

SANTA CRUZ

COUNTY OF



LOMA PRIETA JOINT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2001

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS AND VOTER'S INFORMATION PAMPHLET

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO VOTERS – This election is being conducted only with ballots mailed to all voters who reside within the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District. A polling place will be available on Election Day in the district and at the Santa Cruz County Elections Department to assist voters. See back cover for more information.

Please refer to the back cover for "Instructions to Voters" regarding how to mark your ballot and how to return your ballot.

Voted ballots must be received by the Santa Cruz County Elections Department or the Polling Place in Santa Cruz County no later than 8 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5, 2001. Postmark is not acceptable.

If you have questions or need assistance, please call us at the Santa Cruz County Elections Department at 831-454-2060; FAX 831-454-2445; e-mail: gail.pellerin@co.santa-cruz.ca.us

FOR VOTER'S INFORMATION AND ELECTION NIGHT RESULTS ON THE INTERNET:

<http://www.votescount.com>

***THE ENCLOSED BALLOT IS THE ONLY ONE
YOU WILL RECEIVE.
PLEASE DO NOT DISCARD.***

VOTER'S INFORMATION PAMPHLET

MEASURE, ANALYSIS AND ARGUMENT

Arguments in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

LOMA PRIETA JOINT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

EIn order to maintain the quality of education shall the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District be authorized to implement a special tax of \$150 per parcel for each year beginning July 1, 2001 and continuing for nine years thereafter, increasing annually at a rate of 3.5% compounded? The revenue generated will be used to offset ongoing expenses needed to attract and retain qualified teachers and staff as well as provide for competitive salaries and to maintain current programs.

FULL TEXT OF BALLOT MEASURE MEASURE E

Special Tax for Loma Prieta Joint Union School District

In order to maintain the quality of education shall the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District be authorized to implement a special tax \$150 per parcel for each year beginning July 1, 2001 and continuing for nine years thereafter, increasing annually at a rate of 3.5% compounded?

The revenue generated will be used to offset ongoing expenses needed to attract and retain qualified teachers and staff as well as provide for competitive salaries to maintain current programs.

Pursuant to California Constitution Article XIII B the appropriations limit for the Loma Prieta Joint Union School District will be increased by the aggregate sum collected by levy of this special tax in each of the years covered by this Resolution. If any section, subsection, phrase or clause of this measure or its application is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this measure.

The revenue generated will only be used for the specified purposes of the tax as stated above, and not for any other purpose.

The tax revenue will be deposited into a fund to be held by the Santa Clara County Treasurer, as required by the California Education Code.

The Superintendent of the District shall file an annual report with the Board of Trustees of the District, commencing not later than January 1, 2002, and annually thereafter, which report shall contain information regarding the amount of funds collected and expended, as well as the status of the project listed in the ballot measure.

The following exemptions shall apply to collection of the tax:

a. for the owners of a minor unimproved parcel of less than one acre upon which no habitable structure exists.

b. for the owner, or one owner in joint ownership, of a parcel who has attained 65 years of age or older on or before July 1 of an applicable year and who uses that parcel as his or her principal residence, and on whose property no other habitable structure exists.

c. for the owner of multiple parcels which are contiguous and are part of one economic unit in the same name.

d. for a property owner who has had his/her residence rendered uninhabitable by the damages of a natural disaster and declared so by county government on or before July 1 of an applicable year, and where no other habitable structure exists on that same parcel. Such exemption shall end when said structure becomes habitable during any given year.

e. for a property owner who has had his/her business structure rendered uninhabitable by the damage of a natural disaster and declared so by county government on or before July 1 of an applicable year. Such exemption shall end when said structure becomes habitable during any given year.

The District has established an administrative review process to grant exemption and consider appeals for senior citizens, owners of minor unimproved parcels of less than one acre, contiguous parcels, and hardship due to natural disasters.

VOTER'S INFORMATION PAMPHLET

MEASURE, ANALYSIS AND ARGUMENT

Arguments in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL MEASURE E

This measure, if approved by two-thirds of those voting, would authorize the Loma Prieta Joint Union School District to levy a new special tax on each parcel of real property. The parcel tax of \$150 would be imposed annually for nine years beginning July 1, 2001, with an annual increase of 3.5 percent compounded. It would become a lien and be collected in the same manner as ad valorem real property taxes.

The revenues raised by the special tax would be used to offset ongoing expenses needed to attract and retain qualified teachers and staff as well as to provide for competitive salaries to maintain current programs.

Exemptions from the parcel tax would be allowed for the following: an owner of a minor unimproved parcel of less than one acre upon which no habitable structure exists; an owner, or one owner in joint ownership, of a parcel who has attached age 65 on or before July 1 of an applicable year and who uses that parcel as his or her principal residence; an owner of multiple parcels which are contiguous and are part of one economic unit in the same name; and an owner whose residence or business structure has been rendered uninhabitable by damages of a natural disaster and declared so by county government on or before July 1 of an applicable tax year, and where no other habitable structure exists on that parcel.

In addition to establishing the tax, the measure would increase the district's appropriations limit. The California Constitution restricts governmental spending by setting an annual appropriations (i.e., expenditures) limit for governmental agencies. It allows voters to change the appropriations limit for a period up to four years by approval of a majority of the votes cast. This measure would increase the District's appropriations limit by the amount of the parcel tax if passed.

