#### Measure H

"To improve, repair and equip San Carlos elementary and middle school facilities, including upgrading science and computer labs, libraries, classrooms and schools, adding classrooms and schools on existing sites to reduce overcrowding, renovating schools to meet health and safety standards, providing computers and other instructional technology equipment and infrastructure, and improving energy efficiency, shall San Carlos School District issue \$72 million in bonds, at legal rates, with citizens' oversight, annual audits and all funds used for San Carlos school facilities?"

#### **Full Text**

# SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT MEASURE

This proposition may be known and referred to as the "San Carlos School District School Construction, Repair and Improvement Measure" or as "Measure H".

#### **BOND AUTHORIZATION**

By approval of this proposition by at least 55% of the registered voters voting on the proposition, the San Carlos School District (the "District") shall be authorized to issue and sell bonds of up to \$72,000,000 in aggregate principal amount to provide financing for the specific school facilities projects listed under the heading entitled "BOND PROJECT LIST" below (the "Bond Project List"), and qualify to receive State of California matching grant funds, subject to all of the accountability safeguards specified below.

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY SAFEGUARDS**

The provisions in this section are specifically included in this proposition in order that the voters and taxpayers of the District may be assured that their money will be spent to address specific facilities needs of the District, all in compliance with the requirements of Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution, and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000 (codified at Sections 15264 and following of the California Education Code (the "Education Code")).

**Evaluation of Needs.** The Governing Board of the District (the "Board") completed a comprehensive assessment of the facilities needs of the District in order to evaluate and address such needs at each campus and facility, and to determine which projects to finance from a local bond at this time. The Board hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List.

<u>Limitations on Use of Bonds</u>. Proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition shall be used only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, including, to the extent permitted by law, the acquisition or lease of real property in connection with an existing or future financing of the specific school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List, including the prepayment of existing or future interim lease, certificate of participation or lease revenue bond financings, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. The Board shall establish an independent citizens' oversight committee (pursuant to Education Code Section 15278 and following), to ensure bond proceeds are expended only for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. The committee shall be established within 60 days of the date when the results of the election appear in the minutes of the Board. In accordance with Section 15282 of the

Education Code, the citizens' oversight committee shall consist of at least seven members and shall include a member active in a business organization representing the business community located within the District, a member active in a senior citizens' organization, a member active in a bona fide taxpayers' organization, a member that is a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District, and a member that is both a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District and active in a parent-teacher organization. No employee or official of the District and no vendor, contractor or consultant of the District shall be appointed to the citizens' oversight committee.

Annual Performance Audits. The Board shall conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. These audits shall be conducted in accordance with the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States for performance audits. The results of these audits shall be made publicly available and shall be submitted to the citizens' oversight committee in accordance with Section 15286 of the Education Code.

Annual Financial Audits. The Board shall conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the bond proceeds until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. These audits shall be conducted in accordance with the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States for financial audits. The results of these audits shall be made publicly available and shall be submitted to the citizens' oversight committee in accordance with Section 15286 of the Education Code.

Special Bond Proceeds Account: Annual Report to Board. Upon approval of this proposition and the sale of any bonds approved, the Board shall take actions necessary to establish an account in which proceeds of the sale of bonds will be deposited. As long as any proceeds of the bonds remain unexpended, the Superintendent of the District shall cause a report to be filed with the Board no later than January 1 of each year, commencing January 1, 2014, stating (a) the amount of bond proceeds received and expended in that year, and (b) the status of any project funded or to be funded from bond proceeds. The report may relate to the calendar year, fiscal year, or other appropriate annual period as the Superintendent of the District shall determine, and may be incorporated into the annual budget, audit, or other appropriate routine report to the Board.

### **FURTHER SPECIFICATIONS**

Joint-Use Projects. The District may enter into agreements with other public agencies or nonprofit organizations for joint use of school facilities financed with the proceeds of the bonds in accordance with Education Code Section 17077.42 (or any successor provision). The District may seek State grant funds for eligible joint-use projects as permitted by law, and this proposition hereby specifies and acknowledges that bond funds will or may be used to fund all or a portion of the local share for any eligible joint-use projects identified in the Bond Project List or as otherwise permitted by California State regulations, as the Board shall determine.

<u>Single Purpose</u>. All of the purposes enumerated in this proposition shall be united and voted upon as one single proposition, pursuant to Education Code Section 15100, and all the enumerated purposes shall constitute the specific single purpose of the bonds, and proceeds of the bonds shall be spent only for such purpose, pursuant to California Government Code Section 53410.

