

# CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL SAFETY BOND

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Learning With Purpose

ANAHEIM  
UNION  
HIGH  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT



College and Career Ready



## STRENGTHENING EDUCATION FOUNDATIONS FOR BRIGHTER FUTURES

In July, the AUHSD Board of Trustees will consider placing the Classroom Repair and School Safety Bond on the November ballot. If presented to and approved by voters, the bond would generate \$249 million to create a dedicated revenue source for AUHSD facility repairs and improvements, serving the cities within the District.

### WHAT IS THE ANAHEIM UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (AUHSD)?

The Anaheim Union High School District is an award-winning school system, which provides a high-caliber education to our diverse student population. For more than 115 years, the District has developed the future business and civic leaders of Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, La Palma, and Stanton. The District includes eight junior high schools (grades 7-8), eight high schools (grades 9-12), one secondary selective school, Oxford Academy (grades 7-12); one school for the severely disabled (grade 7 through age 21); and one alternative education campus.

### WHY IS THE AUHSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES CONSIDERING THIS BOND?

Many of the District's campus facilities were built between 35 and 63 years ago, and are in need of maintenance, upgrades and improvements. The District encompasses 263 buildings, including 129 buildings that have never been upgraded.



### WHAT IS THE URGENCY OF REPAIRS AND UPGRADES?

The District has identified a total of approximately \$1 billion in needed school repairs and classroom and facility upgrades. Now is the right time to start making these necessary repairs to the District's classrooms and facilities, as delaying will only increase future costs. Safe schools, as well as access to updated technology and equipment, are vital to preparing students for their future educational goals and high-demand jobs in science, technology, engineering and math.



### HOW WILL THE MONEY BE SPENT?

Revenue from the potential bond would fund basic maintenance repairs, safety enhancements, updated technology, and some new construction. Funding would focus on:

- Maintaining **clean and safe drinking water**, repairing deteriorating bathrooms and leaking roofs
- Enhancing **disaster safety measures** such as **fire-safety** systems and **earthquake** retrofitting
- Replacing and installing new equipment and adding features that **strengthen campus security** like fencing, outdoor lighting, and cameras
- Providing students with the career and technical knowledge through **new science and technology labs**



# PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THEIR FUTURE EDUCATION AND CAREERS



## WHICH REPAIRS AND UPGRADES WOULD BE PRIORITIZED?

If the Board of Trustees decides to place the bond measure before voters, schools with the greatest need for repairs and improvements will be addressed first so all campuses can continue to provide clean and healthy learning environments. Schools throughout the cities served by AUHSD will receive funds from the proposed Classroom Repair and School Safety Bond.

## HOW WILL THIS POTENTIAL MEASURE BENEFIT THE WHOLE COMMUNITY?

Funding for classroom maintenance and facility repairs will create jobs for local businesses at a time when many in our communities are still struggling to make ends meet. In addition, improving neighborhood schools strengthens local property values and increases the value of our communities' homes.

## WHAT WOULD BE THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE BOND FOR PROPERTY OWNERS?

To begin the process of repairing classrooms and upgrading school facilities, property owners would pay approximately \$29.99 per \$100,000 of assessed property value annually.

## WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME AUHSD ISSUED A BOND?

In March 2002, voters passed Measure Z, a \$132 million bond issue to support the modernization of schools and new construction at several school sites in the District. In the 12 years since voters approved this bond, the District's needs have grown while state funds have shrunk.

## WHAT WAS ACHIEVED THROUGH MEASURE Z?

More than 148 new classrooms were constructed in addition to more than 4 science labs, 4 computer labs, a media center and a science building. Many additional classrooms were restored, and air conditioning systems were updated across several campuses. Throughout this process, the District learned valuable lessons about transparency, management and oversight, which will greatly influence our upcoming bond process and help ensure we accomplish the bond's goals.



## HOW CAN WE BE SURE THAT FUNDS WILL BE SPENT LOCALLY AND RESPONSIBLY?

All money generated from the bond measure will be spent on improving and expanding classroom safety and educational equipment. No money would be spent on administrators' salaries or pensions, and it would be protected by law from Sacramento politicians.

The measure the Board of Trustees will consider includes strict accountability requirements, such as a Citizens' Oversight Committee of local residents that is being created now, instead of post-election, to add an extra layer of transparency and oversight. The bond would also include annual independent financial and performance audits.



## WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

The AUHSD Board of Trustees will decide at a public Board meeting in July whether to place this measure before voters. If the Board of Trustees chooses to move forward with the bond, it will be placed before voters on the November 2014 ballot.

[www.auhsdblueprint.us](http://www.auhsdblueprint.us)

To get the most updated information directly, you can subscribe to email updates by contacting Patricia Karlak at [karlak\\_p@auhsd.us](mailto:karlak_p@auhsd.us)