

WISEBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE "AA" FACT SHEET AND Q & A

The Wiseburn School District has made good use of prior support from the community to completely rebuild all of our schools. All Wiseburn schools have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools, and test scores and graduation rates have increased to some of the highest in the South Bay. To build a local Wiseburn high school to complete the academic success of our students, the Board has placed Measure "AA" on the November ballot.

Q. What is Measure "AA" and what would it do?

A. Measure "AA" is an \$87 million General Obligation Bond that will:

- Build a 21st century high school for Wiseburn students with state of the art computers, labs and modern classroom technology focused on academic success in math, science, and the arts
- Improve academic performance, safety, and security by allowing our students to continue their education within the academic standards and boundaries of the Wiseburn School District
- Require an independent oversight committee and annual audits to ensure money is used only for voter approved school improvements and repairs and not used for salaries, administration, and overhead

Q. What are General Obligation (G.O.) Bonds?

A. G.O. bonds fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities. Similar to a home loan, G.O. bonds are repaid over time, typically a 25 year period.

Q. How would Measure "AA" be repaid?

A. The repayment comes from a tax on all property located within the District's boundaries: residential, commercial, and industrial. The tax rate for repayment is determined by the assessed valuation, not 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. Measure "AA" would increase the tax rate currently being paid by voters by \$22.70 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. Approximately eighty percent of the total cost of Measure "AA" would be paid by commercial and industrial property owners within the District and twenty percent is projected to be paid by residential owners.

Q. What safeguards exist for taxpayers?

A. Measure "AA" requires annual audits, and an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure money is used only for voter approved school improvements and repairs and not used for salaries, administration, and overhead.

Q. What about using other sources of funding, such as State Funds, the District's General Fund, and Lottery Funds?

A. The General Fund is budgeted in large part on annual funds from the State to cover the ongoing costs of running a school district, including instruction and teacher salaries, and does not account for the needs including school repair and construction. State law prohibits the use of lottery funds for the repair or construction of school facilities.

Q. What happens if Measure "AA" fails?

A. The construction of a Wiseburn High School would be delayed as the District seeks other sources of funding.

Q. Who can vote in the election?

A. All the registered voters who live within the boundaries of the Wiseburn School District are eligible to vote on the local measure. The election is scheduled for November 2, 2010. The last day to register to vote in the election is October 18, 2010.