



Long Beach Unified School District
CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE



**2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE COMMUNITY**

Message from the Chairperson

The Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) is proud to present this Annual Report highlighting achievements of the Long Beach Unified School District's bond program during the fiscal year spanning July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021.

The 2020-21 fiscal year welcomed students back to classroom-based teaching following the unprecedented shift to remote learning at all LBUSD campuses during the global COVID-19 pandemic. Many students returned to renovated classrooms or learning spaces constructed from the ground up, including Millikan High School's new 50,000-square foot facility. At Jordan High School, students returned to a modernized auditorium and library, the latter of which is highlighted in this report.

The COC actively reviewed expenditures, financial statements and staff reports on various capital projects funded by the District's Measure K and Measure E bonds. After a rigorous review process, an independent audit firm granted the District its highest financial accountability and performance rating for the ninth consecutive year.

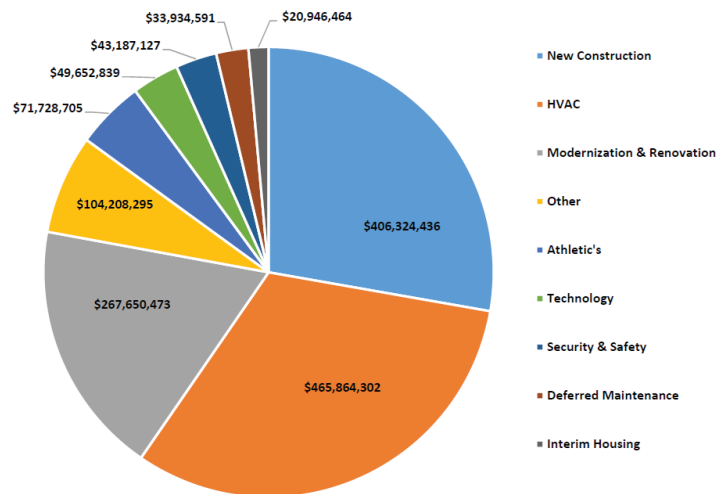
We're pleased to affirm the auditor's findings, and we're proud to oversee a program that is helping build brighter futures for our students.

Walter Larkins
Chairperson
LBUSD Citizens' Oversight Committee

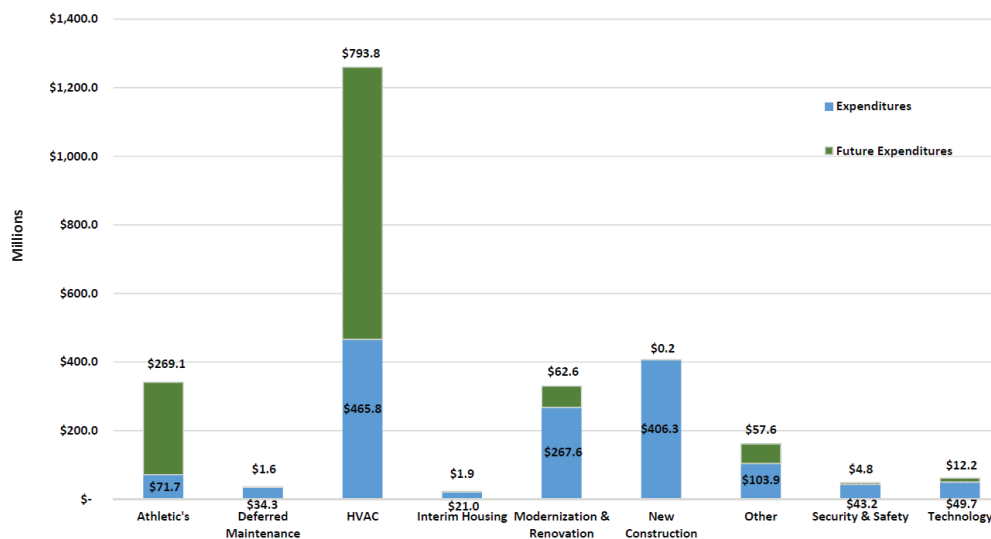
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By the Numbers