A "yes" vote is to authorize a special tax per parcel for nine years, and to authorize an increased appropriations limit.

A "no" vote is against authorizing the special tax and increased appropriations limit.

SAMUEL TORRES, JR.
COUNTY COUNSEL

By: Jane M. Scott
Assistant County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE E

The children of the Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary School District need your YES vote for Measure E.

The facts are:

- The Loma Prieta Joint Union School District offers local children educational programs and instructional options that many other school districts around the state are unable to provide.
- The Loma Prieta Elementary School District (LPSD) is sorely under-funded in comparison to other districts; we receive \$400 less per student than average in property taxes and state equalization money, placing us fifth from the bottom in the state of California.
- There is a statewide shortage of teachers in California.
- The cost of housing for employees working in our District is among the highest in the state of California.
- The proposed tax of \$150 per parcel would raise \$282,000, which represents a 6% increase in district funding.
- The revenue from Measure E will be used to offset ongoing expenses needed to attract and retain qualified teachers and staff as well as provide for competitive salaries and to maintain current programs.
- The cost is reasonable:
For the first year, Measure E adds \$150 to each parcel in the LPSD. For each subsequent year, 3.5% is added to the previous year's amount. This tax will continue for a term of 9 years. This provides a small cost of living increase in subsequent years. This is a minimal cost when compared to the thousands of dollars some parents spend each year to send their children to private school. The return is continuing to keep our School District one of the best in the state of California.

s/ Charles M. Norman
Grandparent

s/ Lorri Scott
Mountain Art Guild Member

s/ Stephen Glauz-Todrank
Minister

s/ Richard J. Coughlin
Physician

s/ Richard N. Lyness
President, Loma Prieta Community Foundation

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E WAS FILED.

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

USE ONLY A NO. 2 PENCIL TO MARK YOUR BALLOT

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON BLUE ENVELOPE: The blue envelope your ballot was mailed in provides instructions with an illustration on how to mark your ballot.

VOTING ON THE MEASURE: To vote on the measure, FILL IN THE RECTANGLE in the square to the right of the word "YES" or the word "NO."

MARKS NOT ALLOWED: All distinguishing marks on the ballot (such as your name, written comments, drawings, etc.) or erasures are forbidden and make the ballot void.

DAMAGED BALLOTS: If you wrongly mark, tear or deface any portion of your ballot card, replace the card in the gray Secrecy Envelope, check the "SPOILED" box on the green return envelope, and mail the ballot to the Santa Cruz County Elections Department. A second ballot will be mailed to you.

If you damage your ballot seven or fewer days before election day, there may not be sufficient time for you to return your damaged ballot to the Santa Cruz County Elections Department and time for the department to send you a new ballot. At that late date, you are advised to come to the Santa Cruz County Elections Department in person to surrender your damaged ballot and obtain a second one, or on election day, go to the polling place listed on the back page of this booklet and surrender your ballot and receive a second one.

AFTER YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING, carefully remove the top stub end from the voted ballot card. (The stub is your record of having voted.) Place the voted ballot card in the gray secrecy envelope. Place the gray envelope containing the voted ballot card in the green postage-paid return envelope provided.

SIGNING THE ENVELOPE: In order for your ballot to be counted, you must sign your name on the green envelope used to return your voted ballot. Your signature must compare to the signature on your voter registration affidavit in order for your ballot to be counted.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY VOTERS BEWARE: The school district includes voters both in Santa Cruz and Santa Clara county. Each county is independently conducting the election for their portion of the district. Therefore, Santa Cruz County voters must vote the ballot provided by Santa Cruz County and return it by mail to Santa Cruz County Elections or the polling place provided for Santa Cruz County voters.

To be counted, your voted ballot must be returned in one of the following ways:

1. **By Mail** – The ballot must be received by the Santa Cruz County Elections Department no later than 8 p.m. on June 5, 2001. Your ballot cannot be counted if received after 8 p.m. on election day, regardless of postmark.
2. **By You in Person Prior to Election Day** – In person, to the Santa Cruz County Elections Department. The Elections Department is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ballots may be returned to the office during those hours.
3. **By an authorized representative of the voter.** If you are unable to personally deliver your ballot because of illness or other disability, you may authorize, on the green envelope, your spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother or sister to deliver the voted ballot on your behalf. The ballot may be delivered on election day to either the polling place listed below or the Santa Cruz County Elections Department, or prior to the election to the Santa Cruz County Elections Department.
4. **By You in Person on Election Day** – to either the polling place listed below or the Santa Cruz County Elections Department from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on election day, June 5, 2001. The two following locations, which meet American with Disabilities Act accessibility standards, will be open on election day for voters who:
 - wish to deliver their ballot in person;
 - prefer to take the ballot mailed to them and vote it in a voting booth;
 - need a second ballot;
 - have questions regarding their eligibility to vote; or
 - need assistance with voting.
C.T. English – Community Meeting Room
23800 Summit Rd., Los Gatos

Santa Cruz County Elections Department
701 Ocean St., Room 210, Santa Cruz

IF YOU LOSE YOUR BALLOT: If you lose or discard the enclosed ballot mailed to you, you may vote a provisional ballot at either of the two locations listed above on election day, or at the Santa Cruz County Elections Department beginning May 7, 2001. Once election officials confirm that you did not vote the ballot mailed to you, your provisional ballot will be counted.