



WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure T: School Facilities Improvements

Westminster School District (WSD) offers a quality education for local students to provide the foundation in core academic subjects they need for success in high school, college and 21st-century careers. WSD serves nearly 10,000 students in kindergarten through eighth grade at 17 school sites.

This year, WSD was one of just 13 school districts in California and the only district in Orange County to be named an Honor Roll School District, a national program recognizing high-performing schools that improve outcomes for students. Additionally, the California Department of Education has honored nine WSD schools with the Gold Ribbon Schools Award for gains in academic achievement and seven more sites were honored as Academic Achieving Schools for meeting the needs of lower-income students.



Repairs and Updates Needed for Aging Classrooms and School Facilities

All of our local schools are 46 to 66 years old and have aging classrooms and science labs that need to be updated. For example, aging roofs leak, which disrupts classroom instruction. Schools lack air conditioning systems and classrooms often reach temperatures of 80 to 100 degrees.

A Plan to Address the Highest-Priority School Improvements

WSD has developed a plan to complete the highest-priority school improvements over the next 10 to 12 years. These projects cannot be completed immediately due to the lack of available funds and the staging required to avoid disruption to teaching and learning in our schools.

High-priority improvements include:

- Repairing or replacing leaky roofs
- Replacing outdated heating and ventilation systems with updated air conditioning systems in all classrooms
- Constructing a gymnasium at Stacey Middle School for physical education and community use
- Upgrading inadequate electrical systems
- Improving student access to modern technology
- Renovating outdated classrooms, restrooms and school facilities

Local Funding for School Improvements

The cost of the high-priority improvements is estimated at approximately \$120 million. WSD is planning to use funding from several sources to complete the priority upgrades without diverting funds from teaching and instruction. These sources include state matching funds, redevelopment funding and funds from a locally approved bond measure. In order to begin work on urgent school improvements as quickly as possible, WSD has placed Measure T, a local school bond measure, on the November 2016 ballot that, if approved by local voters, would provide \$76 million of the funding needed to improve local schools.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For questions or comments, please contact Superintendent Dr. Marian Kim-Phelps at feedback@wsdk8.us. You may also visit www.wsdk8.us for regular updates.