



# A TRADITION OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

AUSD  
ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
EXCELLENCE & EQUITY FOR ALL STUDENTS

AUSD  
ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
EXCELLENCE & EQUITY FOR ALL STUDENTS

Alameda Unified School District  
2060 Challenger Dr  
Alameda, CA 94501

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
XXXX



## AUSD Teacher Spotlight: Jessica Kerber

This year, the District was proud to honor Jessica Kerber, an English teacher at Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School, as AUSD's Teacher of the Year. Ms. Kerber has been at Encinal for 18 years! She strives every day to make class engaging and effective. Her teaching style is self-described as a 'warm demander', holding her students to a high standard while simultaneously differentiating instruction based on their individual needs. Ms. Kerber and other local teachers inspire students every day to be excited about learning. Alameda relies on parcel tax funding to retain great teachers like Ms. Kerber to provide a quality education in local schools.

 [AlamedaUnified.org](https://AlamedaUnified.org)

 510-337-7000

 /AlamedaUnified

 @AUSDNews

---

---

---

Alameda Unified School District  
2060 Challenger Dr  
Alameda, CA 94501

**Take Our Survey!** Please complete the survey on the other side of this card to let AUSD know your priorities for local schools. You may also take the survey online by scanning the QR Code or by visiting [tinyurl.com/AUSD-Survey092023](https://tinyurl.com/AUSD-Survey092023). Translations available online.



# AUSD’s Plan to Continue a Tradition of Local Funding for Teachers and Academic Programs

Dear Neighbor,

As our halls once again become filled with the vibrant presence of children growing and learning, I am excited to extend a warm welcome to the students, faculty, and staff in our local schools. Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) parents and community members alike tell us that excellent teachers and good schools are part of what makes Alameda a great place to live. AUSD is committed to providing high-quality education and ensuring that every student is prepared for the next stage of their life, wherever it may take them.



## Alameda Schools Rely on Local Funding to Support Teachers and Academics

Alameda has a long tradition of funding its schools through voter-approved local funding. These sources of funding account for approximately 20% of the current AUSD budget. This allows AUSD to attract and retain quality educators as the cost of housing and living continues to rise in our community. It also helps the District provide educational technology, support career technical education, and sustain strong programs in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math, preparing high school students to compete at the top colleges and in the 21st-century workforce. Without these sources of funding, the District could be forced to consider cuts and layoffs up to \$24 million annually. The State has proven to be an unreliable funding partner. To fill this gap, Alameda schools rely on local funding like many other neighboring school districts in the Bay Area.

## Locally Controlled School Funding Set to Expire

For over 20 years, AUSD voters have supported our neighborhood schools through locally controlled parcel tax funding that cannot be taken away by the State. A portion of this funding is set to expire and the District is currently exploring options to renew it. Without these sources of funding, the District could be forced to consider cuts and layoffs up to \$24 million annually.

Community engagement has always been a key component of AUSD’s academic model. As we consider potential options for renewing local education funding, your input is important to us. Please fill out the survey card in this mailer or visit [tinyurl.com/AUSD-Survey092023](https://tinyurl.com/AUSD-Survey092023) to share your priorities for Alameda Schools.





Sincerely,



Pasquale Scuderi  
**Superintendent**  
**Alameda Unified School District**

## Potential Measure to Renew School Funding

In order to help ensure a stable funding source for Alameda schools while maintaining quality education, AUSD is actively exploring options to renew our local parcel tax funding. Currently, the District relies on two existing revenue sources to support quality schools and attract and retain excellent teachers. While no final decisions have been made, the District is considering a measure that would consolidate these two parcel taxes into a single measure. This potential measure could continue to provide locally controlled funding to help AUSD maintain quality schools by:

-  Sustaining strong academic programs in reading, writing, math, arts, and sciences
-  Attracting and retaining high-quality teachers by keeping salary and benefits competitive
-  Supporting teachers and counselors in keeping struggling students on the right track
-  Protecting art, music, and performing arts programs



From preschool to high school graduation, AUSD students benefit from high-quality teachers, social and emotional supports, and a long tradition of community support.

## Continued Fiscal Accountability and Local Control

AUSD has proven to be a good steward of public funds and has spent past voter-approved funding as promised. Any future parcel tax measures could include the same fiscal accountability as past measures, including:

- ◆ Proceeds would be controlled locally and could not be taken away by the State
- ◆ Independent citizens’ oversight and mandatory annual audits would ensure funds are spent as promised
- ◆ Senior citizen homeowners would continue to be eligible for an exemption from the tax



Community Survey Enclosed

As AUSD explores funding options to maintain quality local schools, we value your thoughts. Please complete the attached survey card and mail it back to let us know your priorities for neighborhood schools. You may also take the survey online by scanning the QR code here. Translations available online.

## PLEASE RATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING PRIORITIES FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS:

	HIGH	MED	LOW	
Sustain strong academic programs in reading, writing, math, arts, and sciences	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you currently have children attending AUSD schools? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Name: _____ Address: _____ Email: _____ Comments/Questions: _____ _____ _____
Attract and retaining high-quality teachers by keeping salary and benefits competitive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Support teachers and counselors in keeping struggling students on the right track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Protect art, music, and performing arts programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	