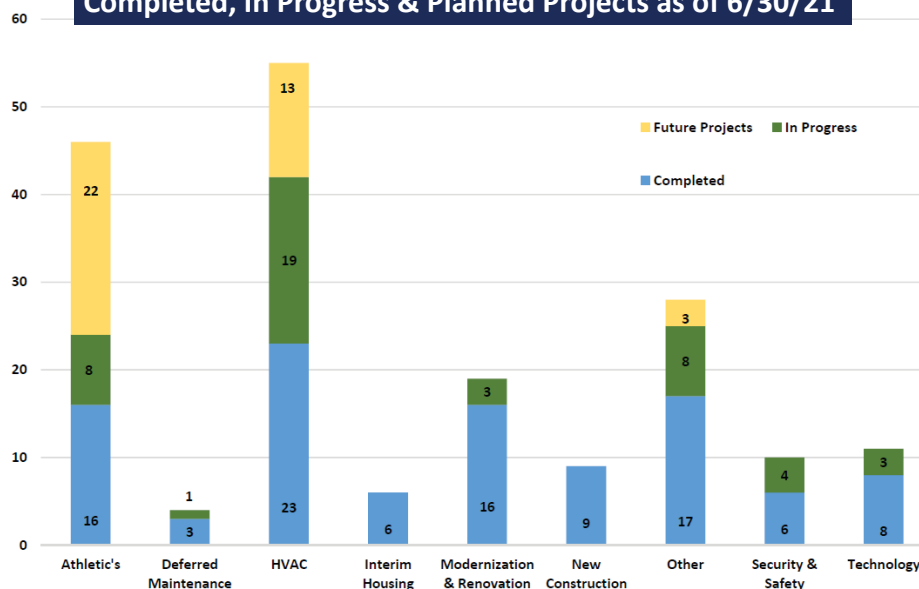
Total Expenditures Through 6/30/21



Expenditures through 6/30/21 & Future Expenditures



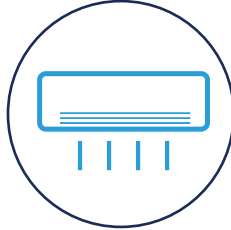
Completed, In Progress & Planned Projects as of 6/30/21





6

New or rebuilt
schools



27

Schools with
new AC



85

Schools with
campus-wide Wi-Fi



69,000

Students benefiting
from bond-funded
projects



\$1.463

Billions expended
building or renovating
schools

Air Conditioning, Renovation Projects Continue in 2020-21

The 2020-21 fiscal year saw the installation of new heating and cooling systems at more than 150 classrooms across five campuses, bringing the total number of students benefiting from heating, cooling and air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades to over 16,000.

Air conditioning and other renovation projects at Prisk, Fremont and Madison elementary schools and Cubberley K-8 were completed by summer 2021. Installation of Wilson High School's new HVAC system will conclude in the next fiscal year.

Other projects completed in this reporting period include Millikan High School's new 50,000 square-foot classroom building and state-of-the-art track and field, Jordan High School's renovated auditorium and library, and Stevenson Elementary School's upgraded auditorium and cafeteria. Several projects entered the planning and design stage.

The Long Beach Unified School District's Measure E bond program has funded numerous air conditioning, renovation and ground-up construction projects since voters passed the \$1.5 billion measure in 2016. For more information on completed and upcoming projects, visit lbschoolbonds.net.





Jordan's Redesigned Library Honors Past, Eyes Future

Among the book stacks of Jordan High School's renovated library, students are discovering new ways to create, learn and connect.

Reopened in January 2021, Jordan's updated library features an open study area with flexible seating, laptop charging stations and distinct spaces for individual and collaborative learning. Lecture rooms are equipped with modern audio-visual systems while traditional bookshelves and study tables maintain the library's 1970s charm.

Jordan was first built in the 1930s, with additions and renovations occurring from the 1950s through the 1990s. Upgrades to the 27-acre campus, budgeted at \$228 million, are 65% complete. When completed, Jordan's upgrades will include 400,000 square feet of new or renovated buildings.

The library's reimagined interior, as with Jordan's other upgrades, is designed to optimize 21st century learning.





Wilson's Modernization Blends Old, New

At Woodrow Wilson Classical High School, renovations are underway that bridge the past and present.

