

Full Text of Measure C2004

"To improve the quality of education and alleviate student overcrowding, shall Santa Maria Joint Union High School District be authorized to construct a new high school; upgrade classrooms; improve health/safety; provide additional access to computer technology; replace portable classrooms with permanent construction; acquire, construct and improve school facilities; and make the District eligible for approximately \$30,000,000 in State grants by issuing \$79,000,000 in bonds within legal rates, with a citizens' oversight committee, annual audits, and NO money for administrator salaries?"

As required by the California Constitution, the proceeds from the sale of bonds will be used only for constructing, reconstructing, upgrading or replacing school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, and not for any other purposes, including teacher and administrator salaries or other school operating expenses.

Projects The Santa Maria Joint Union High School District has more portable classrooms than any other school district in the State. Even after opening Pioneer Valley High, the District has 2,400 students in temporary portable classrooms. In order to provide comparable school facilities and to relieve current student overcrowding, existing schools within the District will receive improvements from a bond program.

The District intends to complete the following projects using bond proceeds of up to \$79 million. Generating said dollars from bond proceeds would qualify the district to receive approximately \$30 million in State Aid for classroom facilities and school improvements. Bond funds will be used to make necessary repairs and upgrades, as well as to construct additional facilities to address overcrowding and increased enrollment.

This measure includes a guaranteed audit and independent oversight committee to ensure money is used only for voter approved school improvements and repairs and not used for salaries, administration and overhead.

To provide adequate school facilities for all Santa Maria Joint Union High School students, the District will, in accordance with its facilities master plan:

- Make necessary health and safety improvements such as upgrading fire alarm and communication systems and making ADA (handicapped accessibility) improvements and improve access to schools
- Improve student access to computer technology throughout the District by upgrading and constructing additional computer labs, renovating electrical systems and providing additional computers
- Upgrade and modernize school libraries and replace aging portable classrooms and buildings with new construction throughout the District
- Build an additional continuation high school
- Construct new classrooms and build additional restrooms to relieve student overcrowding
- Construct an additional high school to relieve student overcrowding and improve

- student and campus safety at each high school
- Upgrade outdated heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems
 - Improve and expand student safety at Santa Maria and Righetti High Schools by repairing and renovating aging educational buildings and facilities
 - Modernize and renovate outdated buildings/facilities at Santa Maria and Righetti High Schools including walls, painting, lighting and roofs
 - Construct a cafeteria/multipurpose room at Santa Maria High School because the campus currently does not have any place for students to eat
 - Construct, renovate or expand student support facilities as required
 - Provide other school facilities to comply with the law including the requirements of Proposition 39
 - Provide or purchase other school furniture and equipment, as needed
 - Address unforeseen conditions revealed by construction/modernization (e.g., plumbing or gas line breaks, dry rot, seismic, structural, etc.)
 - Necessary site preparation/restoration in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable classrooms
 - Continue to renovate, modernize, upgrade and add the necessary educational facilities to all district high schools

The priority and timing of completion of the foregoing projects will be established by the Board of Trustees after review by the Citizen Oversight Committee.

The District's Board of Trustees has certified that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the foregoing list.

The District's Board of Trustees will conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the funds have been expended only on the project list set forth above.

The District's Board of Trustees will conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the proceeds from the sale of the Bonds until all of those proceeds have been expended for the school facilities projects.

Pursuant to Section 15272 of the Education Code, the District's Board of Trustees will appoint an independent citizens' oversight committee and conduct annual independent audits to assure that funds are spent only on school and classroom improvements and for no other purposes.