Bonds may be Issued in Excess of Statutory Bonding

Limit. Issuance of all of the authorized bonds might require the outstanding debt of the District to exceed its statutory bonding limit of 1.25% of the total assessed valuation of taxable property in the District. In that event, the District intends to seek a waiver of its bonding limit from the State Board of Education, which has the power to waive certain requirements of the Education Code applicable to the District. By approval of this proposition, the voters have authorized the District to seek such a waiver, and to issue authorized bonds in excess of the 1.25% limit as the State Board of Education may approve. No such waiver has yet been sought or granted.

Other Terms of the Bonds. When sold, the bonds shall bear interest at an annual rate not exceeding the statutory maximum, and that interest shall be made payable at the time or times permitted by law. The bonds may be issued and sold in several series, and no bond shall be made to mature more than 40 years from the date borne by that bond.

#### **BOND PROJECT LIST**

The Bond Project List below lists the specific projects the District proposes to finance with proceeds of the bonds. The Bond Project List shall be considered a part of the bond proposition and shall be reproduced in any official document required to contain the full statement of the bond proposition. Listed projects will be completed as needed at a particular school or facility site according to Board-established priorities, and the order in which such projects appear on the Bond Project List is not an indication of priority for funding or completion. Each project is assumed to include its share of costs of the election and bond issuance, construction-related costs, such as project and construction management, architectural, engineering, inspection and similar planning and testing costs, demolition and interim housing costs, legal, accounting and similar fees, costs related to the independent annual financial and performance audits, a contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs, and other costs incidental to and necessary for completion of the listed projects (whether the related work is performed by the District or third parties). The final cost of each project will be determined as plans are finalized, construction bids are awarded, and projects are completed. In addition, certain construction funds expected from non-bond sources, including potential State of California grant funds for eligible projects, have not yet been secured. Therefore, the Board cannot guarantee that the bonds will provide sufficient funds to allow completion of all listed projects. Alternatively, if the District obtains unexpected funds from non-bond sources with respect to listed projects, such projects may be enhanced, supplemented or expanded to the extent of such funds. Some projects may be subject to further government approvals, including by State officials and boards and/or local environmental or agency approval. Inclusion of a project on the Bond Project List is not a guarantee that the project will be completed.

The specific projects authorized to be financed with proceeds of the bonds under this proposition are as follows:

#### SAN CARLOS SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT MEASURE

#### BOND PROJECT LIST

# CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The following projects are authorized to be financed at the schools/sites listed below.

Arundel Elementary School Brittan Acres Elementary School Central Middle School Heather School
White Oaks Elementary School
Tierra Linda Middle School/
Charter Learning Center\*

- Acquire and install technology equipment, fixtures and infrastructure, including computers, tablets, mobile devices, software, interactive educational technology, digital projectors and cameras, monitors, audio systems, video systems, network equipment (including servers, network interface devices, network switches and routers, wireless network equipment, firewalls, network security equipment, racking, power and cooling equipment, wiring and uninterruptible power supplies), etc; rehabilitate and replace such equipment, fixtures and infrastructure as needed in the future. Technology equipment, fixtures and infrastructure includes existing technology equipment, fixtures and infrastructure as well as technology equipment, fixtures and infrastructure developed in the future.
- Modernize, renovate, rehabilitate, re-configure, expand, and/or upgrade classrooms, classroom buildings, restrooms, common areas and school support facilities (including library, media/technology centers, performing and visual arts, dance, band/orchestra, gymnasium, multipurpose room, food storage, preparation and service and office/staff support facilities), including interior and exterior (as applicable) doors, windows, door and window hardware, roofs, rain gutters and downspouts, walls, ceilings and floors and finishes, paint, siding, insulation, casework, cabinets, carpets, drapes, window coverings, lighting, sinks, drinking fountains, fixtures, signage, fencing, furniture and equipment. All or portions of these facilities may be used as joint-use projects within the meaning of Section 17077.42(c) of the Education Code (or any successor provision).
- Construct and/or acquire and install additional classrooms, classroom buildings, restrooms, common areas and school support facilities (permanent, portable or modular), including library, media/technology centers, performing and visual arts (including theaters), dance, band/orchestra, gymnasium, multipurpose room, food storage, preparation and service, and office/staff support facilities, and associated improvements.

