



Acalanes Union High School District



Acalanes High School



Campolindo High School



Las Lomas High School



Miramonte High School



Acalanes Center For Independent Study



Protect the Quality of Our Local High Schools in an Era of Inadequate State Funding

TAKE OUR SURVEY



Acalanes Union High School District

Dear Parents and Voters:

Today's high school graduates need to be prepared to compete in a highly technical and competitive workforce. My job is to ensure that they succeed. However, as Superintendent of the Acalanes Union High School District, I must tell you, **due to years of inadequate state funding, we are entering this school year facing serious financial headwinds.**

Our four public high schools—Acalanes High School, Campolindo High School, Las Lomas High School, and Miramonte High School—all rank among the **best high schools in California and rate in the top 4% of all high schools in the United States for strength of their Advanced Placement programs**, and our Acalanes Center for Independent Study offers an exceptional alternative education program.

However, due to years of inadequate state funding, our school district is now taking on multiple years of funding losses and those cuts are now threatening the local quality of education. Currently, **we've absorbed \$4 million in budget cuts over the past 2 years**, impacting student electives, library and counseling services, and enrichment programs.

Now, we must deal with the growing threat these cuts pose to our local high schools.

Faced with this reality, our AUHSD Governing Board is carefully considering returning to the community with a parcel tax measure proposal this November to help close the gap. **Before decisions are made, we want to know what YOU think. Your voice matters. Please take our survey—attached—or scan the QR code or visit our District website to take the survey online.**

Thank you for your time and ongoing support of the Acalanes Union High School District and our local schools. Working together, we can ensure that our students receive every opportunity to thrive.

Sincerely,

John Nickerson, Ed.D.
Superintendent

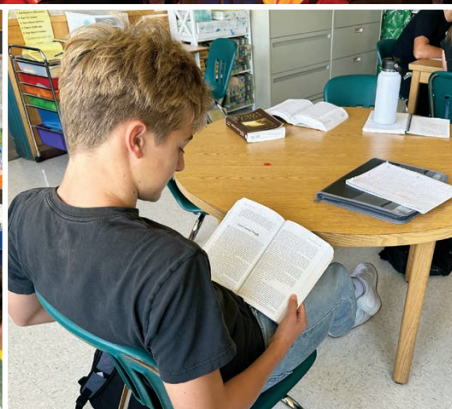
Our Priority

Protect advanced high-quality High School education programs

- ▶ **CONTINUE** providing advanced programs in science, technology, engineering, and math that help students get into college.
- ▶ **ATTRACT** and retain highly-qualified teachers.
- ▶ **MAINTAIN** manageable class sizes.
- ▶ **CONTINUE** providing high-quality programs in music, visual, and performing arts.
- ▶ **PROVIDE** career technical education for in-demand fields like auto mechanics, fabrication, skilled trades, biotech, medical and health sciences.
- ▶ **KEEP** classroom technology and instructional materials up-to-date.
- ▶ **PROVIDE** academic intervention for students who need additional support.
- ▶ **RESTORE** positions lost to budget cuts including teachers, counselors, and librarians.

For more information, please visit:

acalanes.k12.ca.us





Acalanes Union High School District

1212 Pleasant Hill Road
Lafayette, CA 94549

Provided as a public service for your information only from Acalanes Union High School District.

Why am I receiving this mailer?

Acalanes Union High School District (AUHSD) is proud to serve high school students throughout the region. Our local high schools rank in the top 4% of all high schools **nationwide**. However, due to years of inadequate state funding, our school district is now taking on multiple years of funding losses and those cuts are now threatening the local quality of education. Currently, we've absorbed \$4 million in budget cuts over the past 2 years, impacting student electives, library and counseling services, and enrichment programs. Our schools cannot sustain these kinds of cuts without significant impacts to teaching and learning. Accordingly, this mailer is part of our effort to elevate the public conversation in search of solutions that our community can support.

Why now?

Funding levels for our local public high schools are among the lowest in the state. We must rely on local funding to fill in the gap through local measures and local education foundations. Even so, our most recent new funding measure was 16 years ago. We have tightened our belts with significant budget cuts over the past two years. Meanwhile, the threat to local advanced high school education is growing. It is our duty to elevate the public conversation to find solutions that can attract strong community support.

How does this help attract and retain high-quality teachers?

Competition for high-quality teachers has become a big challenge for public school districts across the Bay Area. If we want to attract and retain high-quality teachers, we need to pay them competitive salaries. With inadequate state funding and recent budget cuts, the ability for AUHSD to continue attracting and retaining high-quality teachers is an increasing challenge.

What solutions are you considering?

The District is currently studying the feasibility of returning to voters this November with a prudent, responsible parcel tax proposal that protects the quality of our local high schools. No decisions have been made yet and community input is vital. We want to know what you think before decisions are made. The filing deadline for November ballot measures is August 7, 2026.

If a measure is placed on the ballot, who decides?

The elected AUHSD School Board is the entity that votes to place a measure on the ballot. If a measure goes to the ballot, registered voters will decide its fate when they cast their ballots on the measure.

Would senior citizens have to pay?

If a measure is passed, senior citizen homeowners age 65 years or older would

continue to be eligible for an exemption on their primary residence through a simple application process. We do not want a measure to become a burden to those living on a fixed income. In addition, persons receiving Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance, regardless of age, would be eligible for an exemption.

Is it too late to weigh in?

There's still time! No decisions have been made yet. Provide your input by taking the survey attached to this mailer—or scan the QR code to take the survey online.



Join the Conversation

For more information on Summer Town Halls and Public Board meetings, visit:

www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Contact Superintendent John Nickerson
by phone: (925) 380-3902
or email: superintendent@auhsdschools.org



SURVEY

Your opinion is important to us!

Take this survey online. Scan the QR code
or visit: www.acalanes.k12.ca.us



Please rank these school priorities
in order of their importance to you
(1 = most important, 9 = least important).

- ▶ **CONTINUE** providing advanced programs in science, technology, engineering, and math that help students get into college. ☐
- ▶ **ATTRACT** and retain highly-qualified teachers. ☐
- ▶ **MAINTAIN** manageable class sizes. ☐
- ▶ **CONTINUE** providing high-quality programs in music, visual, and performing arts. ☐
- ▶ **PROVIDE** career technical education for in-demand fields like auto mechanics, fabrication, skilled trades, biotech, medical and health sciences. ☐
- ▶ **KEEP** classroom technology and instructional materials up-to-date. ☐
- ▶ **PROVIDE** academic intervention for students who need additional support. ☐
- ▶ **RESTORE** positions lost to budget cuts including teachers, counselors, and librarians. ☐
- ▶ **OTHER:** _____ ☐

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

SCHOOLS MY CHILDREN ATTEND/ATTENDED _____