

What is Measure S?

- \$59 million facilities improvement bond
- an all district solution (View, Valley and North schools) to address our overcrowded and outdated facilities
- the preservation of Valley Park
- \$29.50 tax rate per \$100,000 ASSESSED VALUE
- lowest amount of bond indebtedness compared to neighboring districts
- a reinvestment one of the city's greatest assets; quality schools

Were options other than the North School site explored?

Yes, options were explored by the Facilities Planning Advisory Committee, Board of Trustees and the City Council during joint City Council/School Board Meetings.

What were the specific options that the Facilities Planning Advisory Committee explored?

In 2013, the Facilities Planning Advisory Committee (FPAC) held 7 meetings to discuss the modernization of North School, the new construction of North School, the consideration of a land swap of North School for other properties in the city and the hiring of an educational architect to develop a Long Range Facilities Master Plan.

What properties were explored by the FPAC as possible alternatives to North School?

On March 20, 2013, the FPAC discussed the Community Center option. City Planning Director Pam Townsend was present at the meeting and later provided documents and a statement that there is no provision for the school district to reoccupy the site for a school so that option is not viable as discussed. (Lease Agreement located under Measure S - History)

Also considered and discussed by FPAC were the Time Warner Building, Hope Chapel, St Cross, and South Park. Each of these properties is either privately owned or owned by the City. The discussion criteria was based on cost, timeline, location, state requirements and site flexibility.





Why has the district proposed the building of 17 classrooms at North School?

Third grade falls under the state class size reduction ratio of 24:1 and when the current kindergartners become third graders in 2019, 7 classrooms would be appropriate plus 5-6 classrooms for fourth graders. Residents and other participants in the February Board Envisioning Workshop supported the proposal of 17 classrooms at North stating flexibility and options for specialty classes.

What is the role of the Citizen's Oversight Committee and how is it regulated?

Upon the passage of a local bond measure, the state of California requires that all school districts create a Citizen's Oversight Committee, ED CODE: 15272, which will conduct annual independent audits to assure that funds are spent only on the list of projects authorized in the bond language and for no other purpose.

Why were the proposed grade levels at North changed from K-2 (Measure Q) to 3-4th (Measure S) ?

During discussions held with the community regarding the concerns of the North School neighborhood regarding traffic, the board discussed and determined that 3rd and 4th grade students were more likely to have the option to walk, skate or ride their bike to school, whereas, K-2 school age students were more likely to be driven to school, car parked and walked into the school. The change was a response by the board to the community's preference for the housing of older students on the North School site.

Why aren't the district elementary schools (K-5) configured like the neighborhood schools in Manhattan and Redondo Beach?

During the Long Range Facilities Planning process, public discussions were held regarding the pros and cons of neighborhood schools versus the current structure of Hermosa Beach schools in which all students at each grade level attend the same school. The reasons for continuing this structure were building community amongst grade level families, elimination of redundancy of facilities (cost savings), and cohesive academic planning.

Is it true that the cost of completely rebuilding North School estimated at \$14 million in 2014 is now estimated at \$32 million to completely rebuild?

No. On page 115 of the 2014 district Long Range Facilities Master Plan (LRFMP), Option B is an option to modernize, not rebuild, North School for \$14 million. On page 117 of the district LRFMP, Option D is an option to completely rebuild (new construction) a new school at North for \$28 million + \$5.8 million for a second story of classrooms.

Has the district's enrollment declined from September 2014 to the present?

Yes. The enrollment has declined by 41 students since September 2014. In the spring of 2015, the board made a short term but difficult decision to return the Kindergarten program from full day to half day because of a lack of classrooms. Based on this decision, the district expected that some families may make other arrangements for full day Kindergarten program. The enrollment of 1431 has remained consistent during the 2015-16 school year.

Are there students enrolled in the Hermosa Beach City School District that are on permit and do not live in the city?

