

Burlingame Elementary School District

Measure D

“To maintain excellent local schools by modernizing science labs, upgrading instructional technology/computers, adding classrooms/reopening an existing school to reduce current overcrowding, upgrading classrooms to meet current safety codes, renovating heating and electrical systems to save money, shall Burlingame Elementary School District issue \$56,000,000 of bonds that cannot be taken by the State, at legal rates, to renovate, construct, acquire local neighborhood schools, sites, equipment and facilities, with independent audits, citizen’s oversight, and no money for administrators?”

Full Text

The following is the full proposition presented to the voters by the Burlingame Elementary School District.

“To maintain excellent local schools by modernizing science labs, upgrading instructional technology/computers, adding classrooms/reopening an existing school to reduce current overcrowding, upgrading classrooms to meet current safety codes, renovating heating and electrical systems to save money, shall Burlingame Elementary School District issue \$56,000,000 of bonds that cannot be taken by the State, at legal rates, to renovate, construct, acquire local neighborhood schools, sites, equipment and facilities, with independent audits, citizen’s oversight, and no money for administrators?”

PROJECT LIST

The Board of Trustees of the Burlingame Elementary School District is committed to safe and secure schools with upgraded classrooms, libraries, science labs and educational facilities that meet current earthquake, fire and safety codes. In developing the scope of projects to be funded. The Board evaluated the District’s urgent and critical facility needs, including safety issues, class size, overcrowding and computer and information technology. The District conducted a facilities evaluation and received public input in developing this Project List. The Board has prioritized the key health and safety needs so that the most critical facility needs which impact core academic programs and Teacher retention are addressed. The Board concluded that if these needs are not addressed now, the problems will only become more pressing and expensive to address. **Therefore, in approving this Project List, the Board of Trustees determines that the District must:**

- (i) **Provide adequate classroom teaching tools and equipment to all students at every school.**
- (ii) **Update classrooms, libraries and educational facilities to meet current earthquake, fire and safety codes.**
- (iii) **Provide additional classrooms to reduce overcrowding.**
- (iv) **Upgrade classrooms to provide access for students with disabilities.**
- (v) **Adhere to specific FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY safeguards such as:**
 - (a) **All funds must BENEFIT LOCAL SCHOOLS,**
 - (b) **Sacramento must be prohibited from taking any of the funds raised,**
 - (c) **All expenditures must be subject to ANNUAL independent financial AUDITS,**
 - (d) **NO funds can be used for ADMINISTRATORS’ SALARIES and pensions,**
 - (e) **An independent CITIZENS’ OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE must be appointed to ensure that all funds are spent only as authorized.**

The Project List includes upgrades and improvements of the following types:

School Renovation, Repair and Upgrade Projects

Goal and Purpose: Since providing all students with equal access to modern, high-quality educational facilities will require new permanent classrooms or the reopening of Hoover School to reduce overcrowding in local schools, as well as the upgrading of existing 50-100 year old schools to address modern technology, local schools will benefit from projects including:

- Make repairs and energy efficiency improvements that will free-up money to protect the quality of classroom instruction in core subjects like reading, math, science and technology.
- Add classrooms/reopen school to reduce overcrowding.
- Repair or replace old, worn-out roofs, floors, walkways, lighting, plumbing and electrical systems.
- Modernize science labs and technology to prepare students for 21st Century learning standards.
- Replace old portable classrooms with new permanent classrooms.
- Modernize science labs, computer and instructional technology.

School Health and Safety and Energy Efficiency School Projects

Goal and Purpose: Since good, safe and up-to-date schools help protect and improve local property values and reduce maintenance and operating costs, returning more money to the classroom, schools and school sites will benefit from a variety of health and safety projects, such as:

Student Safety

- Update classrooms, libraries and labs to meet current earthquake, fire and safety codes.
- Upgrade classrooms to provide access for students with disabilities.
- Repair cracked and deteriorating playgrounds and walkway to prevent injuries to students.
- Provide modern fire-detection and alarms, emergency communication systems, lighting and security systems.

