MEASURE A

EUREKA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

"EUREKA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT CLASSROOM REPAIR, STUDENT SAFETY, AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE MEASURE – To repair/upgrade old infrastructure/classrooms/other facilities (including leaky roofs, deteriorating restrooms/electrical systems); improve student/school safety and disability access; update classroom technology; and replace outdated science/computer labs; shall Eureka Union School District's measure authorizing \$49,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, levying \$28.71 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation, raising approximately \$2,950,000 annually for local schools while bonds are outstanding, and requiring citizen oversight/audits, be adopted?"

BONDS - YES _____

BONDS - NO _____

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY PLACER COUNTY COUNSEL

This measure, if approved by fifty-five percent of the registered voters voting thereon, would authorize the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds by the Eureka Union School District ("District") in the amount of up to \$49,000,000 (fortynine million dollars) in aggregate principal amount. Bond proceeds would be used to fund school facilities improvements and upgrades, as more fully described in the text of the Measure, which precedes this analysis. Principal and interest on the bonds would be paid from a tax placed on the taxable property within the District. The District's estimate of the highest tax rate that would be required to fund this bond issue follows this analysis.

A general obligation bond is a form of borrowing used to fund school facilities. By law, local general obligation bonds, financed through an increase in local property taxes, can be used for renovating, reconstructing, and building new facilities and for acquiring certain new equipment. To authorize such bond issuance, school districts can seek either two-thirds or 55% voter approval. If districts seek the 55% approval, as has been done here by the District, they must meet additional accountability requirements.

To meet these accountability requirements, the District Board of Trustees has committed to the following:

- to use the bond proceeds only for the purposes set forth in the ballot measure, and not for any other purpose, such as teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.
- the safety, class size, and information technology needs of the District have been evaluated prior to determining that bond issuance was necessary.
- to conduct annual independent performance audits to ensure that the bond proceeds are expended only for the projects in the ballot measure.
- to conduct annual, independent financial audits of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds until all bond proceeds have been expended.
- to establish and appoint members to an independent citizens' oversight committee and conduct annual independent audits to ensure bond proceeds are expended only on the authorized school facilities projects.

The District has confirmed that the proposed bonds would bear interest at a rate not exceeding the statutory limit per annum and the maturity of the bonds will not exceed the statutory maximum.

A "YES" vote on this Measure would authorize the District to borrow money through the sale of bonds in an amount not exceeding \$49,000,000, such bonds to be repaid by revenue derived from an annual tax levied upon the taxable property within the District.

A "NO" vote on this Measure is a vote against authorizing the sale of bonds by the District.

This analysis is submitted by the Office of the County Counsel of Placer County pursuant to the requirements of Section 9500 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

Karin E. Schwab, County Counsel

By Brian R. Wirtz, Deputy County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE A

Say YES to academic excellence in the Eureka Union School District and YES to investing in your local community - vote YES on Measure A!

Measure A allows our local schools to prepare students in a safe environment, to compete in the technologically advanced, highly competitive 21st Century economy! That's why educators, parents, seniors, business owners, and community leaders agree -- vote YES on A!

The State of California DOES NOT provide funds to maintain, renovate or repair our local school facilities unless we provide our own funds first. Measure A would provide Eureka with \$49 million from the sale of bonds and make us eligible for matching state dollars.

Vote YES on Measure A to:

- Upgrade classrooms, technology infrastructure, replace out-of-date science and computer labs
- Turn libraries into digital learning centers
- Improve school safety through additional fencing, lighting upgrades, improved fire suppression, security cameras and keyless entry systems
- Repair leaky roofs and deteriorating restrooms, upgrade electrical, plumbing and other aging systems

Eureka Union is committed to protecting taxpayers. Measure A requires:

- A Citizens' Oversight Committee
- Annual audits and public reports of bond expenditures
- NO money for school employees' salaries or pensions
- Funds spent locally on Eureka Union School District classrooms and facilities
- No funds will go to the State

Measure A is affordable -- A homeowner whose assessed value is \$500,000 will pay \$2.76 per week.

