



**PALO ALTO**  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Renewing Expiring Local School Funding

Palo Alto Unified School District provides a world-class education for local students and local schools consistently rank among the best in the State and the nation. Exceptional teachers, innovative programs, dedicated parents and strong community support all contribute to high levels of student achievement.

## Locally Controlled Funding Set to Expire

Since 2001, Palo Alto schools have received proceeds from a voter-approved parcel tax that now provides nearly \$17 million per year in locally controlled funding that cannot be taken by the State. However, this funding is set to expire in 2027 unless renewed.

## Continuing Local School Funding at a Reduced Tax Rate

At the February 10th meeting, the Palo Alto Unified Board of Trustees voted to place a parcel tax renewal measure on the June 2, 2026 ballot. The measure will renew local school funding at a reduced tax rate of \$800 per parcel for four years. Due to growth in local property tax revenue, PAUSD is able to seek authorization for a reduced parcel tax rate while maintaining current levels of programs and services for students. Without renewal, the current parcel tax will expire next year, eliminating this local funding source and requiring cuts to academic programs, teachers and staff.

**The parcel tax renewal measure on the June 2026 ballot will provide approximately \$14.5 million annually that will continue to be used to:**

- Attract and retain highly qualified teachers
- Maintain reading, writing and language programs
- Continue advanced programs in science, technology, engineering and math
- Maintain manageable class sizes
- Prepare students for college and in-demand careers
- Keep instructional materials up-to-date
- Support at-risk students

## Mandatory Fiscal Accountability and Local Control

If approved by voters, the renewal measure will be subject to fiscal oversight:



- All money will be controlled locally and can not be taken away by the State or federal governments
- Independent citizens' oversight and mandatory annual audits
- Homeowners aged 65+ will continue to be eligible for an exemption from the cost
- No money raised from the renewal measure can be used for administrators' salaries, benefits or pensions
- This parcel tax will be at a rate lower than the current tax

**Learn More:** Palo Alto Unified School District welcomes questions and comments from our community as we plan for the future of our local schools. Please contact Lynette White at [lwhite@pausd.org](mailto:lwhite@pausd.org) to learn more.