



Voter Information Guide

Guía de Información para el Votante

Lakeside Joint School District

Special School District Election

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Polls are open 7am – 8pm

Elección Especial del Distrito Escolar

Martes, 7 de marzo de 2017

Los lugares de votación abren de 7am a 8pm

Santa Cruz County Elections Department
701 Ocean Street, Room 210, Santa Cruz
Open Monday—Friday, 8am to 5pm

www.votescount.com
info@votescount.com

Information in English: 831-454-2060
Información en español: 831-454-2060
若需更多中文資訊: 831-454-5137
Impormasyon sa Tagalog: 831-454-5135
Toll Free (sin cargo): 866-282-5900
TDD: 711
FAX: 831-454-2445

Dear Voter,

In this mailing you will find your vote-by-mail ballot for the Lakeside School District Special Election on March 7, 2017.


Due to the size of the district, all voters are being mailed a ballot.

A polling place will also be set up on Election Day, Tuesday, March 7, 2017 to assist voters, provide a second ballot, or for voters to drop off their ballot.

Your polling place for the Tuesday, March 7, 2017 Special Election is:

**Las Cumbres Community Center
18260 Las Cumbres Rd**

Polls open from 7 am – 8 pm.

The polling place is accessible. 

On the following pages, you will find information about Measure A, which is the only issue on your ballot.

You will also find information on how to return your vote-by-mail ballot.

We are here to help and answer any of your questions. Please call us at 831-454-2060 or email info@votescount.com

Your vote counts! Thank you for being a voter!

Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections Department

Estimado Elector,

En esta correspondencia encontrará su voto por correo para la Elección Especial del Distrito Escolar de Lakeside el 7 de marzo de 2017.


Debido al tamaño del distrito, todos los votantes reciben una boleta por correo.

También se establecerá un lugar de votación el día martes 7 de marzo de 2017 para ayudar a los votantes, proporcionar una segunda boleta o por los votantes a dejar su voto.

Su lugar de votación para la Elección Especial del martes, 7 de marzo de 2017 es:

**Centro Comunitario Las Cumbres
18260 Las Cumbres Rd**

Las encuestas están abiertas de 7 am a 8 pm.

El lugar de votación es accesible. 

En las siguientes páginas, encontrará información sobre la Medida A, que es el único tema de su boleta electoral.

También encontrará información sobre cómo devolver su voto por correo.

Estamos aquí para ayudarle y responder a sus preguntas. Por favor llámeme al 831-454-2060 o por correo electrónico info@votescount.com

¡Su voto cuenta! ¡Gracias por ser un votante!

Secretario del Condado/Departamento de Elecciones de Santa Cruz

Make your vote-by-mail ballot count!

Follow these simple steps.

Mark your ballot

Use a blue or black ballpoint pen.

Use a single line to connect the head and tail of the arrow that points to your choice.



If you lose your ballot or make a mistake, you may request a new ballot. You can:



Call the Elections Department at **831-454-2060**



For a new ballot, email 2ndballot@votescount.com

For assistance, email info@votescount.com

Sign and date the Envelope

Remove the top stub from your ballot by tearing at the perforated line.

Place the ballot in the enclosed return envelope provided.

Write the **address where you live** in Santa Cruz County on the envelope in the space provided.

Sign your name on the envelope. If you do not sign your envelope, we cannot count your ballot.

If you cannot sign your name, make a mark and have a witness sign on the line provided.

Do not let someone else sign your name for you.

Write the **date** you signed the envelope.

How to return your vote-by-mail ballot

To be counted your ballot must be **postmarked on or before Election Day, March 7** and received by the Elections Department by Friday, March 10. To return your ballot, you can:

Mail your ballot early to be sure it is received on time – Postage is paid. No stamp required!

- OR -

Drop it off at one of the 24-hour drop boxes by 8pm on Election Day

- 701 Ocean St., Santa Cruz, in front of the county building.

- OR -

Return it in person before and including Election Day

You may personally drop it off at one of the locations below or you can have a relative or someone who lives with you drop it off.