Strong schools make our entire community stronger. Measure A allows students in Eureka to receive an outstanding 21st Century education and maintain the top test scores in the region. Say YES to academic excellence for students and teachers and say YES to safer and better maintained schools. Let's invest together in our local public schools and community. Join families, community leaders and educators in voting Yes on A!

Ron Severson, Retired Superintendent Ryan Jones, Trustee, Eureka Union School District Margot Birch, Parent/Former officer of Eureka Mark Holt, Orthodontist/Grandparent Sonbol Aliababi, Sierra College Executive Director

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE A WAS SUBMITTED

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE A SUBMITTED BY THE EUREKA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

EUREKA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

CLASSROOM REPAIR. STUDENT SAFETY, ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE MEASURE

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Trustees of the Eureka Union School District is committed to repairing older classrooms, infrastructure and other facilities, and improving the quality of education in local schools by providing safe, secure, upgraded classrooms, labs and other educational facilities needed to support high quality instruction in science, technology, engineering, arts and math.

The Board of Trustees has, as discussed below, taken efforts to solicit, receive and carefully consider community input, together with financial evaluation of available funding sources, to arrive at the decision to seek authorization to meet the District's critical facilities and infrastructure financing needs.

DISTRICT CAPITAL FACILITIES PLANNING

In order to address the District's educational facility's needs and provide a positive learning environment for community students in an environment geared towards student safety and security, the Board evaluated safety issues, class size reduction, computer and information technology and other factors. The District has prepared a Facilities Master Plan adopted on October 2, 2019 as part of developing the scope and description of the projects to be funded through a bond measure.

The District conducted a facilities evaluation and received public input in developing this Project List. Teachers, staff, community members and the Board have prioritized the key health and safety needs so that the most critical facility needs are addressed.

BOARD FINDINGS

Based on the reviews, community input, the Facilities Master Plan, community input and in consideration of student needs for education and safety, the Board has made certain determinations:

In approving this Project List, the Board of Trustees determines that the District must:

(A) Repair or replace older classrooms and deteriorating roofs, plumbing, sewer and electrical systems, and other facilities where needed; and

(B) Improve student and school site safety and security; and

(C) Repair and upgrade aging school classrooms, science and technology labs and other school facilities to support high quality instruction in science, technology, engineering, arts and math; and

(D) Adhere to specific fiscal accountability safeguards such as:

(i) All expenditures must be subject to annual independent financial audits.

(ii) No funds can be used for administrators' salaries and pensions.

(iii) All money must stay local to support our students and cannot be taken away by the State or used for other purposes.

(iv) An independent citizens' oversight committee must be appointed to ensure that all funds are spent only as authorized.

The Board has concluded that protecting the quality of our schools, the quality of life in our community and the value of our homes is a wise investment.

BOND AUTHORIZATION

In order to acquire, construct and reconstruct school facilities, and provide for supporting infrastructure at the existing school sites of the Eureka Union School District, and in so doing increase health, safety, welfare and educational effectiveness of classrooms for students, shall the Eureka Union School District be authorized to issue Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$49,000,000, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities or the acquisition or lease of real property for schools and school facilities listed in Attachment "1" on file at the District office and herein incorporated, which Bonds shall be issued for a term not to exceed the applicable statutory maximum, at an interest rate below the legal maximum, and which Bonds shall be subject to the following provisions:

(A) That proceeds of the Bonds shall be used only for the construction of school facilities and supporting infrastructure, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities pursuant to California Constitution Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3) and further that the proceeds of the Bonds shall be used only for the purposes specified in California Constitution Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3) (as amended by Proposition 39) and not for any other purpose, including teacher and non-construction related administrator salaries and any other school operating expenses.

(B) That a list of the specific school facilities projects to be funded with the proceeds of the Bonds is attached hereto as Attachment "1" and, based upon the adoption of this Resolution, this Board of Trustees hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the school facilities listed in Attachment "1".

