

# FUNDING FOR THE HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS AND TOP-NOTCH ACADEMICS OF PSD

Pacifica School District (PSD) prepares each child to meet the challenges of the future by providing equitable, rigorous academic programs that nurture curiosity and inspire joy, confidence, and achievement in learning. Parents and community members tell us that local schools set our communities apart and are a key contributor to high local property values and a strong sense of community.

## Teacher Compensation Has Not Kept Pace

It is no secret that having a skilled, experienced, and dedicated teacher in the classroom is one of the most important elements of providing a quality education. Therefore, PSD is committed to attracting and retaining the best and brightest teachers. However, teacher compensation has not kept pace with the rising cost of living in the area, and our teachers struggle to afford to live in the community they serve. As a result, PSD is losing teachers to neighboring school districts that offer higher compensation. Reliable, local funding could help ensure that PSD teachers remain in local schools.

## Stagnant Funding for Teacher Compensation and Academic Programs

You may not know that PSD is one of the lowest-funded districts in San Mateo County. In fact, locally controlled funding for the Pacifica School District has not increased in 13 years despite growing inflation. As a result, teacher compensation and school funding have fallen behind. Securing a local source of funding could help prevent painful layoffs, attract and retain top educators, and maintain high-quality academic programs, ensuring that our students keep pace with other children across the county.

## Potential Local Funding Measure

The PSD Board of Trustees voted to place a parcel tax measure, Measure EE, on the November 2024 ballot levying \$98 per parcel, with annual adjustments, that could raise up to \$1.1 million annually. If approved by voters, the measure could provide locally controlled funds that would allow PSD to maintain quality schools by:



Attracting and retaining qualified teachers by providing competitive compensation to account for cost-of-living increases



Maintaining dedicated literacy instruction to help struggling students read at their grade level



Enhancing math, history, reading, and writing programs



Expanding hands-on science learning opportunities

## Required Fiscal Accountability and Local Control

Any future parcel tax measure would include strict fiscal accountability provisions, including:

- ✓ All funds would be controlled locally and could not be taken away by the State
- ✓ Independent citizens' oversight and mandatory annual audits would be required
- ✓ Senior citizens and individuals with disabilities could apply for an exemption from the cost



## **We Want to Hear from You!**

As PSD explores funding options to maintain our quality local schools, we value your thoughts. For more information or to ask questions, please reach out to Barbara Bualat, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, at [bbualat@pacificasd.org](mailto:bbualat@pacificasd.org)