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"Measure A" School Bond Victory is Official

Page 1 of 2

6-24-10

The "Measure A" school bond for the Garden Grove Unified School District is officially approved.

On Tuesday, June 22, two weeks after voters cast their ballots in the June 8 primary election, the Orange County Registrar of Voters certified the election results with 63.8 percent of GGUSD voters in favor of Measure A and 36.2 percent opposed. The measure needed the support of 55 percent or more of voters for passage.

Following Election Day, the unofficial vote tabulation showed the bond passing with 59.2 percent of the vote. The margin of victory widened after June 8 as county election officials tabulated the balance of provisional and absentee ballots.

With voter approval, Measure A authorizes \$250 million in general obligation bonds and enables the GGUSD to qualify for as much as \$200 million in matching state school bond funds for large-scale infrastructure repair, improvement, and modernization projects.

Bond proceeds, 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lighting, roofing, intercom, and fire safety systems; improving energy efficiency; replacing doors, windows, and outdated heating, and ventilation systems; updating playground safety matting; upgrading telecommunications systems to accommodate current technology; replacing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 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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