

# MEASURE G - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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**What is Measure G?** Measure G is a \$195 million general obligation bond program that will renovate, replace, construct, update and improve classrooms, portables and schools in Folsom.

**Why is Measure G needed?** Our Folsom schools need to be renovated to help improve instruction in core academic programs like math, science, and reading as well as maintain the quality of our community. Several of our Folsom schools are over 50 years old, Sutter Middle (the original Folsom High) was built in 1929, Judah in 1950, and Sprentz in 1966. In addition, Sundahl, Oak Chan and Folsom Hills classrooms are all old portables. Measure G funds will be used to provide modern and safe classrooms to support academic instruction.

- Complete needed repairs to provide safe, well-maintained classrooms
- Upgrade and provide additional classroom computers and instructional technology
- Upgrade aging and inefficient electrical, heating and air conditioning systems, redirecting hundreds of thousands of dollars back to the classrooms
- Provide classrooms and facilities to prepare students for college and success
- Provide facilities for after-school programs

**How did the District come up with the project list for Measure G?** An overall list of school needs was developed through community input and other key factors, including the District's Technology Master Plan and Facility Master Plan. Because Measure G will not fund all needs, staff will meet this fall with school staff, teachers, families and community leaders, to prioritize the list of needs of each school. A Master Plan will be created for each school identifying projects and estimated costs, which will be presented to the Board of Education for approval and final prioritization of projects. The overall all list of needs by school can be found on our website at [www.fcusd.org/FolsomNeedsList](http://www.fcusd.org/FolsomNeedsList).

**How much will Measure G cost?** The maximum tax rate per property owner is estimated to be \$60 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation per year. The Sacramento County Assessor determines your home's assessed value, which is different from the market value of your home.

**Isn't there other funding available?** The scope of improvements needed in the District is far more than the current funding sources available.

- Per student funding: The per student funding which the District receives from the state is used for the day to day cost of educating children and not the cost of upgrading and modernizing facilities.
- Lottery funds: By law, lottery funds cannot be used for construction or modernization projects
- State Facility Program: The District does have eligibility for modernization in the State Facility Program for several school sites, but the District will be required to provide a 40% matching share which it does not have. The State is also out of modernization funding which will not be available until the passage of a statewide school bond.
- Developer Fees: Developer fees can only be used to provide housing for students generated from new construction and not on the modernization of existing facilities.

**How can I be sure that funds will be spent on improving our schools?** All funds generated by Measure G will benefit only Folsom schools. None of the Measure G funds can be taken by the State. As required by law, an independent citizens' oversight committee will be established to ensure that the funds are properly spent. Also by law, there must be annual performance and financial audits. Furthermore, bond money cannot be used to increase salaries, benefits or pensions for administrators, teachers or any other school employees.

**Will long-term bonds be used to purchase short-term technology?** No. Each bond issuance will consist of short and long term bond sales. Items such as computers and equipment will be funded by the short term bond sales, whereas brick and mortar type projects will be funded from long term bonds.

**I don't have children in school. How would Measure G benefit me?** We know our schools are among the best in California, making our community a desirable place to live. This keeps our property values high and our neighborhoods strong. Also, providing facilities for after-school programs helps kid stay on the right track and prepared for college and their careers.

**We passed a bond measure in the past, why do we need another one?** In 2002, voters approved Measure C, which provided \$53 million to build new schools and modernize some classrooms. Since the passage of Measure C, many of the classrooms and school facilities that were not in need of repair in 2002 now need upgrades. Additionally, with rapidly evolving technology and a competitive, global economy, Measure G is necessary to meet our schools' educational math, science and technology (STEM) needs. A detailed list of projects funded by Measure C can be located on our website at <http://www.fcusd.org/MeasureC>

**Didn't we just pass Proposition 30 to help fund local schools?** The November 2012 passage of Proposition 30 helped to prevent additional cuts to our local schools, but it did not provide new revenue or provide the funding needed to update our schools. Proposition 30 was intended to only help prevent further cuts from the state. We must rely on approved and locally controlled funding like Measure G to complete important updates to our schools and classrooms.

**What if Measure G doesn't pass?** No other source of funding exists to make the necessary repairs and upgrades at our local schools. Without Measure G, schools cannot be upgraded or repaired to improve academic instruction or ensure student safety. To continue improving teaching and learning in science, math, and technology, this measure is necessary.

**What is a general obligation bond?** Similar to a home loan, general obligation bonds are typically repaid over 25 to 30 years. The loan repayment comes from a tax on all taxable property – residential, commercial and industrial located in the school district.

**What is a School Facilities Improvement District?** A School Facilities Improvement District (SFID) is a subset of the school district boundary which allows voters within the subset to vote on whether to tax themselves to generate funds to be spent only within the subset. An SFID may fund new school construction, modernization, support facilities, and replacement of portable classrooms. The boundary for Measure G is Folsom north of Highway 50.

**How does the 2007 Measure M affect this proposed bond?** Measure M is specific to SFID 3, the new growth area south of Highway 50 from the El Dorado County line west to Sunrise Blvd. Measure M was approved and can only be used to acquire land and construct new school facilities in SFID 3.

**Does the City of Folsom's Measure W have any effect on this measure?** With the approval of Measure W in 2004, voters north of Highway 50 can't pay for the new schools needed south of Highway 50. The cost of new school construction south of Highway 50 will be paid for by Measure M, with the bond funds approved in 2007.

**Measure J?** Measure J is not a Folsom Cordova Unified School District bond. It is a City of Folsom bond that was passed in November 1992 for the construction of specified school facilities within the City of Folsom. The first issuance of bonds under this Measure will sunset in August 2014 and the second issuance will sunset in August 2017.

**How can I get more information?** Additional information can be found on our website at [www.fcusd.org](http://www.fcusd.org)