Energy Efficiency – Returning Savings to the Classroom

- Replace old and inefficient windows, lighting, irrigation, heating and ventilation systems which waste money and use the savings to prevent cuts to instructional programs.
- **Install energy efficient systems to save money and return the savings to the classroom to protect core academic classes and labs and retain qualified teachers.**

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District-Wide Instructional Technology and Wiring Projects To Maintain A High Standard of Achievement

Goal and Purpose: Improved computer technology will allow our teachers and students to use up-to-date teaching methods, enhance instruction in core academic subjects and better prepare our students for high school, college and 21st Century jobs:

- Updated instructional technology in the classroom for improved student learning.
- Upgrade and expand wireless systems, telecommunications, Internet and network connections.
- Upgrade classroom and library technology and teaching equipment to enhance instruction.
- Additional electrical service capacity to improve computer technology and internet access.

* * *

The listed projects will be completed as needed. Each project is assumed to include its share of furniture, equipment, architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, program management, staff training expenses and a customary contingency, and escalation for unforeseen design and construction costs. In addition to the listed projects stated above, the Project List also includes the payment of the costs of preparation of all facility planning, facility assessment reviews, environmental studies, construction documentation, inspection and permit fees, and temporary housing of dislocated District activities caused by bond projects. The upgrading of technology infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, computers, projectors, portable interface devices, servers, switches, routers, modules, smart boards, sound projection systems, printers, digital white boards, document projectors, upgrade voice-over-IP, phone systems, call manager and network security/firewall, and other miscellaneous equipment and software. The repair of school facilities includes, campus accessibility, utilities, and grounds, playground equipment, hard court surfaces, shade structures, libraries, District support facilities, fire sensors; athletic and play fields turf may be upgraded for safety and operational efficiency; renovate and paint interior and exterior building surfaces to extend their useful life; security, safety and communication systems and equipment; window and floor coverings (including tiles and carpeting); upgrade parking and student drop-off areas and service roads; upgrade irrigation systems; improvements and furnishings and/or other electronic equipment and systems. The Project List also includes the refinancing of any outstanding lease obligations, or the bridge loans taken to initiate voter approved projects. The allocation of bond proceeds may be affected by the District's receipt of State matching funds and the final costs of each project. In the absence of State matching funds, which the District will aggressively pursue to reduce the District's share of the costs of the projects, the District may not be able to complete some of the projects listed above. The budget for each project is an estimate and may be affected by factors beyond the District's control. The final cost of each project will be determined as plans are finalized, construction bids are awarded and projects are completed. Based on the final costs of each project, certain of the projects described above may be delayed or may not be completed. Demolition of existing facilities and reconstruction of facilities scheduled for repair and upgrade may occur, if the Board determines that such an approach would be more cost-effective in creating enhanced and operationally efficient campuses. Necessary site preparation/

restoration and landscaping, may occur in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable classrooms, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, utility lines, trees and landscaping, redirecting fire access, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of way to the property.

Bond proceeds shall be expended only for the specific purposes identified herein. Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District staff when performing work on or necessary and incidental to the bond projects. The District shall create an account into which proceeds of the bonds shall be deposited and comply with the reporting requirements of Government Code § 53410.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY: IN ACCORDANCE WITH EDUCATION CODE SECTION 15272, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL APPOINT A CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND CONDUCT ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDITS TO ASSURE THAT FUNDS ARE SPENT ONLY ON DISTRICT PROJECTS AND FOR NO OTHER PURPOSE. THE EXPENDITURE OF BOND MONEY ON THESE PROJECTS IS SUBJECT TO STRINGENT FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS. BY LAW, PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL AUDITS WILL BE PERFORMED ANNUALLY, AND ALL BOND EXPENDITURES WILL BE MONITORED BY AN INDEPENDENT CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THAT FUNDS ARE SPENT AS PROMISED AND SPECIFIED. THE CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MUST INCLUDE, AMONG OTHERS, REPRESENTATION OF A BONA FIDE TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION, A BUSINESS ORGANIZATION AND A SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATION. NO DISTRICT EMPLOYEES OR VENDORS ARE ALLOWED TO SERVE ON THE CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

No Administrator Salaries: Proceeds from the sale of the bonds authorized by this proposition shall be used only for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and school administrator salaries and other operating expenses.

