

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE M

Livermore has a tradition of supporting its local schools. Exceptional teachers, challenging programs, small class sizes, dedicated parents and support from our community have all contributed to continuously improving student achievement and test scores over the past 8 years.

In 2004, over 71% of local voters approved a school parcel tax measure that today provides much needed local funding for retaining quality teachers, maintaining small class sizes, and supporting important educational programs. This stable source of funding has helped achieve excellence in our neighborhood schools despite unpredictable and inadequate state funding. *Without approval of Measure M, this funding will expire in 2009-2010.*

Measure M extends the current parcel tax for 5 years and increases it by \$1.50 a month (\$18 per year) to adjust for inflation. Measure M MAINTAINS current programs; it does not establish new ones.

Specifically, Measure M will authorize funding to continue to:

- Attract and retain quality teachers.
- Maintain small classes
- Provide college and job/career preparation classes
- Maintain middle school art/music/foreign language programs
- Provide computers, infrastructure and instructional technology upgrades
- Continue elementary science programs
- Maintain high school counselors

Legally, Measure M funds must be spent locally to benefit Livermore children. NONE of the money can be used for administrators' salaries.

Each year an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee has reviewed parcel tax expenditures and reported these funds have been used as promised. If Measure M passes, this Citizens' Oversight Committee will continue to monitor expenditures to ensure they are spent properly.

Good schools are the foundation of a quality community. Good schools protect property values and contribute to our high quality of life.

Parents, teachers, and citizens throughout our community urge a YES VOTE on Measure M to protect quality education in Livermore.

Please VOTE YES on Measure M.

s/Dawn Whalen

Parent/Education Advocate

s/John Mahoney

Businessman/Past Chair, Livermore Chamber of Commerce

s/Philomena Rambo

Granada High School Vice Principal

s/Bruce Wolfe

Retired Mendenhall Middle School Science Teacher

s/John Shirley

Former Mayor, 54 year Livermore resident

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE M WAS SUBMITTED.