

## **Fountain Valley School District Questions and Answers about Measure O**

### **How is Fountain Valley School District performing?**

Fountain Valley School District (FVSD) is a top-performing school district in the county and state and provides an outstanding education for over 6,300 elementary and middle school students in Fountain Valley and Huntington Beach. In fact, FVSD is regularly the highest-performing elementary school district in Orange County. Eight out of ten FVSD schools received the California Gold Ribbon Schools Award in the last two years. Great schools help to improve home values and keep our community a strong and desirable place to live.

### **What challenges are our schools facing?**

Despite strong student achievement, all of our schools were built more than 40 years ago and need repairs and upgrades to protect student safety and provide a rigorous and high-quality education. Most classrooms also lack air conditioning, resulting in uncomfortable classrooms where temperatures can reach 85 to 100 degrees. Basic repairs to infrastructure, such as roofs, plumbing and electricity, and improvements are needed to maintain our schools and avoid more costly repairs in the future so our schools can remain highly competitive and serve our community for decades to come.

### **What is the plan to upgrade aging FVSD schools?**

Over the last 16 months, FVSD studied the District's facility needs and recently completed a comprehensive assessment of all local school facilities and developed a facility master plan to guide the improvement of local schools. This process included input from parents, teachers, staff, students and community members as well as architects and other experts in the field of school facilities. The full master plan can be viewed at [fvsd.us](http://fvsd.us). To fund the highest-priority identified upgrades to classrooms, labs and school facilities for a safe and modern education, the FVSD Board of Trustees voted to place Measure O, a local school improvement bond measure, on the November 8, 2016 ballot.

### **Specifically, what would Measure O do?**

If approved by local voters, the \$63 million bond measure would:

- Repair or replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing and electrical systems where needed
- Install air conditioning in classrooms to improve air quality and keep classrooms from reaching temperatures of 85 to 100 degrees
- Provide the facilities and technology needed to support high-quality instruction in math, science and technology
- Improve student safety and campus security systems, including security fencing, security cameras, emergency communications systems, smoke detectors, fire alarms and sprinklers

### **How can I be sure funds would be used responsibly?**

Measure O would require a clear system of accountability:

- All money raised by Measure O would stay local to support our students and could not be taken away by the State or used for other purposes
- A specific facilities project list is part of the bond measure itself and bond money may only be spent on those facilities projects
- A Citizens' Oversight Committee would review and report annually to the community regarding bond expenditures
- Financial and performance audits are required every year

### **How much would Measure O cost?**

The cost of Measure O to property owners is estimated to be approximately \$30 for each \$100,000 of a property's assessed value (not market value) annually, for the period that bonds are outstanding.

### **How much is that for the typical homeowner?**

The typical homeowner would pay approximately \$98 per year based on property's assessed value (not market value). Assessed values are based on the original purchase price of a home and are typically much lower than the current market value of a property.

### **How is FVSD working to prepare students for the future?**

Academic standards are rising to ensure our local students are prepared compete in a global economy. Updating basic infrastructure, classrooms, labs and instructional technology will provide local students with access to the education, technology and skills training they need to succeed in high school, college and careers.

### **When will Measure O appear on the ballot?**

FVSD voted to place Measure O on the November 8, 2016 ballot. To pass, Measure O requires support from 55% of voters who participate in the election. All registered voters residing in FVSD will be eligible to vote on Measure O.

### **How can I find out more?**

For more information, please visit [www.fvsd.us](http://www.fvsd.us) or contact the superintendent, Dr. Mark Johnson, at [superintendent@fvsd.us](mailto:superintendent@fvsd.us) or (714) 843-3255 with any questions.