<sup>\*</sup> Authorization of the projects described in this section at the Tierra Linda Middle School/Charter Learning Center schools/site does not limit the ability of the District to move the Charter Learning Center to a different site (as a new school or otherwise) and, if so moved, all such projects shall be authorized at such different site

signage, fencing and fixtures, and furnish and equip such facilities. All or portions of these facilities may be used as joint-use projects within the meaning of Section 17077.42(c) of the Education Code (or any successor provision).

- Modernize, renovate, rehabilitate, re-configure, expand, upgrade and/or construct laboratory classrooms, including science, computer, math, engineering, shop, art and design lab classrooms, and furnish and equip such classrooms.
- Replace portable buildings with permanent, portable or modular buildings, and furnish and equip such buildings.
- Acquire, install and/or construct renewable energy and/ or energy-saving systems, improvements and equipment, including photovoltaic solar panels and other electricity generation and distribution systems, natural light improvements, upgraded insulation, efficient lighting, windows and window coverings, shade structures, energy management and conservation systems, and other passive technologies, and structures to support such systems, improvements and equipment and related infrastructure; rehabilitate and replace such systems, improvements and equipment as needed in the future. Renewable energy and/ or energy-saving systems include existing systems as well systems developed in the future.
- Renovate, replace, upgrade, acquire, install and integrate major site/building/utility systems, equipment and related infrastructure and housing, including lighting, electrical (including wiring and related infrastructure for modern technology), heating, cooling and ventilation, sewer or septic tank, water (including well), gas, irrigation, drainage, fire detection and suppression, security (including surveillance), data, voice and audio-visual communication (including public address) and energy efficiency/management monitoring systems, networks, fixtures, equipment and controls.
- Inspect buildings and other structures and repair, replace and/ or improve such structures to eliminate/mitigate any structural deficiencies or dry rot, termite, mold or similar damage or hazards.
- Replace, acquire and install and/or construct storage areas, units or buildings (permanent, portable or modular).
- Acquire and install and/or construct shade structures (including covered eating areas).
- Safe path of travel and accessibility repairs, replacements, improvements and/or upgrades to roads, sidewalks, walkways (including covered walkways), handrails, guardrails, lifts/ elevators, ramps and other path of travel areas and buildings.
- Renovate, repair, resurface, upgrade, expand, construct and/or install and improve paved and other hard surfaces (including playgrounds, roads, parking lots and ramps), benches, walls, gates, fencing, playfields and landscaping, and acquire, improve, replace and/or upgrade playground equipment and fixtures.
- Reconfigure, renovate, repair, resurface, improve and/or expand roads, sidewalks, bicycle/scooter/skateboard storage facilities and parking and related areas and pick-up/dropoff and bus areas to improve ingress/egress and safety and increase capacity to meet site usage.

#### NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Construction of new schools and related facilities at existing school sites designed to meet student housing needs, including:

- Planning, designing, and constructing the schools and related facilities, including playgrounds, sports fields and other athletic facilities.
- Associated onsite and offsite development and other improvements made necessary by construction of such facilities, including grading and reconfiguring existing school sites, roads and access points and any necessary demolition and replacement of existing roads, landscape, buildings or other structures so the applicable site can accommodate two schools.
- Acquisition of any easements, licenses, land or rights of way
  made necessary by construction of such facilities, including
  easements, licenses, land or rights of way to provide access to
  the reconfigured school sites.
- Acquisition and installation of furnishings and equipment related to the newly constructed facilities.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Governing Board of the District determines that the construction of a new school on an existing school site is impractical, considering the comparative cost and other relevant factors, or prohibited by law, the acquisition of land upon which such school may be constructed and any easements, licenses or rights of way made necessary by such construction shall be authorized.

All or portions of these facilities may be used as joint-use projects within the meaning of Section 17077.42(c) of the Education Code (or any successor provision).

It is intended that the new schools be constructed, furnished and equipped with all the improvements, furniture and equipment authorized to be financed at existing schools under the heading "CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS" above and, therefore, all such projects are authorized at the new schools, albeit with such necessary modifications so that such projects are permitted to be completed as part of the newly constructed schools.

#### DISTRICT OFFICE

The following projects are authorized to be financed at the district office.

- Upgrade restroom plumbing and fixtures.
- Renovate, replace and/or upgrade lighting, electrical (including wiring and related infrastructure for modern technology) and heating, cooling and ventilation systems, including related fixtures, equipment and controls.
- Replace windows.

