



Long Beach Unified

School District

Citizens' Bond

Oversight Committee



## 2019-2020 Annual Report to the Community

February 2021

### *Message from the Chairperson*

#### **School Construction Continues as Bond Program Team Adapts During Pandemic**

The Citizens' Oversight Committee is proud to present, our 12<sup>th</sup> annual report to the community, detailing another successful year for the Long Beach Unified School District.

Although all district schools were closed for in-person instruction in the spring, the renovation and construction program continued without interruption. LBUSD has worked hard to balance the health and welfare of workers with the need to maintain construction schedules and ensure classrooms are ready when students return.

In response to new COVID-19 protocols, all community meetings and campus tours became virtual. Various online virtual tours were created to inform parents and students about improvements at their schools. These online tool kits were developed based on parent survey responses on what they need to know to understand the changes taking place and how they and their children will be affected.

Most recently, an independent audit firm thoroughly examined the bond program's records and granted the district the highest rating for financial accountability and performance for the eighth straight year. Throughout the year, the committee held four meetings, including modernization project tours.

During each meeting, the committee reviewed project status and expenditures for the program. The committee remains very impressed with the district's meticulous record keeping and financial stewardship of public funds.

Several facilities projects were started, continued or completed over this 12-month period totaling more than \$180 million. Information on current and future projects can be obtained at [lbschoolbonds.net](http://lbschoolbonds.net). The website includes a tab listing bond projects by their respective Board of Education district, allowing our community to view the status of various projects within each board member area.

We want to thank and acknowledge the Board of Education, district staff, families and the community, for being steadfast partners and demonstrating commitment, adaptability and flexibility while navigating these uncharted waters together.

We should all be proud that our bond projects are leaving a great legacy for generations of students to come.

Sincerely,

**Walter Larkins, COC Chairperson**



Installation of air conditioning equipment in a classroom at Madison Elementary

#### **Half of Air Conditioning Projects in Progress or Complete**

As of September 2020, major infrastructure improvements, including the installation or replacement of air conditioning, has started or been completed at 28 of the 54 campuses initially targeted for improvement by the 2016 Measure E bond program.

To date, more than 14,000 students in 595 classrooms across 23 campuses have already benefitted from air conditioned spaces.

These projects include not only new central heating and air conditioning systems but utility infrastructure and accessibility upgrades, electronic classroom projectors, new lighting, windows, paint and other necessary repairs.

Following voter approval of Measure E in November 2016, planning started for the installation of air conditioning systems and other upgrades at

the 54 campuses where central air conditioning was outdated or nonexistent. In summer 2020, work started on an additional 168 classrooms across five campuses: Cubberley, Fremont, Madison, Prisk and Wilson.

The plan remains to ensure all schools have full air conditioning. For a complete schedule, visit School Bond Projects Timeline at [lbschoolbonds.net](http://lbschoolbonds.net).