(C) That the Board of Trustees of the District shall conduct annual, independent performance audits to insure that the proceeds from the sale of the Bonds have been expended only on the specific projects listed in this bond proposition.

(D) That the Board of Trustees of the District shall conduct annual, independent financial audits of the proceeds from the sale of the Bonds until all of those proceeds have been expended for the school facilities projects identified herein.

(E) That the Board of Trustees of the District will, pursuant to the provisions of applicable State law, appoint a citizens' oversight committee, and conduct annual independent audits (as referenced above) to assure that the Bond proceeds are spent only on the school, facilities and classroom improvements, projects and costs identified in Attachment "1" and for no other purposes.

be approved?

DIRECTIVES REGARDING BONDS:

The Board of Trustees of the District directs as follows with respect to the authorization of the Bonds:

- Bonds issued pursuant to this Bond Measure shall be issued and sold as current interest bonds and/or current interest term bonds and **NOT** as Capital Appreciation Bonds ("CABs") or bonds with a compounding interest feature.
- The repayment ratio to repay any series of bonds issued pursuant to this Bond Measure shall not exceed 2.5-to-1.
- The term to maturity of any series of bonds issued pursuant to this Bond Measure shall not exceed thirty (30) years.
- The District will make all reasonable efforts to secure State funding for District capital projects if and when such State funding is available.

TAXPAYER PROTECTIONS:

The following taxpayer protections are specifically provided in this Bond Measure and by law:

 Bond funds shall be used only for the school capital facilities projects identified herein, and not for any other purpose.

- Requirements of the California Government Code concerning **the use of, and accounting for, the expenditure of bond proceeds** shall be complied with as directed by the Board of Trustees of the District.
- As required by law, an **Independent Citizen's Oversight Committee** shall oversee expenditures of bond funds, and related matters, and shall report to the Board of Trustees and communicate with the public on such expenditures.
- As required by law, the District shall conduct annual financial audits and performance audits (using independent auditors) for all bond funds.
- Bond funds shall not be used for teacher or non-construction related administrator salaries or other non-construction related operating expenses.

See Voter Guide for Tax Rate Information.

ATTACHMENT "1"

EUREKA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECT LIST

Proceeds of the general obligation bonds of the Eureka Union School District ("District" or "Eureka Union") would be used to finance the design, and construction of public school facilities to provide facilities improvements and upgrades including, but not limited to, repairing and rehabilitating existing school facilities and adding certain new school facilities to meet current health, safety and instructional standards which will improve the overall educational experience for all students in the District. Such projects include, but are not limited to, upgrading school libraries and computer labs to contemporary multi media centers; renovating or adding restroom facilities at each District school campus; developing additional shade structures; renovating or developing new multipurpose rooms (MPR's); and reconstructing, or classrooms, playground renovating labs, surfacing/equipment, fields, plumbing and electrical resulting from upgrades or new construction, electrical support for network infrastructure, and related projects. Project costs for expansion of existing facilities may include, but are not limited to, some or all of the following: site preparation, infrastructure and related expenses; and construction, acquisition or lease of permanent classrooms. temporary. portable or instructional support and ancillary facilities. Project costs for furniture and equipment may include, but are not limited to, some or all of the following: desks, chairs and tables; audio/ visual equipment, window and floor coverings; kitchen equipment, instructional sound systems; science laboratory equipment; computer equipment and other electronic devices.

MASTER FACILITIES PLAN GOALS

Most classrooms and school facilities in Eureka Union's schools were built decades ago and are in serious need of repairs and basic health and safety upgrades that will only be more expensive in the future. Since 2014, the District has been engaged in a process to develop a comprehensive Facilities Master Plan, to help meet the following overall goals for all Eureka Union schools and students:

- <u>Repairs and Upgrades to Older District</u> <u>Infrastructure, Classrooms, MPR's and Other</u> <u>Facilities</u>, including code related repairs for Americans with Disabilities (ADA), restrooms, roofs, heating and cooling systems, electrical systems, and grounds
- School Site Safety Improvements, which include installing security fencing and locking devices, fire alarm and suppression upgrades, and upgrading other essential security systems to provide safe learning environments
- Classroom Upgrades for 21st Century Learning, which include replacing outdated furniture, finishes, technology and electrical systems, and improving computer infrastructure systems to ensure Eureka Union students have the technology and skills they need in an increasingly advanced and competitive economy. Classrooms should be "future ready" meaning a technology infrastructure that is fast and supports multiple platforms for individual and group learning, ubiquitous access to technology, including technology that allows for the creation of multimedia presentations, enhanced sound systems for greater student engagement, the ability to interface with students or businesses around the globe, furniture that it flexible and provides for easy transition into individual, clustered or whole classroom groups in which every student has access to technology; technology that allows a teacher to be detached from their desk and still monitor student progress electronically; walls that are easily moveable to allow for multiple classes to work together as well as exterior walls that open to provide an indoor-outdoor learning environment; storage that allows classrooms to move seamlessly from one project or subject to the next
- Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation Upgrades to save money that can be better spent in the classroom
- 21st Century Enrichment Spaces in order to help ensure Eureka Union students have equal access to a variety of educational offerings, including:
 - Transforming antiquated Libraries & Computer Labs into Multi-Media Centers with Spaces for Collaboration, Individual Workspaces & "Makers" Spaces
 - 21st Century Science Labs
 - STEAM (Science, Technology, Arts & Math) Spaces - Preparing Students for the New Creative Economy
 - Outdoor Laboratories, Gardens, Weather Stations and other potential outdoor learning environments

• Improvements to Other Student Support Facilities, including those for counselors, intervention/ speech, nurses and health assistants, and special education

RENOVATION, REPAIR AND UPGRADE OF EXISTING DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES

Specific improvements to be funded by this bond measure at each Eureka Union school or site will include:

Junior High School Sites: Cavitt and Olympus Junior High Schools:

- Renovate and improve student safety, including new fencing, door locks, and fire alarm upgrades
- Repair and upgrade old infrastructure, and other facilities, including roofs, restrooms, HVAC and electrical systems, MPRs, kitchens, fields and grounds
- 21st Century Classroom Renovations (refer to goals above)
- Replace, renovate and upgrade outdated science, technology and computer labs
- Improve music spaces
- Provide outdoor learning environments

Elementary School Sites: Excelsior, Greenhills, Maidu, Oakhills and Ridgeview Elementary Schools

- Renovate and improve student safety, including new fencing, door locks, and fire alarm upgrades
- Repair and upgrade old infrastructure, and other facilities, including roofs, restrooms, HVAC and electrical systems, MPRs, kitchens, fields and grounds
- 21st Century Classroom Renovations (refer to goals above)
- Replace, renovate and upgrade outdated science, technology and computer labs
- Develop a new MPR for the shared Ridgeview and Oakhills site

Leased School Sites: Eureka and Olive Ranch

- Renovate and improve site safety, including new fencing and door locks, and fire alarm upgrades
- Repair and upgrade old infrastructure, classrooms and other facilities, including roofs, restrooms, HVAC systems and grounds to preserve the revenue generating asset

Maintenance & Transportation

- Renovations to improve safety, including door locks and fire alarm upgrades
- Repairs and upgrades to old facilities, including roofs, restrooms, HVAC systems, and grounds

District Office

• Renovations to improve student and staff safety, including door locks and fire alarm upgrades

- Repairs and upgrades to old facilities, including roofs, restrooms, the kitchen, and transportation infrastructure
- Development of a more enhanced professional development space

ALL DISTRICT SCHOOL SITES WHERE RENOVATION, MAJOR REPAIRS AND/OR NEW CONSTRUCTION TO BE UNDERTAKEN:

