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**GGUSD Measure A Bond School
Modernization Projects On Track**

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Garden Grove Unified School District's ambitious school modernization program funded by voter approval of the Measure A bond is on track and continues to gain momentum, with the first shovels expected to hit the ground later this year.

The timeline for Measure A school improvements incorporates multiple segments including design, bid and award, and construction. To date, the district has worked with several state agencies including the California Department of Education, the Division of the State Architect, and the Office of Public School Construction for approval of plans for renovations at 65 schools. The next phase, the release of state matching funds by the State Allocation Board, is anticipated to begin late in the current year.

Along with actions by agencies in Sacramento, district personnel are refining bid specifications and related documents, and bids will be invited and projects awarded on a competitive basis as established by the state Public Contract Code.

"When Measure A passed, it was time to celebrate, but now it's time to roll up our collective sleeves and embark on the real work of modernizing school infrastructures for current and future generations of GGUSD students," said Board of Education President George West, Ed.D. "The taxpayers of this school district are trusting us to use Measure A funds as efficiently and effectively as possible, and we are determined to exceed their expectations."

As approved by district voters in June 2010, Measure A authorizes \$250 million in bonds and enables the GGUSD to qualify for more than \$200 million in matching state school bond revenue for large-scale repair and modernization

projects throughout the district. The first bond issuance of \$130 million was sold to investors in September 2010.

As an added funding bonus, the GGUSD secured \$47 million in supplemental school improvement grants, increasing the total projected budget to \$511 million. Measure A investments will provide a significant boost to the regional economy in the form of needed jobs, business-to-business transactions within the construction supply chain, and increased spending by newly employed workers.

With most district schools built more than 50 years ago, Measure A expenditures are intended to renovate aging campuses with major updates to safety, utility, and internal communications systems. Bond proceeds, combined with state matching funds, will finance such wide-ranging improvements as renovating electrical circuitry, plumbing, lighting, roofing, intercom, and fire safety systems; improving energy efficiency; replacing doors, windows, and outdated heating and ventilation systems; updating playground safety matting; upgrading telecommunications systems to accommodate current technology; replacing restroom and drinking fountain fixtures; retrofitting schools for better accessibility for the disabled; installing new classroom carpeting; and repainting school interiors and exteriors.

Eight schools (Brookhurst, Enders, Garden Park, Monroe, Simmons, and Wakeham elementary schools; Bell Intermediate School; and Chapman-Hettinga Education Center) are designated as the first sites to benefit from Measure A improvements when work begins, as anticipated, this summer. Because some projects are too extensive to be completed over summer vacation or other recess periods, students will relocate to temporary classrooms on their campus or in comparable accommodations at a nearby alternative host site while construction takes place. The full range of services to students, including busing and food services, will continue uninterrupted.

As proposed, three schools – Garden Park and Monroe elementary schools and Bell Intermediate School – will move to nearby school locations for the 2012-13 school year. Garden Park will relocate at Patton Elementary School and Monroe will move to Northcutt Elementary School. Incoming students from

Garden Park and Monroe will not displace students at the two host elementary schools.

All programs at Bell Intermediate School will shift to Chapman-Hettinga Education Center, while the adult education program at Chapman-Hettinga will find temporary housing at Lincoln Education Center during Measure A renovations. To keep the community and parents informed of Measure A project developments, the affected schools will host information nights on dates to be announced.

For additional information, call the district's Public Information Office at (714) 663-6503, or go online to the 'Measure A' link from the GGUSD website at www.ggusd.us, or navigate directly to www.ggusd.us/measurea.html. Measure A questions may also be directed by e-mail to askmeasurea@ggusd.us.

The Garden Grove Unified School District serves most of Garden Grove and portions of Santa Ana, Westminster, Fountain Valley, Cypress, Stanton, and Anaheim.