

The California Constitution and state law authorize a school district, upon approval of two-thirds of the voting electorate, to levy a qualified special tax for specified purposes.

Currently, there is a special tax of \$84.85 on all taxable parcels in the District levied by the San Mateo-Foster City School District. This tax is set to expire on June 30, 2010. By this measure, the Board of Trustees of the District proposes to extend the special tax for a period of seven years beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2017 and to increase the rate of the tax to \$180.85 per year per parcel on all taxable parcels in the District. The new parcel tax would be adjusted annually for inflation by the Consumer Price Index for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose Metropolitan Area.

A parcel shall be defined as any unit of real property in the District which receives a separate tax bill for ad valorem property taxes from the San Mateo County tax collection officials. Any property owner aged 65 years or older may qualify for an exemption from the special tax if that property owner occupies the parcel. All property which would otherwise be exempt from ad valorem property taxes will also be exempt from the imposition of the tax.

The stated purposes of the special tax are to: attract and retain teachers and staff; maintain school libraries, provide middle school art and music programs, support small class sizes, support programs which will enhance student achievement.

The proceeds of the special tax will be placed into a special account. An independent citizens' oversight committee will be established to monitor the expenditures of the parcel tax revenues. An annual report is required that accounts for the parcel tax revenues collected and the manner in which they have been spent.

A "yes" vote on this measure would allow a special tax to be levied on property within the boundaries of the San Mateo-Foster City School District for a period of seven years beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2017 in an amount of \$180.85 per year per taxable parcel, adjusted annually for inflation by the Consumer Price Index for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose Metropolitan Area. The special tax would be used to: attract and retain teachers and staff; maintain school libraries, provide middle school art and music programs, support small class sizes, support programs which will enhance student achievement.

A "no" vote on this measure would not allow the special tax to be levied.

This measure passes if two-thirds of those voting on the measure vote "yes."