



## MEASURE J SCHOOL BOND UPDATE

### JEFFERSON SCHOOL AND TRAINA GYMNASIUM COULD START 2014



The Jefferson School Board voted at their October meeting to authorize \$23 million dollars of bond sales in January, 2013. This will allow the district to construct a modernized Jefferson School (Approximate Budget \$19 million) and the Traina Gymnasium (Approximate Budget \$4 million) much sooner than had been expected.

This will keep construction costs from escalating over the years and will mean that Jefferson will be completed all at once as opposed to in phases (3 separate projects over multiple years), which would be more expensive.

The board reviewed four bond financing options and after careful consideration, chose option number four. This option increases the tax rate to \$30 per

\$100,000 of assessed valuation. This is \$7 higher than the original estimate used during the campaign.

The school board invited public comments prior to the meeting and took those into consideration. The board shared that they felt this was the most fiscally responsible way of proving the badly needed facilities at Traina and Jefferson.

The anticipated growth that will come from the Ellis and Tracy Hills Development projects will provide additional bond revenue. All new development will be required to pay their fair share of school bond money.

The school district will be working with the state to try to secure all necessary requirements to sell bonds in January. If that goes well, both projects could start construction in the Summer of 2014.

### DISTRICT REBATED \$116,441 FROM SERIES A BOND PROJECTS

At the December 11, 2012 Board Meeting, RGM Construction submitted their first change order to the school board. The board formally accepted the change order in open session. The change order called for a return of \$116,441 to the district's Measure J fund. The change is a result of projects coming in under budget for the projects that took place at Monticello, Hawkins and Traina Schools. This rebate does not affect the extension of the maintenance period for the grass

fields. Those projects were separated out to ensure the fields are completed properly and under the original terms.

The school board selected the Lease-leaseback agreement with RGM to institute a mutually beneficial partnership. This money will allow the district to increase funding to current projects or to fund other projects that were identified by community members but were not selected initially.



### WANT TO SEE MORE?

The goal of the Measure J Newsletters is to provide up to date information to families, staff and community members about the responsible spending of Measure J Funds. The nature of a two page newsletter makes it impossible to show more than a few pictures. Our website is regularly updated with information and photos. Please scan the QR Code to the right to go directly top the Measure J section of the Jefferson School District web page.



## TRAINA FLAGPOLE AREA COMPLETED

The Traina School flagpole area was recently completed. This area now provides a useable outdoor seating and ceremony area for the Traina students and staff.

The staff has chosen to honor former teacher Carole Merrill by dedicating the flagpole in her memory. A formal ceremony will take place in the spring to formalize the dedication.



## oversight committee



Under the provisions of Proposition 39, state law requires the district establish a Citizens' Oversight Committee appointed by the district's Governing Board. The committee purposes are:

- To actively monitor all projects and expenditures approved by the voters.
- To provide proper oversight and accountability to ensure that Measure J funds are used as they were intended.
- To report to members of the community on the progress of Measure J projects.

The Citizens' Oversight Committee met on August 21, 2012 at 1:00 P.M, to get updated on construction progress and review bond expenditures. While updates were given at the scheduled November 27, 2012, this meeting did not have a quorum present and no votes were taken.

The next C.O.C. meeting is in the process of being scheduled for March 2013. All community members are invited and welcome to attend.

### Committee Members

Steve Abercrombie (Vice Chair)  
Jennifer Couch  
Russell Lovell  
Nicole Riley (Chair)  
Craig Saalwaechter  
Raul C. Salazar  
Nineb Paul Tumazi

## GRASS FIELDS TO REQUIRE MORE TIME AND WORK



Due to some contractor related issues associated with the development of the turf playfields, and the District's desire to insure that the playfields are fully developed, prior to acceptance, the turnover dates have been pushed out from late December 2012 to late March/early April 2013.

The primary issue causing this delay was the contractor's inability to control the irrigation systems at Traina and Hawkins. While Monticello did not experience the same problem, there are a few underdeveloped areas that require more attention.

Over the next few months the contractor will be working on weed abatement, infilling areas that did not properly establish, applying fertilizer to



promote strong root development and fill low spots and ruts caused by mowers and any irrigation trench settlement that may occur over time.

It is anticipated that during January and early February, growth will be slow. However, during late February and March, it is anticipated that the fields will start to reach maturity.

We are obviously not thrilled at delaying the opening of these fields. We know that they are often our classroom space for our physical education programs and venues for sports teams. What is most important is that the district establish great fields that will last a long time. We believe that delaying the opening will provide our students and staff members with the best possible fields.

## BOND MONEY AND SCHOOL BUDGET CUTS

By law, Measure J money may only be spent on facilities projects and infrastructure improvements listed in the ballot measure. Bond money cannot be used to offset salary or school supply costs. However, it is hoped that by utilizing bond money to make schools more energy efficient, money will eventually be saved in utility costs that come directly out of the general fund.