Burlingame Elementary School District

Tax Rate Statement

Impartial Analysis of Measure D

An election will be held in the Burlingame Elementary School District (the "District") on November 6, 2012, to authorize the sale of up to \$56,000,000 in bonds of the District to finance school facilities as described in the proposition. If the bonds are approved, the District expects to sell the bonds in three 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 information presented in numbered paragraphs 1-3 below is provided in compliance with Sections 9400-9404 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

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 3 cents per \$100 (\$30 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 3 cents per \$100 (\$30 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2017-2018.
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 3 cents per \$100 (\$30 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation. The tax rate is expected to remain the same in each year.

The District's best estimate of the average tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue over all of the years the bonds will be outstanding is \$30 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation.

Voters should note that the estimated tax rates are based on the ASSESSED VALUE of taxable property in the District as shown on the County's official tax rolls, not on the property's market value. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

The foregoing information is based upon the District's projections and estimates only. 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 its 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.

Dated: July 24, 2012

/s/ **Dr. Maggie MacIsaac**
Superintendent

The California Education Code, beginning at Section 15100, authorizes a school district to issue bonds for certain specified purposes. However, the 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 Board of Trustees of the Burlingame Elementary School District has proposed this measure, which would authorize the District to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$56.0 million. The bonds will have an interest rate not exceeding the legal maximum and will mature in a maximum of 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 2017-2018. 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: upgrading classrooms/facilities to meet earthquake, fire, and safety requirements; improving access for those with disabilities; repairing playgrounds and walkways; providing modern fire, communication, lighting, and security systems; installing energy-efficient building systems; making repairs; adding classrooms and possibly reopening a school to reduce overcrowding; repairing/replacing worn-out building systems (roofs, floors, lighting, plumbing, and electrical); replacing portable classrooms with permanent ones; upgrading classroom and library technology and equipment; modernizing science labs, computers, and instructional technology and related systems; and obtaining other classroom/facility equipment. Bond proceeds may not be used for teacher and school administrator salaries and benefits or other operating expenses. The Bond Project List 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 contained in 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.

A "yes" vote on this measure would authorize the Burlingame Elementary School District to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$56.0 million for the purposes listed in the "Bond Project List."

A "no" vote would preclude the Burlingame Elementary School District from issuing the bonds.

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

Burlingame Elementary School District

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

Argument in Favor of Measure D	Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure D
<p>Vote Yes on D to continue top quality education in our Burlingame elementary and middle schools by repairing and upgrading aging classrooms, science labs and classroom technology to prepare students to excel in our 21st-century economy.</p> <p>Burlingame Elementary School District provides an exceptional education for local students. Due to strong classroom instruction and quality core educational programs, students consistently earn top scores on statewide exams.</p> <p>On average our schools are 70 years old. They require renovations and upgrades for 21st-century learning and to improve school safety. While some of our schools have been renovated, others have not. Additional classrooms are needed to accommodate a growing student enrollment.</p> <p>Measure D will ensure all students have access to modern and safe classrooms, science labs and updated technology. By upgrading aging heating and ventilation systems, our schools will save thousands of dollars annually—money that could be used to help retain teachers and protect academic programs.</p> <p>Vote Yes on D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update classrooms, libraries and educational facilities to meet current earthquake, fire and safety codes • Provide adequate classroom teaching tools, science labs and instructional technology for all schools • Provide additional classrooms and school facilities to reduce overcrowding • Upgrade outdated electrical, plumbing, heating and ventilation systems • Update classrooms to provide access for students with disabilities <p>Local Control and Fiscal Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds can be used for administrators’ salaries • All Measure D funds stay local and cannot be taken by the State • Citizens’ oversight and annual reports are required • Measure D will qualify our schools for future state matching funds <p>Our schools are a source of community pride. Families continue to move to Burlingame due to the quality of education our local schools provide, helping to protect local property values.</p> <p>Please join parents, teachers and neighbors—vote YES on D to continue quality education in Burlingame schools.</p>	<p>In 2007, voters passed a \$48,300,000 bond measure to “Maintain, repair, and upgrade facilities, classrooms, technology and safety.” (Source: www.Ed-Data.k12.ca.us)</p> <p>It’s now just 5 years later, and they’re back for another \$56,000,000--and for what?</p> <p>Answer: “renovating heating and electrical systems,” “upgrading classrooms to meet current safety codes,” and “Modernize science labs, computer and instructional technology.”</p> <p>Sounds pretty similar, doesn’t it?</p> <p>And what will they be back for in 2017? Another bond issue, at \$64,000,000?</p> <p>Undoubtedly, they will ask for the money to maintain, repair, and upgrade facilities, classrooms, technology and safety.</p> <p>Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me.</p> <p>Budgets set priorities. Clearly the School Board doesn’t consider those items a priority, because they’re missing from their current budget.</p> <p>Passage of this bond measure will allow the School Board to increase salaries and pensions--already above state averages (in 3 of 4 categories)--even higher.</p> <p>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)</p> <p>Is it a good idea to reward bad academic performance and sub-standard maintenance with more money? No, it’s not!</p> <p>If you value school maintenance more than making bond payments for up to 40 years, vote NO on Measure D.</p> <p>You can be for children, for schools, for teachers, and against Measure D</p> <p>For more details, please visit our website: www.SVTaxpayers.org/measure-d</p>
<p>/s/ Mark Lucchesi August 14, 2012 Manager / Mollie Stones</p> <p>/s/ Jenifer Beswick August 7, 2012 PTA Council President</p> <p>/s/ Alisa Ruiz-Johnson August 7, 2012 Realtor</p> <p>/s/ Jennifer Slaboda August 6, 2012 Burlingame Community Education Foundation President</p> <p>/s/ Jack Van Etten August 6, 2012 Retired Burlingame Police Chief</p>	<p>/s/ John Roeder August 17, 2012 President, Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association</p> <p>/s/ Harland Harrison August 13, 2012 Chair, Libertarian Party of San Mateo County CA</p>

