Los Angeles County, CA

November 5, 2002 Election

Measure J

School Improvement Bond Measure
Hermosa Beach City Elementary School District

General Obligation Bond Measure - 55% Approval Required

3,874 / 65.17% **Yes** votes ...... 2,070 / 34.83% **No** votes

See Also: Index of all Measures

Results as of Nov 26 10:38am, 100.00% of Precincts Reporting (17/ 17)

Information shown below: Impartial Analysis | Arguments | Tax Rate Statement |

Suggest a link related to Measure J

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To improve the quality of education, shall the Hermosa Beach City School District be authorized to finance classroom modernization; upgrade electrical systems to improve access to technology; make health, safety, and security improvements; upgrade plumbing, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems; construct classrooms and science labs; acquire property, and qualify for State funds up to $1,700,000, by issuing 13,600,000 in bonds, within maximum legal interest rates, with annual audits, and citizens' oversight committee and no money for administrators' salaries?

Impartial Analysis from Lloyd W. Pellman, County Counsel

Click on selected language to view the following information (pdf format) in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, or Vietnamese

Approval of Measure J would authorize the Hermosa Beach City School District ("District") to issue up to $13,600,000 in general obligation bonds.

Funds received from the sale of the bonds would be used only for the construction, rehabilitation and equipping of District facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for District facilities. No funds may be used for teacher or administrator salaries, or other school operating expenses.

As required by law, the Board of Trustees of the District ("Board of Trustees") has adopted a list of the specific school facilities projects to be funded by the sale of the bonds. The Board of Trustees will conduct annual, independent financial and performance audits to ensure that funds received from the sale of the bonds will have been expended only on the specific projects listed, and will appoint a citizen's oversight committee to inform the public on expenditures.

The bonds would be issued and sold at an interest rate not to exceed the maximum rate allowed by law, and would be repaid by a property tax levied upon real property located within the District over a period not to exceed forty (40) years. The tax rate levied as the result of approval of this Measure shall be no more than $30 per $100,000 of taxable property value within the District.

This Measure requires a fifty-five percent (55%) vote for passage.

NOTICE TO VOTERS

Approval of Measure J does not guarantee that the proposed project or projects in the Hermosa Beach City School District that are the subject of bonds under Measure J will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by Measure J. The school district's proposal for the project or projects may assume the receipt of matching state funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure.

No mention of a gymnasium

Arguments For Measure J

Your YES vote on Measure "J" will have a lasting, positive impact on our children's schools and on our community.

As taxpayers, we all agree in the importance of our children's education and the value of quality schools.

MEASURE "J" MAKES FINANCIAL SENSE BY:
Making repairs now instead of later when they will only cost more
Qualifying the District for approximately $1.7 million in State-matching funds
Improving property values in our community and homes

Children in Hermosa Beach have received a quality education for over 100 years. While the maintenance staff has done a good job of maintaining our schools over this time, facilities and classrooms are now 30 to 50 years old and in need of major improvements. It's time we upgrade and renovate our schools so our children will have 21st century classrooms and a safe and healthy learning environment.

MEASURE "J" WILL IMPROVE HERMOSA BEACH SCHOOLS BY:

Making health and safety improvements and improving accessibility for disabled students

Arguments Against Measure J

Everyone wants Hermosa students to get a good education. But at what price?

Hermosa schools are asking $13,600,000 in bonds while existing buildings and contents are only valued at $12,500,000. The state currently spends over $7000 per pupil, or $196,000, for the average Hermosa class. Teacher's salaries average $59,000, so where does the rest of the $137,000 go?

For the 1020 Hermosa students, there are 120 on district staff. Only 54 of those are teachers. HBCSD should cut it's excessive overhead before forcing taxpayers to pay more.

HBCSD claims no money will be spent on administrator's "salaries," but gives no guarantee that bond money will not be spent on administrator's perks and benefits. Further, there is nothing stopping them from spending current maintenance funds on administrator's salaries, perks and pet projects.

Hermosa can't afford that sort of accounting.

Many of the projects the district plans should have been done on an ongoing basis. Now they want you to pay interest on what should have been done years ago. They also have plans to force their neighbor to sell. The district will have to pay a high price for the property and pay to relocate the neighbor. Say "NO!" to this costly