- Remove and mitigate hazardous materials (e.g. asbestos, lead, PCB, mold, mildew, etc.) where necessary
- Improve contingencies as required to comply with existing building codes and state/federal requirements, including access requirements of the ADA
- Add/upgrade storage spaces for furniture and equipment
- Provide soundproofing/noise reduction infrastructure
- Provide adequate furniture and equipment for all classrooms, and spaces to be newly constructed, reconstructed or upgraded
- Acquire any of the facilities on this School Facilities Project List through temporary lease or lease-purchase arrangements or execute purchase option under lease for any of these authorized facilities
- Develop necessary site preparation/restoration in connection with renovation or remodeling, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, utility lines, trees and landscaping, relocating fire access roads, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of ways to property
- If the Board of Education determines that replacement is more economical than rehabilitation, improvement, or renovation of existing classrooms/school facilities, it will explore/ pursue those particular cases
- Provide temporary (interim) classrooms and other school facilities as needed to accommodate students and school functions displaced during construction, including, but not limited to, relocation costs
- Demolish/remove facilities when no longer needed and the costs to restore site and utility systems after removal
- Modernization upgrade or replacement of structures includes permanent, portable, or modular structures
- Sustainability measures such as LED lighting, high performance HVAC and energy generating equipment and infrastructure to support reductions in energy use and overall energy independence
- Electric buses and charging equipment to support reductions in fuel and operational costs for transportation.
- Access Compliance, Fire/ Life Safety and Structural Safety measures for code compliance

 Renovation, refurbishment and construction of playing fields, including but not limited to the installation of all-weather, synthetic fields, spectator stands and lighting

ADDITIONAL FACILITIES PROJECTS THAT MAY BE COMPLETE IF OTHER FUNDING SOURCES CAN BE SECURED

Eureka Union is eligible to receive school facilities funds from the State, and will take every effort to obtain these dollars, as well as any other funding available through local partnerships. However, these sources will likely require a local match, potentially from bond measure funds. As such, without bond measure funds, it may be impossible to qualify for State or other matching funds.

If the District receives significant additional funding, bond measure funds it may provide the local match and complete projects that may otherwise not be completed given project prioritization or construction cost escalation.

Project Costs for Furnishings and Equipment

Project Costs for furnishings and equipment for some or all of the within-identified District campuses may include, but are not limited to, some or all of the following: security, safety and communication systems and equipment, storage and casework, school furniture; window, wall, and durable floor coverings (including tiles and carpeting); media recording, distribution and presentation equipment, including, but not limited to, audio systems, kitchen equipment, improvements and furnishings, fire alarm, security; science laboratory equipment; and/or other infrastructure equipment and systems.

Project costs for the above-referenced projects may include installation costs, engineering and design costs, project management/construction management costs, warranty costs, master facilities planning, state or local costs or expenses involving design, planning, site and facilities development costs and charges, environmental review(s) and proceedings, necessary supporting infrastructure costs, relocation costs and expenses, necessary contingency plans and related costs construction and completion of the aforementioned facilities projects, audit costs, direct legal costs and related costs. Project costs may also include the payment or prepayment of existing or future lease payments and/or interim financing costs for lease of authorized facilities, property or buildings, prepayment of lease obligations for facilities purposes (including temporary classroom facilities) and payment of costs and expenses for interim financing of authorized facilities (including, but not limited to, financing delivery costs). Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District staff when performing work on, or necessary and incidental to, bond projects. Allowable project costs also include: costs of issuing the bonds or other securities (as authorized under California law), informational distribution costs and election costs authorized under State law.

The scope and nature of any of the specific projects described above may be altered by the District as required by unforeseen conditions that may arise during the course of design and accomplishment of the projects. In the event that a modernization or renovation project is more economical for the District to be undertaken as new construction, this bond measure authorizes land acquisition, relocation and construction and/or reconstruction, and all costs relating thereto, for said reason or, alternatively, based on other considerations deemed in the best interest of the District by the Board of Education. In addition, this measure authorizes the acquisition of real property, including necessary rights of ways or other real property interests, required to expand District facilities, to provide access to school or other District facilities, or to provide additional school or related facilities.