# Bond Projects by the Numbers

As of September 2020

6

New Schools Built or Re-Built



23

Schools with New Air Conditioning



85

Schools With Campus-Wide Wi-Fi



72,000

Students Benefiting from at least one Project

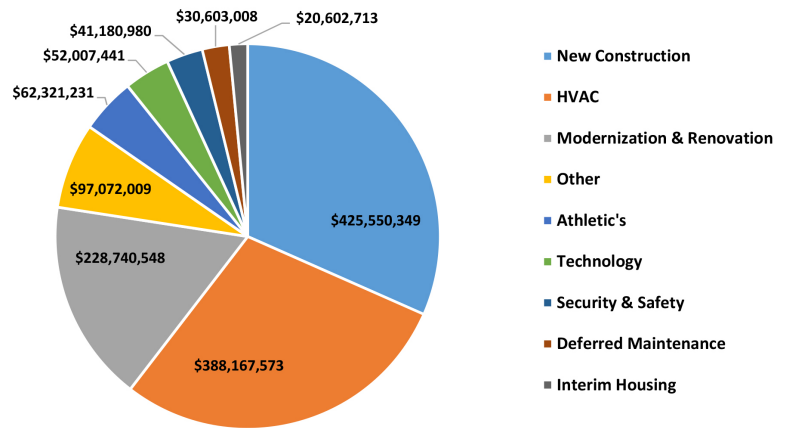


\$1.346

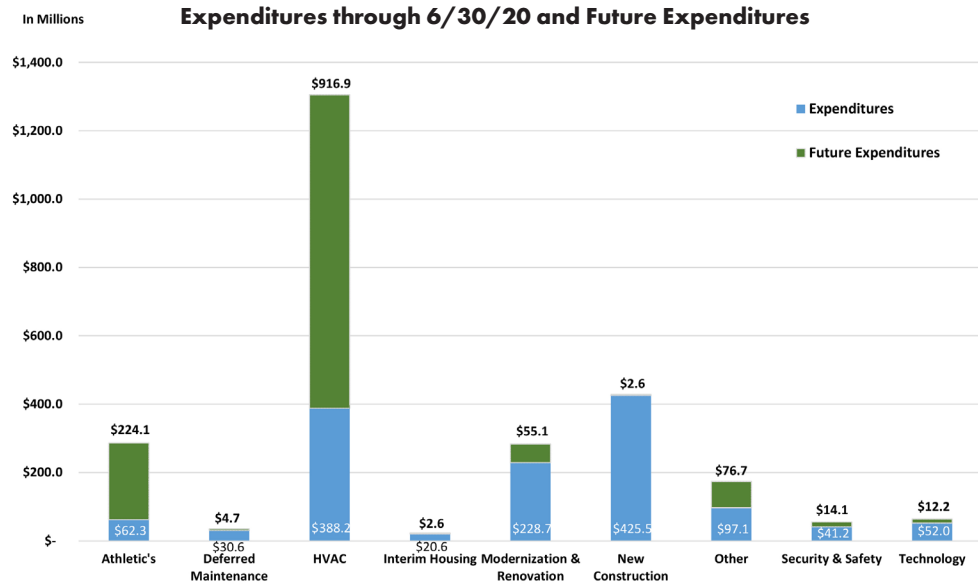
Billion Expended



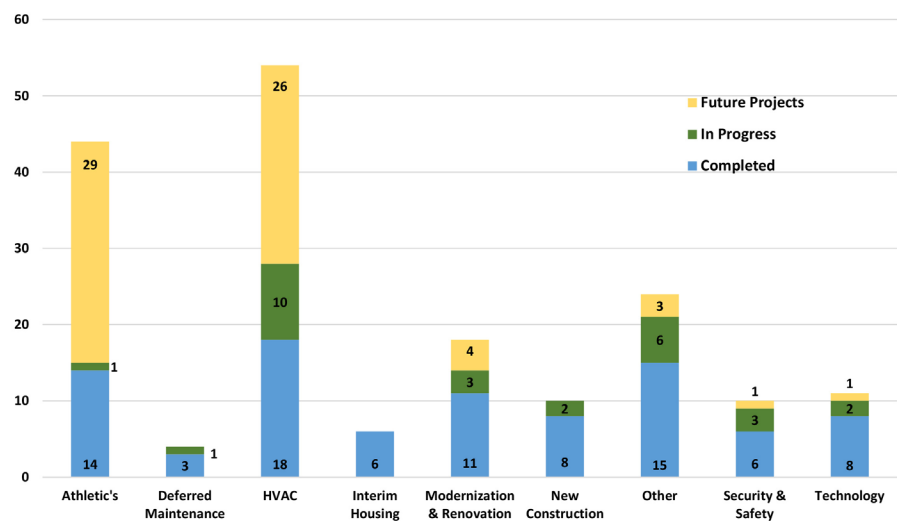
**Total Project Expenditures through 6/30/20**



**Expenditures through 6/30/20 and Future Expenditures**



**Number of Projects Completed, In Progress and Planned as of 6/30/20**







### New Learning Pathways Building at Millikan High

A unique new building has been completed on the Millikan High School campus. The 50,000-square-foot facility funded by 2008 Measure K funds was designed to accommodate specific needs of the school's academies or learning pathways.

Created with input from Millikan administrators and teachers, the building houses a virtual enterprise classroom where Business Academy students can showcase their work. For the COMPASS Academy, the installation of new graphic arts studios will expand students' design capabilities. For the SEGA-MIT Academy, special computer labs were installed where students can explore the inner workings of computer hardware. PEACE Academy students preparing for careers in law or government service will be able to conduct mock trials in a new modern courtroom. The building features a new college and career center, spaces designed for special education students and classrooms for general use.



### Re-Opening of Jordan High Auditorium and Library

The ongoing renovation of Jordan High School hit a milestone with the re-opening of the auditorium and library buildings in January 2021.

