



# Tustin Unified School District

## November 5, 2024 Local School Bond Measure

# Measure J Fact Sheet

**Background:** Tustin Unified Schools rank among the best in the State. We focus every day on helping our students thrive. However, our elementary and middle school classrooms are aging. Many are over 50 years old, built before the “digital age.” Although well maintained, these schools require significant repairs and upgrades after decades of constant use. Meanwhile, today’s teaching and learning standards have changed, requiring more and different instructional spaces. And all our schools need ongoing safety and security upgrades. Measure J provides a prudent, responsible plan reflecting input from hundreds of community members to address these critical Tustin Unified School District needs. NO other funding currently exists to upgrade these facilities.

**Measure J DEFINED:** Measure J is a school bond measure on the November 5, 2024, ballot seeking voter authorization for local funding to repair and upgrade TUSD school facilities. A “YES vote” approves funding for the District’s plan to repair and upgrade schools; a “NO vote” rejects the plan. All voters living within Tustin Unified School District’s boundaries of who are registered to vote will be eligible to vote on this ballot measure.

**Measure J Official Ballot Question:** *“Tustin Unified School District Classroom Repair/ Safety/ Quality Education Measure. To repair/ upgrade aging classrooms, science labs, school and career- training facilities to support college/ career readiness in math, science, technology/ skilled trades; fix roofs, plumbing, and electrical; improve school safety/ security; remove asbestos/ lead; shall Tustin Unified School District’s measure authorizing \$261,000,000 in bonds at legal rates be adopted, levying 3¢ per \$100 assessed value (\$18,000,000 annually) while bonds are outstanding, with citizen oversight, audits, and all money locally controlled?, with mandatory audits, independent oversight, NO administrator salaries, and all funds staying local?”*

If voters approve this ballot measure, **Measure J will:**

- **Construct, Upgrade and Modernize** Aging Schools to Ensure Safe and Modern Learning and Teaching Environments
- **Upgrading** School Safety, Security and Emergency Response Systems
- **Upgrade, Repair and** Provide Adequate Infrastructure Serving School and Other Support Sites
- **Improvements** to Ensure a Healthy Learning and Teaching Environment
- **Improvements** to Play Areas and Yards, Fields and Other Physical Education and Athletic Facilities and Spaces

**Measure J Facts:**

- **ALL Measure J funds STAY LOCAL** for Tustin public schools ONLY.
- By law, the State CANNOT take Measure funding away.
- Measure J is for classroom and school facilities repairs, improvement, and equipment upgrades ONLY.
- NO funds are allowed for administrators' salaries, benefits, or pensions.
- Independent Citizens' Oversight and mandatory financial audits ensure funds are spent properly.
- Passage of Measure J qualifies Tustin for State matching funds when they become available.
- If Measure J passes the annual cost to is projected to be approximately 3¢ per \$100 (\$30 per \$100,000) assessed value, not market valuation.

**Investing in Local Schools:** The quality of Tustin school facilities directly impacts teaching and learning, local property values and Tustin’s quality of life. Studies show that teachers and students thrive in safe, modern quality schools.

**For more information:** visit [Tustin.k12.ca.us](http://Tustin.k12.ca.us) or call the TUSD Communications Office at (714) 730-7339.