



# South Pasadena Unified School District

SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE WITH LOCAL SCHOOL FUNDING

Established in 1886, South Pasadena Unified School District (SPUSD) is proud to serve approximately 4,800 students in local elementary, middle and high schools. Our great schools improve the quality of life in our community and protect the value of our homes.

## **Preparing Students for Success**

Since 2009, our community has supported local education parcel tax funding that has kept our schools among the best in California. The state funding that South Pasadena schools receive per student is among the lowest in the state. Thus, local education funding is critical for retaining our highly-qualified teachers in SPUSD and ensuring our district can provide advanced programs for our students.



This local education funding is now set to expire, which would require over \$2 million per year in cuts to teaching and educational programs. Without this funding, class size increases and significant reductions in teachers and specialized academic programs would be required. Our district relies on local funding to ensure South Pasadena students are prepared to compete for the best universities, colleges and careers.

## **Renewing Local Education Funding**

In order to maintain high-quality education in our schools, the SPUSD Board of Education recently voted unanimously to place a measure on the February 27, 2018 all-mail ballot to renew our local parcel tax education funding. This measure would renew funding at the current rate of \$386 per parcel for 7 years, with annual adjustments for inflation.

Funding from the measure would continue to be used to:

- Support advanced programs in science, technology, engineering and math
- Attract and retain highly-qualified teachers
- Maintain advanced programs in music, visual and performing arts
- Maintain manageable class sizes

## **Maintaining Strict Fiscal Accountability**

- All funds raised by the parcel tax renewal measure would stay local to support our students
- No funding could be taken away by the State or used for other purposes
- An optional exemption from the cost would continue to be available to property owners aged 65 or older
- A clear system of accountability would continue to be required, including an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee and annual audits to ensure all funds are spent properly

## **We Want to Hear from You**

We welcome your feedback as we consider our options for supporting student success in SPUSD. For more information or to contact the District, please visit [www.spusd.net](http://www.spusd.net).