Yes. There are 4 students on permit in the district this school year. These students are either the children of employees or students that are entitled to a permit per Ed Code.

Has the district outlined the pros and cons of Measure S in writing?

The district has provided informational points for the question "What if Measure S Passes"? and "What if Measure S Fails"? This can be found at hbcasd.org, click Measure S, click FAQ.

Did the district commission a Traffic Impact Assessment of the North School neighborhood?

Yes. In response to community input about their concerns regarding the impact of traffic on the North School neighborhood, the district committed the necessary funding needed to hire a consultant to conduct an assessment of the traffic impact surrounding the North School site in advance of a possible EIR. The data has been collected and a working draft document is currently under reviewed. At the conclusion of the review process, the document will be accepted by the district and the final document will be provided to the board. The projected timeline to finalize the report is for the May board meeting. For additional information regarding the scope of the Traffic Impact Assessment please reference the link below.

A Historical Resources Assessment Report has also been commissioned by the board to examine North School and is a part of the same timeline and process as the Traffic Impact Assessment.

What steps has the district taken to examine and report to the public the district's enrollment data?

At each public board meeting, the district enrollment is reported to provide residents with a month to month accounting for enrollment trends and historical district enrollment data. The enrollment data is broken down by grade level, school and includes the number of students on permit. Since 2013, and in anticipation of the November 2014 bond (Measure Q), the district contracted with the professional company, Decision Insite, Enrollment Impact Specialists, to provide current demographic information about the district and community, data analysis and enrollment projections. In February 2013, the FPAC committee reviewed enrollment trends and demographic information from Decision Insite. Subsequent annual presentations were given by Decision Insite to the board in 2014, 2015.

Will the reopening of the North School site result in the elimination of parking and the creation of one way streets in the neighborhood?

The Traffic Impact Assessment will provide a report that will outline conclusions and possible mitigation recommendations if warranted. The jurisdiction to change the direction of streets and eliminate parking belongs to the City Council not the Board of Trustees. The district has publicly discussed, and has committed, to improving school neighborhoods and to the elimination/minimization of any possible traffic and parking impacts.

What are the Children's Journey and South Bay Adult School programs currently located at North School? Are these programs being evicted?

The Children's Journey is a private preschool/childcare business that has leased space at North School for many years. Parents park and walk their children into the school whose original entrance is on 25th street and is open from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. The South Bay Adult School (Redondo Beach Unified School District), Mommy and Me, preschool program also leases space at North School. The state licensing facilities requirements for private preschools/childcare do not fall under the more restrictive Title 5 public school Ed Code criteria which is why it is not possible to house public school students in the current North School facilities.

Since 2012, the Board of Trustees has held discussions with the owners of the Children's Journey and the Redondo Beach Unified School District about the district's interest in reopening the North School site as a public school due to the student overcrowding issue. Based on these discussions, the lease agreements have been negotiated and agreed to by all parties with terms that align with the districts facilities goals. Neither tenant will be evicted from North School by breaking the lease agreement. The district has discussed with both tenants (who are actively seeking alternative relocation sites) and the city, viable options within Hermosa Beach.

Is there a proposed plan to build a road and parking along the south side border of Valley Park between the Kiwanis/Rotary parking lots and the North School site?

THE BOARD HAS NEVER DISCUSSED OR PROPOSED THIS PLAN! This is a proposed plan developed by a resident who lives on 25th street across from the North School site and was circulated amongst the neighbors along with a petition. THE BOARD HAS COMMITTED TO AND HAS PUBLICLY STATED THAT VALLEY PARK WILL NOT BE TOUCHED (ice plant hill exempted).

Resources

FULL TEXT OF BALLOT MEASURE S (40.1 KB)

 View PDF

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE S (26.7 KB)

 View PDF

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE S (26.3 KB)

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TAX RATE STATEMENT MEASURE S (21.5 KB)

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*No
Argument
Against!*