

San Mateo-Foster City School District

Measure A Parcel Tax Oversight Committee

Report on 2015-16 & 2016-2017 Allocation and Year-to-Date Actuals
by Van Do and Sue Olinger

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Oversight Committee Members

- Community Parent Representative: Van Do, Parent Committee Co-Chair
- CSEA Classified Staff Representatives: Sue Olinger, CSEA Committee Co-Chair, and Bessie Chong
- *We gratefully acknowledge and thank previous representatives for their service on the Measure A Oversight Committee:*
- Community Parent Representatives from 2011-2016: Vince Perrine, Mike Etheridge, Van Do
- SMETA Teacher Representatives from 2011-2016: Christy Rauch, Mary Lynagh-Shannon, Michelle Ballinger
- CSEA Classified Staff Representatives from 2011-2016: Luis Del Aguila, Blanca Cervantes, Sue Olinger

Measure A Ballot Language

To protect local schools from damaging State budget cuts, provide stable local funding that cannot be taken away by the State, and preserve quality education by attracting and retaining qualified teachers and staff, maintaining school libraries, providing middle school art and music programs and supporting small class sizes, shall San Mateo-Foster City School District increase the expiring school parcel tax by \$96 for seven years, with annual cost of living adjustments, exemptions for seniors and independent fiscal oversight?

Measure A Parcel Tax, approved by voters in 2010, has expired in June 2017.

Accountability Requirements

The provisions in this section are specifically included in this proposition in order that the voters and taxpayers in the District may be assured that their money will be spent wisely. The District shall file with its governing board each year a report stating the amount of the funds collected and expended and the status of any project authorized to be funded. As required by the laws of the State of California, the proceeds of the qualified special tax will be deposited into a special account established by the District and will be applied only to the specific purposes identified below:

- a) preserving quality education by attracting and retaining qualified teachers and staff;
- b) maintaining school libraries;
- c) providing middle school art and music programs;
- d) supporting small class sizes; and
- e) supporting programs which will enhance student achievement.

The District's Fiscal Advisory committee shall provide independent fiscal oversight by regularly reviewing the use of parcel tax funds to ensure that the funds are spent according to the specific purposes identified in this measure and that no parcel tax proceeds are taken away by the State.

Committee Meetings & Reviews

To ensure that the funds are spent according to the specific purposes identified in this measure, the 2016-2017 Measure A Oversight Committee met on the following dates and reviewed:

- January 10, 2017
- March 14, 2017

The Measure A Oversight Committee found that the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Measure A Funding Allocation was in compliance with Measure A requirements.

As the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year has ended, the Committee reviewed the allocation and year-to-date actuals as follows:

2015-2016 and 2016-17 Allocation and Actuals

Programs	2015-16	Actuals 2015-16	2016-17	Actuals 2016-17
	Positions (FTE)		Positions (FTE)	
Elementary School: 3 hours (0.375 F.T.E.) librarian aides per Elementary Schools	8.50	\$438,027	9.00	\$444,073
Middle School Librarians	1.00	\$107,766	2.00	\$188,110
Supporting TK - 3 small class sizes (Kept class size 1:24 instead of 1:30)	4.70	\$668,230	1.50	\$151,908
Supporting grade 4-8 class sizes (Kept class size average to 30:1 instead of 1:32)	13.12	\$1,312,918	13.20	\$1,336,793
To maintain a quality education not to layoff counselors due to budget cut	5.00	\$500,584	5.00	\$598,976
Provide Middle School MUSIC program	5.35	\$580,267	6.00	\$530,084
Provide 5th Grade Music Instrumental				\$169,812
Provide K-4 elementary music (consultant contract)		\$390,922		\$385,408
Provide Middle School Art program	3.17	\$312,048	3.17	\$320,271
Provide Physical Education program	19.5 CERT/15 CLASS	\$2,503,651	25 CERT/15.7 CLASS	\$3,038,894
To maintain a quality education by attracting and retaining qualified staff, not to layoff site custodians due to budget cut (Evening service District wide)	1	\$52,418		
Parcel Tax Surveys		\$0		\$47,800
Total	118.64	\$6,866,831	80.57	\$7,212,129
Education Foundation Donation				-\$110,000
Measure A Parcel Tax Revenues		\$6,866,831		\$7,102,129

Conclusion

With the accounting now in place for specific programs **the school district is in compliance** with the Measure A Parcel Tax allocations per the ballot language (provision 2).

Next Steps

The Committee would like to thank the Community for its support of Measure A. It had hoped that Measure Y, Measure A's replacement, would succeed.

Going forward, the Committee recommends that future measures be presented to the Community earlier with a minimum of 6 months in advance of its sunset to alert and educate the Community of funding needs.

The Committee recommends that the District consider putting forward another measure that will provide for the shortfall of \$7 million and continue support for:

- a) preserving quality education by attracting and retaining qualified teachers and staff;
- b) maintaining school libraries;
- c) providing middle school art and music programs;
- d) supporting small class sizes; and
- e) supporting programs which will enhance student achievement.