The modernized 1952 auditorium building features new elevators, new seating, upgraded restrooms, new wall and floor finishes, acoustical treatments, heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems, and audio and visual systems.

The 1970s library has been transformed to include break-out study spaces, new ceiling clouds with skylights for natural lighting, improved computer and lecture areas with audio and visual systems, and open areas with furniture incorporating USB ports for charging Chromebooks and other devices. New book stacks and study tables maintain the charm of the traditional library.



### Largest Air Conditioning Project Now Underway at Wilson High

One of the largest air conditioning and modernization projects in the school district is underway at Wilson High School. The 95-year-old campus is the second comprehensive high school being renovated with Measure E funds, approved by voters in 2016.

In addition to the installation of new air conditioning, the Wilson project includes upgrades to electrical infrastructure, accessibility, earthquake safety, ceilings, interior lights, audio and visual, and interior paint.



### Bond Program Saves \$100 Million for Taxpayers

The LBUSD Bond Program has saved taxpayers an estimated \$100 million over the last 10 years. By implementing cost-cutting measures and maximizing state matching grants, the program has been able to extend the voter approved bond funds to address other critical school facilities needs.

These savings have been returned to the bond program to fund other critical projects such as safety and security improvements, air conditioning replacements, roofing repairs, portable classroom replacements and other critical needs.

Among the largest matching state grants recently received was a \$23.6 million grant for the Newcomb Academy construction project completed in 2015. LBUSD also received \$8.3 million for ongoing improvements at Jordan High, \$4 million for Poly High's auditorium renovation completed in 2017 and \$4.3 million for the construction of Roosevelt Elementary completed in 2015.

The school district continues to pursue state grants so that dollars can be stretched and local taxpayers receive the maximum benefit from their bond contribution.

Rendering of the future Locker Room facilities at Keller Middle School



## Significant Upgrades at Keller School

Measure K has funded several improvements at Keller Middle School since its conversion from an elementary school campus in 2015. Improvements include converting kinder classrooms into science classrooms, installation of an all-weather field and most recently, air conditioning to all classrooms and offices.

Planning has recently begun on the new 10,000-square-foot locker facilities to replace aging portables currently used as locker rooms. The new building will feature facilities that will promote the district's goal to

provide a safe, healthy and inclusive environment for all students.

Inclusive features will include restroom stalls and showers, individual changing spaces and facilities to accommodate two physical education classrooms at one time. The building will also include a physical education classroom with an open area for activities such as dance. A separate fitness room will be provided to accommodate various cardio and fitness equipment for physical training.

The building is anticipated to start construction in 2022 with an opening in fall 2023.

## Citizens' Oversight Committee



**Walter Larkins**  
*Chairperson*  
Business Community



**Dan Minkoff**  
*Vice Chair*  
Taxpayers' Association



**Michael Bishop**  
*Member*  
Senior Citizens' Organization



**Carshé Chess**  
*Member*  
Parent / PTO



**Mario Ernesto Gonzalez**  
*Member*  
Community-At-Large



**Pamela Williams**  
*Member*  
Parent / PTO



**Rebecca Turrentine**  
*Member*  
Community-At-Large

## What are Measures K and E?

Measure K is a 2008 ballot initiative that made available \$1.2 billion to renovate and build schools in the Long Beach Unified School District.

Measure E is a 2016 ballot initiative that funds an additional \$1.5 billion to make critical repairs, enhance technology and install/replace air conditioning and other infrastructure improvements to aging campuses.

## Role of the Citizens' Oversight Committee

The Board of Education established the Citizens' Oversight Committee to monitor expenditures of Measures K and E. The seven volunteer members are appointed and serve a maximum of three two-year terms.

The committee is required to issue one report annually and meets up to six times a year. Each member is appointed at large or represents a segment of the community: senior citizens, parents, businesses or taxpayers.

## Board of Education

**Diana Craighead**  
President

**Juan Benitez**  
Board Member

**Doug Otto**  
Board Member

**Megan Kerr**  
Vice President

**Erik Miller**  
Board Member

**Jill Baker, Ed. D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

### Long Beach Unified School District, Facilities Development and Planning

2425 Webster Avenue, Long Beach CA 90810

David Miranda, Executive Director

Email: [schoolbonds@lbschools.net](mailto:schoolbonds@lbschools.net) / (562) 997-7550 / Website: [lbschoolbonds.net](http://lbschoolbonds.net)

@lbschoolbonds