Alternatively, if the Governing Board of the District determines that the construction of a new district office is more practical than the renovation and repair of the existing district office, considering the facility's age, condition, expected remaining useful life, comparative cost and other relevant factors, the construction of a new district office shall be authorized, including planning, designing and constructing the facility, associated onsite and offsite development and other improvements made necessary by

such construction, acquisition of any easements, licenses, land or rights of way, and acquisition and installation of furnishings and equipment related to the newly constructed facility.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

All bond projects include the following as needed:

- Planning, designing and providing temporary housing necessary for listed bond projects.
- The inspection, sampling and analysis of grounds, buildings and building materials to determine the presence of hazardous materials or substances, including asbestos, lead, etc., and the encapsulation, removal, disposal and other remediation or control of such hazardous materials and substances.
- Address other unforeseen conditions revealed by construction, renovation or modernization (including plumbing or gas line breaks, dry rot, seismic and structural deficiencies, etc.).
- The inspection and analysis of grounds and buildings to assess compliance with, and acquire, install and/or construct other improvements to comply with, local, state and federal building, health, safety, access and other related requirements, including seismic safety requirements, Field Act requirements and access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Necessary onsite and offsite preparation or restoration in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable buildings, including demolition of structures; removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, drainage, utility lines (gas, water, sewer, electrical, data and voice, etc.), trees and landscaping; relocating fire access roads; and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, land or rights of way to the property.
- Acquire or construct storage facilities and other space on an interim basis, as needed to accommodate construction materials, equipment, and personnel, and interim classrooms (including relocatables) for students and school functions or other storage for classroom materials displaced during construction.
- Furnishing and equipping of classrooms and other school facilities; furnishing and equipping shall include initial purchases, and scheduled and necessary replacements, upgrades and updating of technology.
- Establishment of a bond-funded technology and/or facility repair endowment(s) to fund (i) the acquisition and installation of technology equipment, fixtures and infrastructure, including scheduled and necessary replacements, upgrades and updating of such equipment, fixtures and infrastructure, and (ii) scheduled and necessary listed bond project facility repairs, modernizations, renovations, improvements and upgrades.
- All other costs and work necessary and incidental to the listed bond projects.
- Acquisition of all or a portion of any school site or facility, or an interest therein, or make lease payments with respect to any school site or facility, encumbered in order to finance or refinance the listed bond projects pursuant to a lease, certificate of participation or lease revenue bond financing.

### **Tax Rate Statement**

An election will be held in the San Carlos School District (the "District") on November 6, 2012, to authorize the sale of up to \$72,000,000 in bonds of the District to finance school facilities as described in the proposition. If the bonds are approved, the District expects to issue the bonds in multiple series over time. Principal and interest on the bonds will be payable from the proceeds of tax levies made upon the taxable property in the District. The following information is provided in compliance with Sections 9400 through 9404 of the California Elections Code.

- 1 The best estimate of the tax which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the first series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$0.03 per \$100 (\$30.00 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2013-14.
- 2. The best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the last series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$0.03 per \$100 (\$30.00 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2025-26.
- 3. The best estimate of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$0.03 per \$100 (\$30.00 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation, which is projected to be the same in every fiscal year that the bonds remain outstanding.

Voters should note that estimated tax rates are based on the *ASSESSED VALUE* of taxable property on the County's official tax rolls, *not* on the property's market value, which could be more or less than the assessed value. In addition, taxpayers eligible for a property tax exemption, such as the homeowner's exemption, will be taxed at a lower effective tax rate than described above. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills and tax advisors to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

Attention of all voters is directed to the fact that the foregoing information is based upon the District's projections and estimates only, which are not binding upon the District. The actual tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary from those presently estimated, due to variations from these estimates in the timing of bond sales, the amount of bonds sold and market interest rates at the time of each sale, and actual assessed valuations over the term of repayment of the bonds. The dates of sale and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the District based on need for construction funds and other factors, including the legal limitations on bonds approved by a 55% vote. The actual interest rates at which the bonds will be sold will depend on the bond market at the time of each sale. Actual future assessed valuation will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process.

/s/ Craig Baker

Superintendent of Schools San Carlos School District July 16, 2012

# **Impartial Analysis of Measure H**

The California Education Code, beginning at Section 15100, authorizes a school district to issue bonds for certain purposes. However, voters must first approve the issuance of the bonds at an election. Education Code Section 15266 provides the measure passes if 55% of those voting on the measure vote for it.

