



MERCED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2018-2019 ANNUAL GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND REPORT

PRESENTED TO MCSD BOARD OF EDUCATION BY THE
MCSD CITIZENS BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019

Message from Chairperson:

Pertaining to the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 ending June 30, 2019, the progress of the District's capital facilities program has been carefully monitored by the MCSD Citizens Bond Oversight Committee. All data provided by staff has shown evidence of proper accounting of fund expenditures. The MCSD Citizens Bond Oversight Committee appreciates the cooperative efforts of MCSD staff. This particular year's report is provided with both a review of past expenditures from the Measure S bond and Measure M bond that essentially committed to the voters the delivery of two new elementary schools, as well modernized and upgraded facilities throughout the District. This report to the MCSD Board of Education provides an overview of the committee membership, oversight efforts, progress review, audit activities, and general recommendations.



Citizens Bond Oversight Committee

- ◆ Ms. Birdi Olivarez-Kidwell
- ◆ Mr. Steven Bottjer
- ◆ Mr. Keith Enslinger
- ◆ Ms. Sharon Spinardi
- ◆ Mrs. Michelle Symes-Thiara
- ◆ Mr. Tsia Xiong
- ◆ Ms. Kelly Phillips

Background

In June of 2014, registered voters residing in MCSD supported the passage of Measure M, the District's second General Obligation Bond. Measure M granted authority for the sale of \$60 M in bonds for capital facilities repairs, modernization, and infrastructure upgrades, according to the District's Long Range Facilities Master Plan (LRFMP). In 2003, the District's first General Obligation Bond, Measure S, was approved by voters, granting authority for \$26.5 M in bond sales to include the construction of two new elementary schools. This annual report provides reporting requirements pertaining to project expenditures from both bonds.

Capital Facilities Improvements:

Since the MCSD Governing Board approved the District's Facility Master Plan in 2014, every school site facility has benefitted from numerous priority project upgrades to classrooms, HVAC and lighting systems, restrooms, infrastructure, safety and security, and technology. While bond funds have provided significant resources to accomplish the projects District-wide, MCSD has utilized multiple funding sources, including LCAP funds, Proposition 39 energy grant funds, E-rate grant funds, and ongoing Deferred Maintenance funding to accomplish many additional priorities of the Facility Master Plan.

Featured Bond Projects Progress

Measure M and S bonds authorized a combination of new construction and modernization projects throughout MCSD. The following modernization and new construction projects during fiscal year 2018-2019 are featured.



Fremont Elementary School:

A comprehensive modernization and reconfiguration of the school was completed. Major infrastructure systems were upgraded. Efficient and very quiet HVAC units have replaced inefficient central plant equipment. Classrooms were remodeled, and new instructional technology features, LED lighting, casework, flooring, new wall and ceilings, and numerous safety aspects have been upgraded, including new doors, locks, lighting, fencing/gates, and fire/life-safety devices. A new school main entry, student



Fremont Elementary (Continued):

area, parking, and a new administration and student services office has been built on S Street, improving safety and access. Five new customized modular classrooms have replaced fifty-year old portables that were demolished, making space for the construction of a large student commons and gathering area. Safer paths of travel, campus supervision sight lines, and lighting were significantly improved. Student nutrition services was also improved by the construction of new walk-in refrigeration and food storage units, new fenced waste-enclosures, and a garbage can-wash station. This project represents the most comprehensive modernization effort per MCSD's Facility Master Plan.



Givens Elementary School:

A new School Nutrition Services Walk-in refrigeration, freezer, and dry-goods storage facility was constructed within a new operations/yard. Also, ADA parking, LED security lighting and security fencing was installed to improve campus safety and curb appeal. I am leaving this box the same size so you can add any additional information.



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Hoover Middle School:

A new Huskies Student Commons was constructed for student dining and gathering, completely transforming the deteriorated area into a safer and inviting outdoor learning and eating area. The area features a sixty-foot long metal shade structure with lighting to enhance safety and after-school events. The work of local contractors eliminated numerous trip hazards, provided new landscaping and trees, corrected poor drainage, and included an enclosed garbage-can wash-out area to enhance visual appeal. In addition, the delivery access driveway was completely rebuilt and widened to accommodate District vehicles and allow for safer parking, and included new ornamental iron fencing adjacent to the school's Greek Amphitheatre.



Wright Elementary School:

Significant improvements were made to Wright's Wildcat Multi-Purpose Room, including installation of very efficient "VRF" HVAC systems that replaced antiquated heaters and swamp-coolers. The much more comfortable and brighter student spaces were remodeled to improve safety and efficiency. The exterior features a bright new electronic marquee, and in the kitchen, new fire-suppression and exhaust hood systems were installed (one of four schools receiving such). A new wheel-chair lift and disabled persons access to the remodeled student performance stage with now also has a custom projector!



Future School Site Acquisition:

As per Measure M provisions, the District has made progress in preliminary aspects of securing future school sites. During FY 2018-19, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) investigation of potential school sites that have been previously approved by the California Department of Education and Board approved priority school site locations began and continue to progress.

Audit of Bond Measures M and S:

As prescribed under Proposition 39 provisions, the District secured auditing services from *Vavrinek, Trine, Day and Co., LLP* to perform the required annual independent financial and performance audits of Measure S and Measure M bond revenue and all project expenditures, pursuant to California Constitution, Article XIII A, Section 1 (b) (3)(C)(D), and Education Code Sec. 15278 C (1) and (2). The audits of were provided and have been reviewed by the Committee as inclusive of the Fiscal Year 2018-19 for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. No audit exceptions or findings from either audit report were noted.



Sheehy Elementary School:

All student restrooms were remodeled, making them brighter, cleaner, more efficient, and accessible. The upgrades included new privacy partitions, panels, and doors, new toilets, urinals, sinks, mirrors, as well as electric hand-driers. In addition, new entry doors, signage, and automatic exhaust fans and new LED lighting was installed. And to top it all off, the entire restroom floors and walls were resurfaced and freshly painted!



Tenaya Middle School:

The final phase of a four-year roofing project was completed. The original school roofing had been encapsulated with foam, which had cracked and allowed for dry-rot conditions to occur. The last phase of the school re-roofing included the elimination of unnecessary roof penetrations, repairs of significant dry-rot, and the addition of rain-gutters at high-traffic areas.



Assessment and Recommendations:

Regular dialogue at quarterly Citizens Bond Oversight Committee meetings and progress reports have provided Committee members with essential information in reviewing and monitoring the progress made against schedule, budget, and performance. Dialogue between Committee members and District staff has been constructive and effective. Staff has been responsive to Committee questions and comments. In conclusion, the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee has faithfully discharged its duties pursuant to the authority and direction of the MCSD Governing Board and the requirements of Proposition 39. This annual report affirms that the expenditures of local taxpayer funds have been consistent and appropriate during the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year in improving the capital facilities our local children are provided in support of a quality education in the Merced City School District.