

FACT SHEET

Q. What is the proposed Measure?

A. The proposed Measure is a general obligation bond that would authorize \$18.5 million for school improvements. This would allow the District to build new classrooms at each school to replace old and outdated portables, construct a permanent Junior High at the current site, upgrade drainage, replace deteriorating plumbing and inadequate electrical systems, and improve student access to classroom computers and technology.

Q. Who can vote in the election?

A. All the registered voters who live within the boundaries of the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District are eligible to vote on the Measure and all bond proceeds will be used locally in the District to improve existing school sites.

Q. What is a general obligation bond?

A. General obligation (G.O.) bonds fund real property improvements such as the replacement of plumbing and electrical systems, and the modernization of classrooms. Similar to a home loan, G.O. bonds are repaid over 25 years. The loan repayment comes from a tax on all property located within the District's boundaries: residential, commercial and industrial. This funding method is widely used by school districts throughout California.

Q. Why is a bond needed?

A. The average age of the schools in the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District is over 60 years. Many of our classrooms and other facilities are outdated. The amount of improvements required can no longer be funded from the District's annual maintenance budget. The District has qualified for \$8.0 million in State funds for some of these improvements. However, local matching funds are required.

Q. What would the passage of the Measure mean to our community?

A. Permanent classrooms would be constructed to replace old and outdated portables. A permanent junior high school would be constructed on the existing site. Broken and deteriorating plumbing and inadequate electrical systems would be replaced or repaired. Students need access to modern classroom computers and technology. The measure would fund these improvements and make the school district eligible to receive over \$8.0 million in State-matching funds.

Q. What will the Measure cost the taxpayers, and how will it be assessed?

A. The annual tax rate is \$26.00 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation; an estimated \$2.00 a month. Do not confuse assessed valuation with market value. Assessed valuation is the value placed on property by the County pursuant to Proposition 13 and is typically much lower than the market value for which a property may be sold.

Q. How did the District assess the facilities needs at each school?

A. Working with a committee comprised of teachers, staff, parents, and other community members, a recommendation of required improvements was prepared. The District's architect conducted a review of the proposed improvements and prepared a facilities needs assessment. After careful study, the Governing Board of the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District decided to place a general obligation bond before the voters.

Q. What can the District do with the bond money?

A. Under State Law, bond money can only be used to acquire, construct, or improve school facilities. Bond funds are kept and monitored by the County Treasurer to ensure proper fund allocation. The payment of teacher and administrator salaries or operating expenses is strictly prohibited.

Q. What about using lottery money for these projects?

A. Under State Law, lottery money cannot be used for construction or repairs of school facilities.

Q. What happens if the Measure fails?

A. Facilities needs at each school will continue to escalate with time. Continued deterioration of our classrooms and school facilities will result in more costly repairs in the future. Unless the District is able to qualify with its local share, the \$8.0 million in State funds would be allocated to neighboring districts or other districts throughout the State that have qualified for the local match requirement.

Q. I don't have kids in school, why should I support this Measure?

A. Voting "Yes" on the Measure will have lasting, positive benefits to our community. It will maintain our schools as a center point of our community, allow for continued quality education for the students of San Lorenzo, and add to the value of our community and homes.