

Gateway Unified School District
4411 Mountain Lakes Blvd.
Redding, CA 93460

District Overview and Accomplishments

Gateway Unified School District

Board of Trustees

Casey Bowden - Trustee
Elias Haynes - Trustee
Lindsi Haynes - Trustee
Phil Lewis - Trustee
Dale Wallace - Trustee



District Superintendent

Kyle Turner

Gateway Unified School District

- ◆ The Gateway Unified School District is committed to creating and sustaining a culture of learning embedded with high expectations, a positive work ethic, and accountability for students, staff, parents, and community.
- ◆ The District educates over 2,300 students across its five campuses.
- ◆ The District has had multiple schools recognized as California Distinguished Schools due to their commitment to academic excellence including:
 - Central Valley High School
 - Shasta Lake Middle School
 - Buckeye School of the Arts
- ◆ Central Valley High School is the only school in the county and one of 200 nationwide to be named a National Model School. This honor was received in 2019 and again in 2024

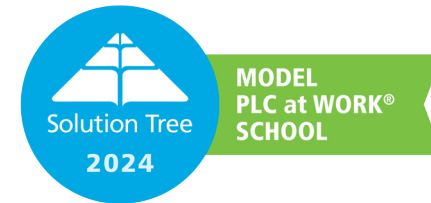
Dear Community Member,

The Gateway Unified School District has been providing dedicated and excellent educational services to local children for over 80 years. Currently, the District educates an estimated 2,335 students at the District's seven schools. It is through the hard work and dedication of teachers and staff that directly contribute to the education and success of our students.

In 2008, the District passed Measure G to update schools and add classrooms. Although facilities have been improved since then, our work is not done. It's time to renovate our schools, improve classrooms and programs while continuing to provide quality education to our local children. By investing in our schools, we can meet today's safety, technological, and educational standards and better our community. To do this, the District and Board of Trustees placed Measure J, a school improvement General Obligation (G.O.) bond measure, on the November 5, 2024, ballot to modernize and renovate our schools.

This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) mailer is provided to assist you in understanding the facts behind Measure J and how its passage will affect the District, our students and the community. Please take a moment to review the FAQ, and feel free to reach out to us should you have any questions on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Kyle Turner
Superintendent



Measure J (Frequently Asked Questions Inside)

What is Measure J?

Measure J is a \$65.0 million General Obligation (G.O.) bond program. This measure is intended to address the needs of the student population through modernization and renovation projects at the District's seven schools.

What is a G.O. bond?

G.O. bonds fund projects such as the renovation of existing classrooms and school facilities, as well as construction of new buildings and classrooms. Similar to a home loan, G.O. bonds are typically repaid over 25 to 30 years. The loan repayment comes from a tax on all taxable property - residential, commercial, agricultural and industrial - located within the District's boundaries.

Why did the District place Measure J on the ballot?

Our schools are outdated, and upgrades and renovations need to be made. Our schools are old, with many being over 65 years old. While facilities have been well maintained, old classrooms must be upgraded since many do not meet 21st-century educational and technological standards. A local school improvement measure would allow the District to improve the quality of school facilities and education provided to local children without taking funds that are needed to provide for basic educational needs.



How did the District come up with the Measure J project list?

Over the last several months, with input from staff, teachers, parents, and community leaders, the District has prepared a School Facilities Needs Analysis. The Needs Analysis identifies the major repairs and upgrades that need to be made. Specific projects identified include:

- ✓ Repairing or replacing leaky roofs
- ✓ Expanding and renovating career technical education classrooms and labs to better prepare students for employment after high school
- ✓ Replacing outdated heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems
- ✓ Upgrading inadequate electrical systems
- ✓ Renovating and constructing science and technology labs
- ✓ Improve student safety at drop-off and pick-up areas, as well as parking lots

Why can't the District meet its facilities needs with its current budget?

Today, the scope of improvements needed at the Gateway Unified School District is far more than the current funding sources available. The per-pupil funding the District receives from the state is intended to be used for the day-to-day business of educating children, not for the costs of upgrading, modernizing, and repairing facilities.

What will the passage of the measure mean for our students and the community?

Measure J will provide our students with a better learning environment by making repairs and upgrades to existing classrooms and school facilities; many of which are also used and available to the community, such as the libraries and playing fields.

What will Measure J cost?

The tax rate per property owner is estimated to be \$49 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation per year on average, or about \$4 a month. (Do not confuse assessed valuation with market value. Assessed valuations are the value placed on property by the County and are often lower than market values). Check your property tax statement for your current assessed valuation.

How can I be sure that Measure J funds will be spent on improving our local schools?

By law, all bond funds have to be spent locally and cannot be taken by the state. In addition, a local independent citizens' oversight committee will be established to ensure that bond funds are properly spent. Also by law, there must be annual audits of expenditures and no bond money can be used for teacher or administrative salaries.



**The Facts on Measure J,
the Local School Improvement Measure for the Gateway Unified School District**