Burlingame Elementary School District

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Argument Against Measure D

When school boards put bond measures, like **Measure D**, before the voters, they are admitting that everything they are currently spending your tax dollars on is more important than the projects for which this tax increase is being sought. Budgets set priorities. **They are saying every educational dollar spent today is more important than “to meet current earthquake, fire and safety codes”.**

Do you agree?

According to the web site: www.ed-data.k12.ca.us, there are 1,932 students in the district, which means the expense is \$28,985 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 **\$56,000,000** bond issue paying, for example, 3 percent interest for 40 years means monthly payments of **\$200,471.28** in principle and interest payments for total cost of **\$96,226,214.40**. As a consumer, you deserved to know the full truth about measure D.

Instead of paying **\$96,226,214.40 (interest & principal)** a year “to meet current earthquake, fire and 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 \$2,405.655.36 a year on your child’s safety and health in the schools.**
- 2. Spending \$2,405.655.36 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 D.

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

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

/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 D

It’s a shame that rigid ideologues who don’t live in Burlingame are misleading voters to the detriment of local elementary and middle school students. These naysayers submitted the exact same argument, full of mistruths and distortions, against every school measure in San Mateo County,

If they lived in Burlingame, the two opponents would know that our community is unique and desirable, with strong property values, because our schools are top in the State.

For decades, Burlingame residents have joined together to strengthen neighborhood schools because our priority is quality education for local children.

We know the facts and we’re voting YES on D.

- No other source of funding exists to complete the repairs and upgrades our schools require.
- Because Burlingame schools have prioritized strong academic programs and qualified teachers, student achievement is top in the State.
- Measure D funds can only be used for school repairs and upgrades. No funds can be used for administrators’ salaries, pensions or benefits.
- Measure D will:
 - o Update schools to meet current earthquake, fire and safety codes
 - o Provide upgraded science labs and technology
 - o Reduce school overcrowding
- Citizen oversight and annual audits ensure all Measure D funds complete voter-approved projects, ensuring promises are kept.

We can’t rely on the State to adequately fund the excellent education we expect from Burlingame schools. Measure D is a local solution—all funds stay in Burlingame schools and cannot be taken by the State.

Join us: Vote Yes on D and make a difference for Burlingame students.

/s/ **Jim Cannon** August 23, 2012
Trustee San Mateo County Board of Education

/s/ **Ricardo Ortiz** August 23, 2012
Past Chair-Measure A Oversight Committee

/s/ **Michael Jarrett** August 24, 2012
Burlingame Business Owner

/s/ **Annette J. DeMaria** August 24, 2012
Teacher Burlingame School Dist.

/s/ **Kristin Andersen** August 25, 2012
C.P.A.