The Governing Board of the San Carlos School District has proposed this measure, which would authorize the District to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$72 million. The bonds will have an interest rate not exceeding the legal maximum and will mature within 40 years from the date of issuance of the bonds. The District's best estimate of the tax rate levy per year per \$100,000 of assessed valuation to fund this bond is \$30.00 for fiscal year 2013-2014 and \$30.00 for fiscal year 2025-2026. The District's best estimate of the highest tax rate levy per year per \$100,000 of assessed valuation to fund this bond is \$30.00.

The California Constitution requires the listing of specific school facilities projects to be funded from the bond revenue and certification that the Board has evaluated safety, class size reduction, and information technology needs in the development of that list. The District's "Bond Project List" for the proposed bond is attached to the full text of the measure and generally contains the following: improving computer equipment and infrastructure; upgrading, acquiring, or constructing classrooms/other facilities; modernizing laboratory classrooms; replacing portable buildings; installing energy-saving systems; improving building systems (electrical, plumbing, etc.); improving access methods; planning/constructing/ furnishing new schools and facilities; improving building systems at the District office or constructing a new District office; disposing hazardous materials; and establishing repair endowments. Bond proceeds may not be used for teacher and school administrator salaries/benefits or other operating expenses. The Bond Project List, which also lists the seven schools eligible for such improvements, contains further specifics.

The California Constitution and Education Code require the District to take certain steps to account for the proceeds from the sale of the bonds. The District will direct the funds to be deposited into a special account, appoint a citizens' oversight committee, conduct annual independent performance and financial audits to assure that funds are spent only on the improvements listed on the Bond Project List and for no other purposes, and prepare annual reports listing the amount of funds collected and expended and the status of any funded project.

If the District's total bond debt exceeds the limit of 1.25% of the total assessed valuation of taxable property in the District because of this measure, this measure authorizes the District to seek a waiver from the State Board of Education.

A "yes" vote on this measure would authorize the San Carlos School District to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$72 million for the purposes listed in the "Bond Project List."

A "no" vote would preclude the San Carlos School District from issuing the bonds.

This measure passes if 55% of those voting on the measure vote "yes."

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Arguments in support of or in opposition to the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

# **Argument in Favor of Measure H**

Vote YES on H to repair and upgrade aging classrooms, science labs and technology in our excellent San Carlos elementary and middle schools, and prepare students to excel in high school, college and the 21st-century workplace.

San Carlos School District provides an excellent education. With great academic programs in math, science, reading and writing, as well as qualified teachers, our schools rank among the best in San Mateo County.

However, our oldest schools were built between 1920 and 1950 and need critical repairs to improve student safety, as well as upgrades for modern science and technology instruction.

By repairing old classrooms and inefficient electrical, heating and ventilation systems, our schools will cut expenses and utility bills, saving over \$7.8 million—money that can be used to protect quality education in the classroom.

Additionally, many local schools are 20% over capacity, and student enrollment is expected to grow by another 20% in just a few years. To avoid severe overcrowding, which hurts students' ability to learn, local schools require additional classrooms.

Vote YES on H to continue excellence in San Carlos schools.

- Update science labs, libraries and educational technology
- Complete necessary classroom repairs to meet current health and safety codes
- Replace old siding, remove dry rot and replace cracked, leaking windows
- Improve energy efficiency to save money that can be used in classrooms
- Provide additional classrooms to reduce school overcrowding

Measure H provides local control and financial accountability.

- The State cannot take away a single penny of Measure H funds
- Citizen oversight and annual audits ensure funds are spent as promised
- No funds for administrators' salaries, pensions or benefits

Our schools are a source of community pride, making San Carlos a desirable place to live and protecting high property values for all of us.

Please join parents, teachers and community leaders —vote YES on H.

/ <sub>S</sub> /	Bob Bredel	August 8, 2012
	San Carlos Realtor	

/s/ **Linda Teutschel** August 9, 2012 Former San Carlos Citizen of the Year

/s/ **Jennifer Webb** August 9, 2012 Past President, San Carlos Education Foundation

/s/ **Greg St. Claire** August 10, 2012 San Carlos Business Owner

/s/ **Ted Lempert** August 12, 2012 Former California State Assemblymember

# Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure H

In 2005, voters passed a \$38,000,000 bond measure for "classroom renovations, repair and upgrade of roofs, electrical, plumbing, heating." (Source: www.Ed-Data.K12.ca.us)

Now they're back for another \$72,000,000--and for what?

Answer: "Complete necessary classroom repairs," and "remove dry rot and replace cracked, leaking windows."

Sounds pretty similar, doesn't it?

And what will they be back for next time? Another bond issue at \$106,000,000?

