

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EDUHSD Bond Measure Creates Local Jobs

More than 2 years ago, voters invested in the future of El Dorado County by approving a \$66.3 million bond (Measure Q) to repair and modernize the local high schools within the El Dorado Union High School District. Since that time, the District has spent more than \$34 million improving the physical condition of El Dorado, Ponderosa, Union Mine, Oak Ridge, Independence, and Shenandoah high schools, with ongoing projects continuing over the next few years.

Voter approval of these funds has allowed not only the school district to improve its sites and learning environment, but improve the overall economic health of El Dorado County by infusing millions of dollars into the local construction industry and other associated industries.

Superintendent Sherry Smith says that, "The District is pleased to have so many qualified local contractors and professionals involved in these projects. In fact, the District has built a solid foundation over the years with a number of local partners, long before the passage of Measure Q, so we are quite confident with the delivery of a consistent quality work product and the level of integrity brought to each project." Smith further states that, "Our El Dorado Union High School District Board of Trustees would like the public to know that more than 61% of the contractors and vendors working on the Measure Q projects are local companies, based in El Dorado County. The Board, on behalf of the District, would like to extend their appreciation for all of the great work done to date and continuing."



(L-R) *Representing local contractors: Skip Kelly for J&J Glass, Jerry Lansing for Piland Electric, Inc., Donald Bennett for Carter-Kelly, Inc., and Howard Hill for Hill Brothers Contracting, Inc., in front of Ponderosa High School expanded gymnasium. The expansion has added approximately 3,000 sq ft to the gym, with an increased seating capacity from 800 to 1,400. The expansion also provides additional basketball and volleyball courts, not only benefitting students but community members who use our facilities as well.*



El Dorado East Natural Resources Program site in Camino: grading of new parking area completed by Doug Veerkamp General Engineering.

The majority of the bond money spent thus far has been used to improve safety, provide better equipped student job training facilities, and improve health and fitness facilities. In addition, aging roofs have been replaced with better insulated heat reflective materials, and outdated heating and air conditioning systems have been replaced with new energy efficient models.

Improvements in technology have resulted in infrastructure and computer upgrades, bringing the classroom environment into the 21st Century. More than 1,000 individual computers have been installed throughout all of the District schools. Interactive technical/electronic whiteboards have been installed in all math classrooms and will be installed in all science classrooms this winter. Funds were also used in the creation of the Culinary Arts Center at El Dorado High, the Natural Resources program at the East Campus in Camino, Industrial Technology Facility at Oak Ridge, Cosmetology Program Facility at Shenandoah, among other numerous renovations and modernization projects at all sites.

Roebbelen Construction project manager Andy Brophy oversees construction renovation of Oak Ridge High School Manufacturing Engineering Technology (MET) Lab.



Oversight for the expenditure of bond funds is managed by a seven-member Citizens Oversight Committee (COC) appointed by the District's Board of Trustees. The committee includes a broad spectrum of representatives from the community and organizations representing business, taxpayers, parents-teachers, and seniors. COC Chairperson Paul Zappettini states, "One of the issues that was very important to both Measure Q supporters and members of the Bond Oversight Committee was to use local contractors and vendors whenever possible. Staying local has allowed the district to infuse the local economy with millions of dollars in a difficult economic time. I would like to invite anyone interested in seeing the positive local economic impact of Measure Q funds to look at the list of local businesses used, which is included in the annual report from the COC. This report is available on the EDUHSD website at www.eduhsd.k12.ca.us. Click on 'Measure Q' from the Home Page."

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A Ski Air, Inc., employee enjoys a little shade under the new canopy installed by Phillips Steel as part of the Library and Science renovation project at El Dorado High School. Ski Air was the HVAC subcontractor on the renovation project.