



Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93923

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Information About Potential CUSD 2026 School Bond

Carmel Unified School District Serves:

600+

Square miles along
the Pacific Coast

7 Communities

Carmel-by-the-Sea | Carmel | Carmel Highlands
Carmel Valley | Cachagua | Big Sur | Pebble Beach

What is the state of CUSD classrooms and school facilities?

Our oldest classrooms and facilities were built nearly 90 years ago, facing real and growing challenges that are not always visible from the outside.

Many of our schools and classrooms have outdated electrical wiring, old plumbing and piping, and other underground utilities that are original to the schools and require replacement to minimize costly repairs. Some classrooms don't have sufficient heat on some days or air-conditioning on others.



*Roof leaks in the
Carmel High School music building*

How does CUSD plan to address the needs of local schools?

To begin addressing the most critical needs for students, staff, and the community, the CUSD Board of Education is considering placing a \$250 million local school improvement bond measure on the November 2026 ballot.

When was the last time CUSD passed a school bond?

The last time voters approved a bond to update Carmel Unified School District schools was over 20 years ago. Our schools are due for essential repairs and upgrades to keep them safe and up-to-date.

Top Priorities of the CUSD Facilities Master Plan



Safety

Plumbing, electrical, seismic, removal of hazardous materials, etc.



Security

Security fencing, security cameras, lighting, fire/life safety systems, etc.



Repairing and Updating

Classrooms, removing/replacing out-of-date facilities, ADA accessibility, HVAC, energy efficiency, etc.



Potential CUSD 2026 School Bond

Specifically, how would a local school improvement measure address needed upgrades and repairs?

If approved by voters, funding from the potential local school improvement measure will be used to:



Improve student and school safety



Replace failing plumbing, electrical, and sewer systems



Replace decaying water pipes



Replace failing heating, cooling, and ventilation with efficient systems



Improve accessibility for students with disabilities



Replace aging roofs



Weatherproof schools to avoid mold and dry rot

How do I know funds from the potential local school improvement measure will be used responsibly?

CUSD has been a good steward of public funds, and by law, the potential local school improvement measure will require accountability protections, including:

- All of the revenue from this measure will be spent here in our local schools and cannot be taken away by the State
- An independent citizens' oversight committee will ensure all funds from this measure are spent as voters intended
- No money will be used for salaries or pensions
- Annual public reports and independent financial and performance audits are required



Broken underground water pipe and flooding at Carmelo Child Development Center

How much would the local school improvement measure cost?

The local school improvement measure will provide \$250 million for repairs and upgrades to CUSD schools and is estimated to cost \$36 per every \$100,000 of a property's assessed (not market) value per year, while bonds are outstanding.

How is the cost of the local school improvement measure determined?

The cost of bond measures is based on the assessed value of properties. The assessed value is usually much lower than the market value, especially if a property was purchased long ago at a much lower price than it could be purchased for today.

How can I learn more?

If you are interested in learning more about how the November 2026 local school improvement measure will help make improvements and repairs to CUSD schools, please visit our website at www.carmelunified.org/Departments/FacilitiesFunding or contact GObond@carmelunified.org.