Undoubtedly, they will say the money is to complete necessary classroom repairs.

Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me.

Budgets set priorities. Clearly the School Board doesn't consider those items a priority, because they're missing from their current budget.

Passage of this bond measure will allow the School Board to increase salaries and pensions of administrators and teachers **even higher**.

But California public school teachers are the highest paid in the nation. California students rank 48th in math achievement, 49th in reading. (Source: www.LAO.Ca.gov/reports/2011/calfacts/calfacts 010511.aspx)

Is it a good idea to reward poor academic performance and substandard maintenance with more money? No, it's not!

Send a message to the School Board that you want <u>real results</u> before they ask for another <u>dime</u> in tax increases.

If you value school maintenance more than making 40 years of bond payments, vote NO on Measure H.

# Remember, you can be <u>for</u> students and <u>for</u> schools, and <u>against</u> Measure H.

For more details, please visit our website: www.SVTaxpayers.org/measure-h

/s/ **John Roeder** August 17, 2012 President, Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association

/s/ **Harland Harrison** August 27, 2012 Chair, Libertarian Party of San Mateo County CA

Arguments in support of or in opposition to the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

# **Argument Against Measure H**

When school boards put bond measures, like Measure H, before the voters, they are saying, in effect, that everything else they are currently spending your tax dollars on, is more important than the projects for which this tax increase is being sought. They are saying every educational dollar spent today is more important than "to meet current safety codes" and to "insure student safety in the event of an earthquake".

Do you agree?

Furthermore, according to the 2011 STAR test results, there are 2,414 students in the district, which means the expense is \$29,826 per student before adding interest expenses and repayment of principle.

When you buy a home, the truth in lending laws require you be informed about the real cost of buying a home. Consumer laws should apply to bond issues. A \$72,000,000 bond issue paying, for example, 3 percent interest for 40 years means monthly payments of \$257.748.78 in principle and interest payments for total cost of \$123,719,414.40. As a consumer, you deserved to know the full truth about measure H.

Instead of paying \$3,092.985.36 (interest & principal) a year "to meet current safety codes", your educational dollars will go to big banks, investment brokers, and other wealthy people to be used as a tax shelter. Is this the best use of your tax dollars?

#### What's more important to you?

- 1. Spending \$3,092.985.36 a year on your child's safety and health in the schools.
- 2. Spending \$3,092.985.36 a year to fund tax shelters for big banks, investment brokers, and the rich.

If you value your child's health and safety more than funding tax shelters, vote NO on Measure H.

If you value school maintenance more than making bond payments for 40 years, vote NO on Measure H.

For more details, please visit our website: http://www.SVTaxpayers.org/measure-h

/s/John Roeder August 17, 2012 President, Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association

/s/ **Harland Harrison** August 17, 2012 Chair, Libertarian Party of San Mateo County CA

# Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure H

It's a shame that rigid ideologues—who don't live in San Carlos are misleading voters to the detriment of local elementary and middle school students. These naysayers submitted arguments against all school measures in San Mateo County, full of mistruths and distortions.

If they lived in San Carlos, these two lone opponents would know that education is a community priority. That is why student academic performance in our schools is among the top in the State. In addition, excellent schools protect property values for all, so our community has consistently supported strong education.

The facts speak for themselves.

- Every penny of Measure H funds go directly to neighborhood San Carlos elementary and middle schools and cannot be taken by the State. Measure H is a local solution since we can't rely on the State to provide the funding necessary to repair and upgrade our schools.
- Fact: Measure H is limited to priority school repairs and upgrades. Measure H will:
  - Update science labs, libraries and classroom technology
  - Repair classrooms to meet current health and safety
  - Replace old siding, remove dry rot and replace cracked, leaking windows
  - Improve energy efficiency to save money
  - Reduce school overcrowding

- No Measure H funds can be used for administrators' salaries. pensions or benefits.
- Citizen oversight and annual audits ensure Measure H funds complete voter-approved projects.

Measure H continues our local school district's history of sound fiscal management and focus on student achievement. Join us to protect our schools and keep our community strong—Vote Yes on H.

/s/	Heather Alexander	August 22, 2012
	CPA	

/s/**Ronald Collins** August 22, 2012 San Carlos City Councilmember

Vicci Mueller August 24, 2012 /s/ Teacher

Pamela Louie August 26, 2012 /s/ San Carlos School District Citizen's Oversight Committee Member

/s/Janet L. Hall August 23, 2012 Former San Carlos PTA Council President