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GGUSD Voters Approve 'Measure A' School Bond

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On Tuesday, June 8, (yesterday) voters in the Garden Grove Unified School District approved 'Measure A', authorizing \$250 million in school bonds and providing another \$200 million in state matching funds for comprehensive infrastructure repair, improvement, and modernization projects.

With all 155 precincts counted, Measure A drew the support of 59.2 percent of GGUSD voters with 11,377 casting "yes" votes with 7,840 voting "no." The measure needed the support of 55 percent or more of voters for passage.

"On behalf of the district, its parents, and students, we are gratified by the support of district voters for Measure A," said GGUSD Supt. Laura Schwalm. "This funding will make an important contribution in our efforts to renovate our classrooms and infrastructure, and provide safer, more modern facilities for current and future generations of students.

"This demonstration of support for Measure A would not have been possible without the help of the many volunteers who contributed their time to this successful campaign. Their work ensures that the real winners are the children."

"The voters in the school district made the choice," said Board of Education President Bob Harden. "They decided Measure A was an important tool in helping modernize our schools.

"Measure A will make a real difference for the community by providing a boost to local employment and improving the quality of our facilities which helps preserve neighborhood property values," he added. "It is now the job of the Board of Education to maximize the return on the taxpayers' investment by managing this money responsibly."

Bond proceeds from Measure A, coupled with state matching funds, will help finance such large-scale 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lighting, roofing, intercom, and fire safety systems; improving energy efficiency; replacing doors, windows, and outdated heating, and ventilation systems; updating playground safety matting; upgrading telecommunications systems to accommodate current technology; replacing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; and retrofitting schools for better accessibility for the disabled.

By law, bond revenue may only be directed for school facility improvements such as

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repair and modernization projects, new construction, land acquisition, and furniture and equipment. It cannot be used for teacher and administrator salaries or operating expenses unrelated to the bond measure.

Bond funds will be kept and monitored by the Orange County Treasurer, and will be subject to oversight by a new citizen's committee, with annual independent audits open for public inspection.

For additional information, call the district's Public Information Office at (714) 663-6503, or go online to '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.

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