

Superintendent's Message

Dear TUSD Community Members:

On November 5, 2002, the voters in our community overwhelmingly passed Measure G (over 67%), the Tustin Unified School District's first-ever bond measure — \$80 million to repair and renovate the 20 oldest schools.

The proposed schedule for the District to receive Bond monies for construction projects is as follows:

- ◆ July, 2003 — \$15 million
- ◆ June, 2005 — \$32.5 million
- ◆ June, 2007 — \$32.5 million

Because of the current economic climate, funding through the sale of the bonds has been negotiated at interest rates much lower than originally estimated. This means that costs to property owners will be less than originally projected. In addition, the District will receive matching funds from the State of California totaling at least \$28 million to enhance the Bond-funded projects.

The construction projects funded by the sale of general obligation bonds will provide improved teaching and learning environments for our students and teachers. You can be confident that the Board of Education and I recognize the magnitude of the construction projects. We will fulfill the responsibilities that you entrust in us to safeguard your taxpayer funds and to use the bond funds to complete these construction projects in a timely and cost-effective manner.

The passage of Measure G is a great thing for both the school system and the community. Thank you, voters, for investing in the future of our students!

Peter C. Gorman, Superintendent

Tustin Community – Thank you for passing Bond Measure G and investing in our future!



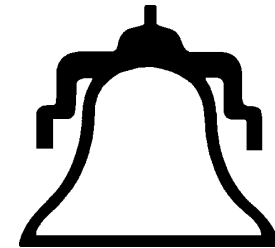
Measure G Bond Update

Tustin Unified School District
300 South C Street
Tustin, California 92780-3695

Visit our website at:
www.TUSDMeasureG.org

Tustin Unified School District **Measure G Bond Update**

Fall 2003



*A Legacy of Excellence
in Education*

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Peter C. Gorman, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Bond Program Moves Forward

Since Bond Measure G passed, the Tustin Unified School District Board of Education has conducted community meetings to discuss priorities and program structure, and directed District staff to pursue additional state funding. The District also established a Measure G Citizens' Oversight Committee and created a website at www.TUSDMeasureG.org.

The District's first issue of general obligation bonds received a favorable response from two rating agencies. The bonds obtained the strong rating of "AA-" from Standard and Poor's and "Aa3" from Moody's Investors Services. The rating reflects the District's growing tax base, above average socioeconomic indicators, manageable debt burden, well-managed finances, and satisfactory reserves.

The Bond sale was a great success. The bonds were sold at an "all-in rate" of 4.31% -- one of the lowest and best rates of the year for general obligation bonds. If the bonds were issued today, the District's cost would be several hundred thousands more in interest based on the term of the bonds and cost of issuance.

The Board approved the first issuance of bonds in amount of \$15 million. This will provide the District with the \$7 million needed for matching funds to receive the \$28 million in state funding. It will also provide an additional \$8 million for non-state funded projects.

As a result, Bond funds will be used to pay for such things as health and safety repairs/upgrades; hazardous materials abatement; disabled access projects; repairing or replacing heating, ventilation, electrical, plumbing, sewer, and roof systems; repairing or renovating classrooms, restrooms, and school buildings; upgrading technology; and providing adequate classrooms and science labs.

District staff and architects developed the TUSD Facilities Plan, which provides information on the

existing site. The plan is available for review at the Superintendent's Office at the District Administration Center, 300 South C Street; Tustin Library, 345 East Main Street; and Kinko's, 662 East First Street. The document also can be reproduced for a fee.

The School Board has defined and approved guidelines for Phase I projects of the Bond program. The District will proceed with items approved for state facility funding in the TUSD Facilities Plan as the first step of Phase I. Phase I includes those items that are encompassed in the state modernization program, which focuses on restrooms, drinking fountains, roofing, and exterior/interior painting. It identifies 12 individual schools: Arroyo, Benjamin Beswick, Helen Estock, Guin Foss, C.C. Lambert, Loma Vista, W.R.

Your Tax Dollars at Work!

Nelson, Jeane Thorman and Marjorie Veeh elementary schools; Hewes Middle School; and Foothill and Tustin high schools.

The architect, program administrator, and staff are reviewing those items either approved or eligible for state funding as described in the Facility Plan. These items will be evaluated with top priority going to projects related to Life/Safety, Americans With Disabilities Act Compliance, and Building Integrity.

All items included in Phase I will be presented to the School Board for review and approval. Staff is working with the program administrator to develop a Master Plan for all sites and a plan to renovate all restrooms to align with Tustin Ranch schools standard.

The next steps include State approval of plans for Phase I, project bidding, and planning and coordination of the modernization projects with construction scheduled to begin in March/April of 2004.

Citizens' Oversight Committee

The TUSD Board of Education established a Measure G Citizens' Oversight Committee so that taxpayers in the District are assured that their money from the Bond will be spent prudently to address specific facility needs of the District in compliance with legal requirements.

The Committee monitors the District's bond-financed projects, ensures that all Bond funds are spent as they are intended, and reports to parents and community members on the progress of the Bond projects. The Committee also receives and reviews copies of performance and financial audits, and inspects school facilities and grounds.

Each member of the Committee represents one of the parent/community groups as specified in the Education Code. Members serve two-year terms with a maximum of two terms. They are as follows:

- ◆ **Patrick Craig**, at-large representative
- ◆ **Lisa Frost**, PTA/PTO/School Site Council representative
- ◆ **George Jeffries**, at-large representative
- ◆ **Bruce Junor**, senior citizens' organization representative
- ◆ **Steve Kozak**, at-large representative
- ◆ **Jason Rush**, at-large representative
- ◆ **John Secor**, business organization representative
- ◆ **Judy Shade**, parent/guardian representative
- ◆ **Rich Wagner**, taxpayers association representative

Mr. Jeffries and Mrs. Frost serve as president and vice president, respectively, of the Committee. The group meets bi-monthly and all meetings are open to the public. The schedule, meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the Measure G Website at www.TUSDMeasureG.org. For more information, call (714) 730-7305.