

Pacifica School District

Parcel Tax Renewal: Community Frequently Asked Questions

Information for the November 2026 Election

This FAQ is intended to help Pacifica residents understand the proposed renewal, how local funds are used, and what accountability protections apply. The District respects that each voter will make their own informed decision.

Why is the District discussing a parcel tax renewal?

Pacifica School District receives state and federal funding, but those sources do not fully support all programs and services currently provided to local elementary and middle school students. The existing parcel tax supplies locally controlled revenue for educational priorities identified by the community. Because that funding is scheduled to expire, the Board of Education is considering placing a renewal measure before voters in the November 2026 election.

What is being proposed?

The proposal would renew the District's existing \$118 annual parcel tax without increasing the current rate. It would continue for 10 years and could not be extended again without voter approval. The official ballot materials will contain the complete measure language.

How could the funds be used?

If approved by local voters, the revenue could continue supporting priorities such as:

- Core instruction in math, science, history, reading, and writing
- Art, music, electives, libraries, and classroom technology
- Programs that provide additional support to students who need it
- Efforts to attract and retain qualified teachers and staff

Would the money remain in Pacifica schools?

Yes. Parcel tax revenue would be locally controlled and used only for Pacifica School District elementary and middle schools. It could not be redirected to other communities or taken by the State.

What accountability protections would apply?

The proposed renewal would continue safeguards intended to provide transparency and ensure the funds are used for their stated purposes:

- Independent citizen oversight
- Annual financial review and public reporting
- No use of funds for administrators' salaries
- A 10-year expiration date, unless voters later approve another renewal

How can community members review how funds are spent?

Oversight reports, budget information, and public Board of Education materials provide opportunities for residents to review parcel tax revenue and expenditures. Community members may also attend public board meetings and submit questions to the District.

Are exemptions available?

Yes. Eligible senior homeowners and people with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) may apply for an exemption, subject to the measure's requirements. Current information and application materials are available at tinyurl.com/PSDExemptionForm. Residents may contact the District if they need assistance understanding the process.

Why not rely only on state funding or fundraising?

State and federal funds, grants, the Pacifica Education Foundation, and school PTO fundraising all contribute to local education. These sources serve different purposes and may fluctuate from year to year. Parcel tax revenue is a separate, locally controlled funding source that supports District-wide priorities.

What happens if the measure is not approved?

If the existing parcel tax expires without renewal, the District would lose that annual local revenue. The Board would then need to consider budget adjustments through its public process. Any specific reductions would depend on the District's financial condition and adopted budget at that time.

When will voters decide?

Pacifica voters would consider the proposed renewal during the November 2026 election. Voters should refer to official election materials for the final ballot question, voter registration information, deadlines, and voting options.

How can I learn more or ask a question?

For additional information, please contact Superintendent Dr. Carisa Bowman at (650) 738-6625 or visit www.PacificaSD.org.

Updated August 2026. This document provides general public information and does not replace the official ballot language or election materials.