This School Facilities Project List describes the specific facilities and capital projects the District may finance with proceeds of the Bonds. In addition, authorized projects include reimbursements for paid project costs and paying and/or prepaying interim or previously obtained financing for the types of projects included on the project list, such as bond anticipation notes, and including payment and prepayment of lease payments relating to projects and/or equipment previously financed. Listed projects will be completed as needed at a particular school site according to Board-established priorities, and the order in which such projects appear on this School Facilities Project List is not an indication of priority for funding or completion. The final cost of each project will be determined as plans are finalized, construction bids are awarded, and projects are completed. Certain construction funds expected from non-bond sources, including State grant funds for eligible projects, have not yet been secured. Until all project costs and funding sources are known, the Board of Education cannot determine the amount of bond proceeds available to be allocated for each project, nor guarantee that the bonds will provide sufficient funds to allow completion of all listed projects. Completion of some projects may be subject to further government approvals by State officials and boards, to local environmental review, and to input from the public. For these reasons, inclusion of a project on the Bond Project List is not a guarantee that any specific project listed herein will be funded, completed or completed by a specific date.

In preparing the foregoing list, the Board of Education of the Eureka Union School District has evaluated safety, class size and information technology needs.

TAX RATE STATEMENT PREPARED BY THE DISTRICT

As shown in the attached official ballot, an election is being held in the Eureka Union School District ("District") on March 3, 2020, for the purpose of submitting to the registered voters within the District the question of whether the District shall issue and sell bonds in an amount not to exceed \$49,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds for the specified school facilities and school projects as set forth in the resolution of the District calling such bond election. This measure will authorize a tax sufficient for payment of interest on, and redemption of, the bonds. The bonds shall bear interest at a rate, or rates, to be established at such time as the bonds are sold, in one or more series at fixed or variable interest rates not to exceed the maximum applicable statutory rate for such bonds. If such bonds are authorized and sold, the principal thereof and the interest thereon are a general obligation of the District, payable from the proceeds of ad valorem property taxes on taxable real property located within the District.

The following information is submitted in compliance with California Elections Code Sections 9400 through 9404 based on estimates of assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement:

- (a) The best estimate from official sources of the average annual tax rate that would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue during the entire duration of the bond debt service (repayment of the bonds) based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, which is a projection based on experience within the same jurisdiction or other demonstrable factors is \$0.02868 per \$100 (\$28.68 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation. The final fiscal year in which such tax is anticipated to be collected is 2050-2051.
- (b) The best estimate from official sources of the average annual dollar amount of taxes that would be collected during the ten-year period following the initial levy for this Measure is \$2,180,020.
- (c) The best estimate from official sources of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund such bond issue(s) based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, which is a projection based on experience within the same

jurisdiction or other demonstrable factors, is \$0.02871 per \$100 (\$28.71 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation. It is estimated that this tax rate would apply in the 2041-2042 tax/fiscal year.

(d) The best estimate of the total debt service, including principal and interest, that would be required to be repaid if all the bonds are issued and sold is \$89,610,000.

Voters should note that these estimated tax rates are based on the *assessed value* of taxable property within the District as shown on the official rolls of Placer County, <u>not</u> on the property's market value. In addition, taxpayers eligible for a property tax exemption, such as the homeowner's exemption, will be taxed at a lower effective rate than described above. Actual future assessed valuation will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the Placer County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills and/or tax advisors to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

Attention of all voters is directed to the fact that these estimates are based on assumptions and projections derived from information currently available and obtained from official sources. The actual tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary depending on the timing of any bond sales, the amount of bonds sold, the maturities of the bonds issued and sold, market interest rates at the time of each sale of bonds and actual assessed valuations over the term of repayment of the bonds. The figures provided above are estimations based on the factors noted herein and are not maximum limitations. The timing of the bond sales and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be governed by the needs of the District. The actual interest rates at which the bonds will be sold will depend on the bond market at the time of each such sale. Actual future assessed valuation will depend upon the amount and value or taxable property within the District as determined by the Placer County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process.

Dated: October 2, 2019 Tom Janis, Superintendent Eureka Union School District