Constructed in 1924, Wilson High was designed by notable architects who helped create several iconic Southern California buildings, including the Shrine Auditorium and the Griffith Observatory.

Four of Wilson's original buildings are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historic Resources, according to a districtwide study that evaluated school facilities for their historic importance.

Modernization of the school's most distinctive original structure — the two-story administration and classroom building — included much-needed care to the building's historic features. The light poles that flank the building entrance were restored, and tiles marking the school's time capsules were straightened and reset, among other preservation efforts.

Inside the building, original light fixtures were carefully removed, restored and reinstalled. Several windows were enlarged and framed by a specialist in wood finishes.

Similar care went into Wilson's auditorium restoration. The fully modernized building, completed in 2018, retained many of its original features while complying with modern accessibility and safety standards.

Wilson's infrastructure and accessibility improvements began in 2014, and a new synthetic track and all-weather turf field were installed in 2018. Wilson's current upgrades will continue through the spring.

Wilson's revitalization, made possible by the district's Measure E bond program, is budgeted at \$92 million.



State Funds Offset Rising Construction Costs

The Long Beach Unified School District's state matching funds for school repairs or construction totaled \$33 million in the 2020-21 fiscal year, helping offset the District's rising building labor and material costs.

California's Proposition 51 bond measure authorizes the sale of \$9 billion in general obligation bonds for new construction and modernization of K-12 public school facilities and community colleges across the state. In recent years, matching funds have helped offset construction cost increases spurred by the COVID-19 pandemic.

State matching funds received in the 2020-21 fiscal year reimbursed the District for renovations to Renaissance High School, upgrades to Polytechnic High School's auditorium and Browning High School's ground-up construction.

The District's matching funds and cost-cutting measures have helped offset escalating construction costs and maintained available funding for air conditioning, safety enhancements and other critical facility needs. To date, Prop. 51 matching funds have offset Measure K and Measure E bond expenditures by more than \$130 million. Revenue from other funding sources, including California's Prop. 51 bond measure, total \$191 million since 2008.



2021-22 Fiscal Year Preview

The 2021-22 fiscal year launched a slate of new school renovation projects designed to optimize teaching and learning.

The next phase of Jordan High School's campus-wide transformation kicked off in August with an event celebrating the groundbreaking of "J-Town's" new 31,500-square-foot classroom building.

Heating and cooling system upgrades, technology updates and other enhancements began at Twain Elementary School, Robinson K-8 and Avalon K-12. Upgrades to Lakewood High School's gym are also underway.

Projects at two Long Beach Unified School District campuses were started and completed in the 2021-22 fiscal year. Renovations at Bryant Elementary School wrapped in January, and students at Lowell Elementary School are enjoying a new lunch shelter that doubles as an outdoor learning space.

Several projects entered the planning stage, including upgrades at Gompers, Emerson, and Birney elementary schools and Stanford Middle School. Planning for the final phase of Jordan's modernization is also in progress.



About Measures K and E

Measure K is a ballot initiative, approved by 71 percent of voters in November 2008, which makes available \$1.2 billion from property taxes to build, renovate and improve schools in the Long Beach Unified School District. Steady progress has been made to reconfigure and rehabilitate LBUSD schools since the measure's approval.

In response to strong public support for repairing aging schools, the District's Board of Education approved the placement of a \$1.5 billion school repair and safety bond measure on the November 8, 2016 ballot. The ballot measure, called Measure E, required approval by at least 55 percent of voters who cast ballots on election day. Voters approved the measure with a 74.86 percent yes vote.

Funds from Measure E address critical school repairs, including air conditioning, safety enhancements and other infrastructure improvements.

Citizens' Oversight Committee

The Citizens' Oversight Committee is a seven-member group appointed by the Long Beach Unified School District's Board of Education to review and report on school bond expenditures. Members represents a segment of the community — senior citizens, parents, businesses or taxpayers — and serve a maximum of three, two-year terms.

Walter Larkins
Chairperson
Business Community

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Vice Chair
Taxpayers' Association

Rebecca Turrentine
Member
Community-At-Large

Mario Ernesto Gonzalez
Member
Community-At-Large

Michael Bishop
Member
Senior Citizens' Organization

Pamela Williams
Member
Parent / PTO

Vacant
Member
Parent / PTO



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