



# BOND MEASURE “HH”

## Luther Burbank School District Fact Sheet *Questions and Answers*

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**Q. What is Measure “HH”?**

- A. Measure “HH” is a general obligation bond school improvement measure on the November 6, 2018 ballot that will:
- Allow the District to sell up to \$10 million in bonds to build 12 new classrooms for kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Replace the School's main education building with a modern, state-of-the-art facility
  - Upgrade library and restrooms facilities
  - Improve student safety and security

**Q. Why has the Luther Burbank Board voted to place Measure “HH” on the November 6, 2018 ballot?**

- A. Luther Burbank has placed Measure “HH” on the ballot because the age, design and functionality of the main classroom building. It is a drain on the District's finances due to its high maintenance costs while inhibiting our children's learning by not providing an up-to-date 21<sup>st</sup> century learning environment. Majority of the classrooms in this building have few or no windows. Also, it has been over 12 years since we last passed a bond and the District received only limited funding from the State which it used to improve only a portion of the school facilities. The District will continue to apply for state grants it is eligible to receive over time; however, these funds are insufficient to fund this critical project.

**Q. What are General Obligation (GO) Bonds?**

- A. GO Bonds are a form of borrowing made by the District. The GO Bonds are repaid from property taxes that are collected within the District, typically over 25-30 years. GO Bond funds can only be used to pay for buildings and other infrastructure projects, including construction, and modernization, as approved by District voters.

**Q. How would the GO Bonds be repaid?**

- A. GO Bonds are repaid from an annual tax levied on property within the District's boundaries. The amount of the tax is determined by the assessed value of a property (not market value). In most cases, assessed value is lower than market value.

**Q. How much would it cost?**

- A. The proposed Measure “HH” would cost property owners an estimated \$88 a year per \$100,000 of assessed property value. The average homeowner with an assessed value of \$250,000 would pay approximately \$220 in additional taxes, or \$18.33 per month.

**Q. Would all funds be used exclusively for Luther Burbank?**

- A. Yes! Measure “HH” funds would be dedicated only for uses benefiting Luther Burbank school facilities, as approved by District voters.

**Q. Is now a good time for a bond measure?**

A. A community survey of registered voters indicated that over 67% of respondents would support a potential measure. What's more, many surrounding districts in Santa Clara County have successfully passed similar school funding measures.

**Q. What safeguards does the community have to ensure the bond money is not misused?**

A. The expenditures will be reviewed and monitored by an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. This committee consists of community members located within the Luther Burbank District boundaries. This will ensure the money is spent on projects identified in the project list. State law requires a detailed list of projects be presented to District voters. Only projects identified on the project list may be funded from the Measure "HH". Bond funds cannot be spent on administrator or teacher salaries.

**Q. What happens if the proposed Measure "HH" fails?**

A. Measure "HH" requires 66.7% of voter approval for passage. If it fails, these critical improvements will not be made. The District has no other source of funding for these new classrooms. The smaller projects will have to be paid from other District funding sources that could otherwise be used for academic programs and operations.

**Q. What about other sources of funding?**

A. The District's General Fund annual budget comes from the State and only covers educational programs and other ongoing costs of running our schools, including teacher salaries. The District's General Fund does not account for major school construction needs. Additionally, State lottery funds are primarily restricted for educational purposes. Utilizing Measure "HH" funds as a local match, the District will also apply for over \$1 million in State grants and matching funds in order to maximize total available funding for our school capital needs.

**Q. Who can vote on Measure "HH" on November 6<sup>th</sup>?**

A. All registered voters who live within the boundaries of the Luther Burbank School District are eligible to vote on Measure "HH". The last day to register to vote for the November 6<sup>th</sup> election is October 24<sup>th</sup>. You can register to vote at: <http://registertovote.ca.gov/>

**Q. Where can I find additional information?**

A. Please send questions about the Luther Burbank Measure "HH" to the District office at (408) 295-2450.