

TO: PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: SCHOOL SUPPORT TAX ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE
SUBJECT: REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEASURE G AND MEASURE H
TAX LEVIES FOR 2022-23
DATE: JUNE 8, 2022

Executive Summary and Recommendation

The School Support Tax Advisory Subcommittee recommends that the Piedmont Unified School District (PUSD) levy the Measure G School Support Tax (Parcel Tax) at its maximum level in 2022-23, which would result in the maximum 2% increase above the rate in 2021-22. The 2% increase, if adopted by the Board, is expected to yield PUSD **an additional \$219,674 in revenue for the 2022-2023 school year**, based on an assumed base School Support Tax amount for the current year of \$10,982,759. On a per parcel basis, this increase would add \$56.37 to the current per parcel levy of \$2,818.26, making the total tax levy per parcel \$2,874.63 for 2022-23.

Further, based on Staff's projections of the Ending General Fund Balance and Reserves for this fiscal year and the next two fiscal years out to 2023-24, the subcommittee recommends that the full amount raised by the recommended 2% increase in the School Support Tax be allocated to the **General Fund**.

The School Support Tax Advisory Subcommittee recommends that the District levy the Measure H School Support Tax (Parcel Tax) at its current level in 2022-23 of \$0.25 per square foot of building improvements.

Basis of the Subcommittee's Recommendation

As it was charged, this Subcommittee reviewed the District's proposed budget for 2022-23 which was shared at the Budget Advisory Committee meeting on May 24 and at the School Board meeting on May 25 (excerpts attached as Exhibit A).

The 2022-2023 Budget benefits from an increase due to the Proposition 98 minimum guaranteed revenue from the state, as well as an anticipated one-time grant from the State totalling approximately \$3.4 million. However, even with these sources of additional revenue, PUSD continues to face significant revenue challenges, primarily resulting from declining enrollment over the last six years. Moreover, increases to required contributions to CalSTRS and CalPERS have increased expenditures compared to previous years. PUSD staff have identified ongoing budgetary needs to attempt to address (1) challenges in teacher and staff retention through increases to salary and benefits and (2) ongoing impacts from the pandemic,

manifesting as learning loss and ongoing social emotional challenges, driving the need for additional learning specialists and counseling support.

Measure G's stated goal is "To maintain the high quality of education in Piedmont schools, continue funding programs in math, science, technology, engineering, English, music, and arts, keep textbooks and instructional technology up to date, maintain smaller class sizes, and attract and retain qualified teachers..." Given the challenges PUSD still faces, the Measure G 2% increase will best position PUSD to have the fiscal means to maintain this excellence.

Conclusion

On the basis of the current budget projections, consistent with the goal of Measure G to "maintain the quality of Piedmont's schools," and the goal of Measure H to provide critically need funded to attract and retain high quality teachers and educational support staff, **this Subcommittee recommends that the School Board increases the Measure G School Support Tax for 2022-23 by the full 2% allowed in Measure G, and maintains the Measure H School Support Tax at the current level.**

Respectfully submitted,

School Support Tax Advisory Subcommittee, 2022-23

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Attachment:

Exhibit A - [May 24, 2022 Budget Advisory Committee Presentation on 2022-23 Budget.](#)