inadequate State funding and the expiration of our existing community-supported parcel tax are threatening the quality of local education. **Without renewing this funding, our district will have to make drastic cuts to academic programs, increase class sizes, layoff teachers, counselors, and support staff.**

Measure O does NOT increase tax rates. It simply extends our already existing modest parcel tax. **Measure O is necessary!**

Measure O will:

- Continue** funding career-training and technical education programs in computer programming and skilled trades.
- Maintain** math, science, engineering/technology programs.
- Attract/Retain** highly qualified teachers, counselors/support staff.
- Continue** visual arts, music, and performing arts programs.
- Maintain** manageable class sizes.
- Provide** student counseling/mental health services.
- Maintain** athletics and after-school programs that keep kids active, and away from drugs/crime.

Taxpayer safeguards are REQUIRED:

- ALL funds STAY LOCAL** for CUHSD schools/students
- The State CANNOT take this funding away
- NO funds are allowed for administrators' salaries/pensions
- Independent Citizens' Oversight and mandatory audits ensure funds are spent properly

Senior citizens and certain disabled persons are eligible for an exemption. We do not want this measure to become a burden to those living on a fixed income.

Whether you have school-age children or not, protecting the quality of local education is a wise investment. Good schools protect property values and keep our community strong.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE O-Continued

Join parents, teachers, staff and community leaders in **VOTING YES on O.**

Linda Goytia
Retired Teacher/Trustee CUHSD

Juan Fernandez Maculet
VP, Campbell High School Teachers Assoc.

Aine O'Donovan
Leigh High School Parent/Volunteer

Todd Trayer
Prospect High School Parent/Volunteer

Sul Gi Hong
Westmont High School Therapeutic Counselor

**NO REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE O
WAS SUBMITTED**

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE O

In March of 2020, district voters defeated the \$85 parcel tax (Measure K).

Now they're back to try again.

Clearly, district leadership hasn't gotten voters' message that taxes are too high, that government shutdown of the economy is wreaking havoc upon thousands of families struggling to pay the rent/mortgage, and that it is a bad idea to reward academic failures!!!

The election in 2020 measure and this ballot measure is paid for out of school revenues.

Let us look at the latest student academic performance:

2020-21 school year results: **25.11% below grade level for English.**

2020-21 school year results: **44.28% below grade for math.**

Source: California Department of Education Data Partnership—www.ed-data.org

The District rewarded students, parents, and taxpayers for the passage of the 2016 \$275,000,000 bond measure tax increase by the dismal results above!

Should you, the voters, reward the district for dismal performance scores in both subjects?

If no, we encourage you to vote **NO on Measure O.**

The statewide High School average expense per student is \$16,310 per year.

The District is spending more, at \$16,590 per student, for poor English and math scores.

Yet, they want more of your hard-earned money to pad their salaries and fat pension plans.

The measure says that none of the funds will be used for administration. But funds generated separately from this parcel tax can be used for administration expenses without limits. So, that is really an empty promise. Do not be fooled.

Tell the Campbell Union High School Board to be fiscally responsible by voting **NO on Measure O.**

If you reward failure, you will get more failure!

Don't reward bad behavior, vote No on O.

For more information, please visit us at www.svtaxpayers.org

Mark W.A. Hinkle
President: Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association

Joe Dehn
Chair: Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE O

Here's what our Measure O opponent didn't tell you: He doesn't live in our community and has filed similarly cynical, inaccurate, and deliberately misleading statements in communities across the county. **Measure O is absolutely needed and a sound investment in our local high schools—without raising tax rates!**

Here are the facts:

FACT: Measure O is about one thing—maintaining the quality of education in our high schools.

FACT: Measure O will NOT raise your tax rate. It simply extends **without increasing** the existing measure.

FACT: The quality of CUHSD schools, teachers, class sizes, and challenging instructional programs depends on Measure O to supplement limited State funding.

FACT: Without Measure O, significant existing funding will disappear from CUHSD school budgets, meaning drastic cuts to academic programs, increase class sizes; layoff teachers, counselors, and support staff, including: **5 College and Career Specialists, 16 different teachers, and 1 Coordinator of Career Readiness.**

FACT: Campbell Union High School District's state assessment results for the 2020-2021 school year place it in the top 15% of school districts statewide for scores in mathematics and English language arts. Additionally, CUHSD has seen a rapid improvement in the percentage of graduates successfully completing college eligibility requirements for the UC and CSU systems from 2017 to 2021—the percentage increased from 56% to 66%. [CASchoolDashboard.org](https://caschools.org).

FACT: Independent Citizens' Oversight and mandatory audits are required for fiscal accountability, and an exemption is available for senior citizens.

Protect **your** investment in our local high schools—**without raising your tax rate.**

VOTE YES on O.

Stacey Brown
President, CUHSD Board of Trustees

Creighton Nolte
Chair, CUHSD Citizen's Oversight Committee

Barbara West
Music Teacher, Branham High School

Vasudha Chittar
Prospect High School Parent/Volunteer