Argument Against Menlo Park City School District Parcel Tax Measure

The district claims there isn’t enough money to fund enrollment growth. FALSE!

From 2013-14 to 2014-15 alone, MPCSD’s total revenue increased by $5,748,669 (17%), while enrollment increased by ONE student.¹

From 2005-2014, enrollment rose from 2,133 to 2,904 (36%)¹, while total revenue nearly DOUBLED, from $19,885,846¹ to $38,089,792². That’s $23,580 per student, for 772 additional students.

They had so much money, they increased per pupil expenditure from $10,489 (2005)¹ to $13,985 (2014)², even after adding 772 students!

Does that sound like a district that doesn’t have enough money?

MPCSD’s revenue increases have far outpaced enrollment growth. They do NOT need the money! Yet, they want to start charging $17,307 per additional student ($2.20 x 7867 parcels), up to 213 students. Outrageous!

Are they going to add another permanent parcel tax every few years when enrollment increases? Where is all the existing extra revenue going, if not to fund new students?

Using MPCSD’s enrollment projections, we will pay the maximum parcel rate of $468.80, plus inflation, by 2020, FOREVER.

If Measures ___ and ___ pass, every homeowner will pay OVER $1,480³ in school parcel taxes in 2020. That’s more than what Woodside, Las Lomitas, and Portola Valley districts pay...COMBINED.

Voting NO on ___ and ___ saves you $700 dollars/year; $700 to invest in YOUR child’s education, not in the hands of a mindless bureaucrat.

Almost NONE of the parcel taxes in other districts are permanent. Since 2000, MPCSD’s asked for SIX parcel taxes and 2 bond measures. None have failed...yet.

Currently, we pay the HIGHEST parcel taxes on the peninsula. We have THREE permanent parcel taxes.

WE DON’T NEED FIVE.

Stop treating homeowners like ATM machines!

End the taxpayer abuse by voting NO on ___

¹www-ed-data.org
²MPCSD 2014-2015 Budget
³Assumes 2.5% annual inflation

Author, Alexander Keh
Signers:
Alexander Keh, Homeowner
Jennifer Sun, Homeowner