

El Dorado Union High School District Frequently Asked Questions About Measure A

How is El Dorado Union High School District doing?

In El Dorado Union High School District (EDUHSD), we are proud that local high schools in Placerville, El Dorado Hills, Shingle Springs, El Dorado, Cameron Park, Camino and Pollock Pines improve our quality of life and protect home values. Our district has served our community for over 90 years, and now our schools need upgrades to maintain safe, modern learning environments for local students.

What challenges do local high schools face?

Some of our local high schools were built more than 50 years ago and serve thousands of students each year. A recent assessment of local classrooms, labs and other school facilities identified many repairs and improvements that would help keep our schools safe and support another generation of students.

Schools built many decades ago were built for a different era of education. Whether or not they plan to go to college, today's students must graduate with skills and knowledge of science, technology and engineering to compete for jobs in the modern workforce. Many of the recently identified facility upgrades focus on modernizing science labs, engineering labs, instructional technology and career training facilities to prepare students for careers in healthcare, biomedical, computer science, agriculture and skilled trades, including electrical, welding and plumbing.

How does El Dorado Union High School District plan to address these challenges?

In order to address needed repairs and updates in local schools, the EDUHSD Board of Trustees unanimously voted to place Measure A, a \$120 million school facility improvement bond measure, on the March 3, 2020 ballot. If passed, Measure A could repair aging school buildings and upgrade classrooms and career training facilities.

What projects would a potential local high school improvement measure fund?

If passed, Measure A would:

- Improve student safety and campus security systems including security cameras, emergency communications systems, intruder protection systems and fire alarms
- Provide modern science labs, engineering labs and career technical education facilities
- Provide the classrooms, facilities and technology needed to support high-quality instruction in math, science, engineering and technology
- Repair or replace old roofs, plumbing, sewer lines and electrical systems and make energy efficiency improvements to improve reliability and save money on utilities
- Upgrade classrooms, libraries and science labs to keep pace with technology and allow for virtual instruction
- Repair aging athletic facilities to support student health, fitness and athletic programs
- Provide energy efficient back-up generators for essential education services

- Ensure all schools have dedicated space for music and arts

How do we know local funding would be spent wisely?

Measure A requires strict fiscal accountability protections to ensure all funds are used exclusively for voter-approved purposes:

- All funds must be spent to upgrade local high schools and cannot be taken away by the State
- No funds may be used for administrator salaries or other operating expenses
- An independent oversight committee and annual audits are required

How much would this measure cost?

The cost of the measure is estimated not to exceed \$16 per \$100,000 in assessed (not market) value or approximately \$58 per year for the typical homeowner.

Would all funds be used in El Dorado Union High School District?

Yes, by law, funding could only be used in EDUHSD to benefit local schools and students. No funding could ever be taken by the State or used for purposes not approved by local voters.

Is there any other way to improve and maintain our local high schools?

Unfortunately, neither the State nor the County provide funding for facility improvements in local high schools. That said, if passed, Measure A could qualify our district for up to \$72 million in state matching funds that would otherwise go to other communities. These funds come from taxes that our community already pays to the State, and the only way to bring them back to EDUHSD is to pass a measure that qualifies for the funding matching program.

When will Measure A appear on the ballot?

Measure A will be on the March 3, 2020 ballot.

What level of support does this measure need to pass?

Measure A needs the support of 55% of those who vote on it in order to pass.

How can I register to vote or learn more about voting?

To register to vote, please visit registertovote.ca.gov. For information about elections in El Dorado County, please visit www.edcgov.us/Government/Elections.

How can I learn more about local high schools' facility needs?

For more information about repairing and improving our local high schools, please visit www.eduhsd.k12.ca.us.