

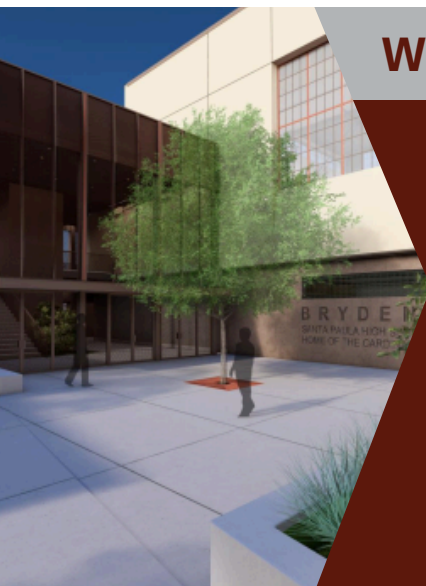


SANTA PAULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEASURE C

WHAT PROJECTS ARE INCLUDED IN MEASURE C?

- Helping to rebuild the Bryden Gym, destroyed by fire, so students have a safe place to play and compete.
- Reconstructing the pool to meet CIF competition standards, giving our swim and water polo teams a facility worthy of their effort.
- Building a new Performing Arts Center, since current music, theater, and arts programs have outgrown their space and are taught in substandard facilities.
- Renovating the historic Freeman Auditorium, preserving a piece of Santa Paula history while bringing it up to modern standards.
- Updating Jones Field so student athletes have safe, modern facilities.
- Expanding career and technical education programs in Agriculture, Engineering, Patient Care, Building and Trades and others, so students graduate ready for good local jobs.
- Fully expanding the District Farm, giving students practical agricultural education that reflects our community roots.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Although it appears that our schools are in good shape based on achievements by our students, our classrooms and facilities need repairs. Faced with aging schools across the District and the need to bring school facilities up to current standards, the Santa Paula Unified School District is considering placing a general obligation bond measure on the November 2026 ballot, which would modernize and renovate our aging schools. The following information is provided to assist voters in understanding the facts behind Measure C and how its passage will affect the District and our community.

WHAT IS MEASURE C? Measure C is a \$48.6 million general obligation (G.O.) bond program. This measure is intended to address the needs of the student population through modernization projects at district high schools and properties acquired for the high schools.

WHAT IS A G.O. BOND? G.O. bonds fund projects such as the renovation of existing classrooms and school facilities, as well as construction of new schools and classrooms. Similar to a home loan, G.O. bonds are typically repaid over 25 to 30 years. The loan repayment comes from a tax on all taxable property - residential, commercial, agricultural, and industrial - located within the District's boundaries.

WHY IS THE DISTRICT CONSIDERING PLACING MEASURE C ON THE BALLOT? Our school facilities are outdated, and upgrades and renovations need to be made. While facilities have been well maintained, old classrooms must be upgraded since many do not meet 21st-century educational and technological standards. A local school improvement measure would allow the District to improve the quality of the school facilities and education provided to local students.

WHY CAN'T THE DISTRICT MEET ITS FACILITIES NEEDS WITH ITS CURRENT BUDGET? Today, the scope of improvements needed in the Santa Paula Unified School District is far more than the current funding sources available. The per pupil funding which the District receives from the state is intended to be used for the day-to-day business of educating students and not the cost of upgrading, modernizing, and repairing facilities.

WHAT WILL MEASURE C COST? The tax rate per property owner is estimated to be \$27.98 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. (Do not confuse assessed valuation with market value. Assessed valuations are the value placed on property by the County and are almost always lower than market values.) Check your property tax statement for your current assessed valuation.

HOW DID THE DISTRICT COME UP WITH THE PROJECT LIST FOR MEASURE C?

Over the last several months, with input from staff, teachers, parents, and community leaders, the District has prepared a School Facilities Needs Analysis. The analysis identifies the major repairs and upgrades that need to be made.

Specific projects identified include:

- Expanding and renovating classrooms and school facilities for vocational and career training programs
- Repairing or replacing leaky roofs
- Making safety and security improvements
- Constructing a new gym to replace the Bryden gym
- Replacing outdated heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems

WHAT WILL THE PASSAGE OF MEASURE C MEAN FOR OUR STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY? Measure C will provide our students with a better learning environment by making repairs and upgrades to existing classrooms and school facilities, many of which are also used and available to the community.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF MEASURE C DOES NOT PASS? If Measure C does not pass, our classrooms and school facilities will continue to deteriorate. In addition, funds that would otherwise go to classroom instruction will be needed to make critical safety repairs and improvements at the schools. Major repairs will need to be postponed and, as a result, will likely be more expensive to make.

HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT FUNDS WILL BE SPENT ON IMPROVING OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS? By law, all funds have to be spent locally and cannot be taken by the state. Furthermore, an independent citizens' oversight committee will be established to ensure that bond funds are properly spent. Also, by law, there must be annual audits and no bond money can be used for teacher or administrative salaries.