- County Elections: 701 Ocean St., Room 210 Mon – Fri, 8am – 5pm 831-454-2060

- OR -

Return it in person on Election Day

You can return it to your polling place in Santa Cruz County on Tuesday, March 7, 7am to 8pm.

Your polling place is:

**Las Cumbres Community Center
18260 Las Cumbres Rd**

Do you want to Vote at the Polls Instead? Or did you lose your ballot?

You may surrender your vote-by-mail ballot at your polling place, and you may then vote a ballot at the polls. If you do not have your ballot to surrender, you may vote a provisional ballot. Your ballot will count once the elections official confirms you did not mail a ballot in as well.

¡Haga que su boleta de voto por correo cuente!

Siga estos sencillos pasos.

Marque su boleta

Use un bolígrafo con tinta azul o negra.

Use una sola línea que conecte la cabeza y la cola de la flecha que señale su selección.

Si usted pierde su boleta o comete un error, puede solicitar una nueva boleta. Usted puede:



Llamar al departamento de elecciones **831-454-2060**



Para una boleta nueva, mande correo electrónico **2ndballot@votescount.com**

Para asistencia, mande correo electrónico **info@votescount.com**

Firme y feche el sobre

Remueva el talón superior de su boleta rasgando en la línea perforada.

Coloque la boleta en el sobre adjunto proporcionado.

Escriba **la dirección de donde usted vive** en el condado de Santa Cruz en el sobre en el espacio proporcionado.

Firme su nombre en el sobre. Si usted no firma el sobre, no podemos contar con su boleta.

Si no puede firmar su nombre, haga una marca y que un testigo firme en la línea proporcionada.

No permita que otra persona firme su nombre por usted.

Escriba la **fecha** en que firmó el sobre.

Cómo regresar su boleta de voto-por-correo

Para que su boleta cuente, debe tener el **sello postal en el día o antes del día de la elección el 7 de marzo**, y ser recibida por el Departamento de Elecciones no más tarde del viernes, 10 de marzo. Para regresar su boleta, puede:

Enviar su boleta de votación por correo temprano para asegurar que se reciba a tiempo – no necesita estampilla!

- O -

Dejarla en una de las dos cajas de recolección de 24 horas hasta las 8 pm el día de elección

- 701 Ocean St., Santa Cruz, frente al edificio del condado

- O -

Regrésela personalmente antes o incluyendo el día de las elecciones

Puede dejarla personalmente en una de las localizaciones anotadas abajo o puede dejar que un pariente o alguien que viva con usted lo entregue por usted.

- County Elections: 701 Ocean St., Room 210 lun – vie, 8am – 5pm 831-454-2060

- O -

Regrésela personalmente en el día de la elección

Usted la puede devolver a cualquier lugar de votación en el condado de Santa Cruz el martes 7 de marzo de 7am a 8pm.

Su lugar de votación

**Centro Comunitario Las Cumbres
18260 Las Cumbres Rd**

¿Prefiere votar en las Urnas? ¿O Perdió su boleta?

Puede rendir su boleta de voto-por-correo en su lugar de votación, y luego entonces puede votar con una boleta en las urnas. Si no tiene su boleta para rendir, puede votar una boleta provisional. Se contará su boleta una vez que el funcionario de elecciones confirme que usted no envió también una boleta de voto-por-correo.



A

Lakeside Joint School District Measure

Ballot question

To preserve high quality academic programs for elementary and middle school students, attract/retain high quality teachers, keep instructional programs up to date, and provide a safe, well maintained learning environment in our mountain community, shall the Lakeside Joint School District levy a temporary 8-year education parcel tax of \$647, with citizens' oversight, exemptions available for senior citizens, no funds for administrators' salaries, every dollar spent on Lakeside students and cannot be taken away by the State?

Pregunta de Boleta

Para conservar los programas académicos de alta calidad para los estudiantes de escuelas primarias e intermedias, atraer/retener maestros altamente calificados, mantener programas de enseñanza actualizados y proporcionar un ambiente de aprendizaje seguro y bien mantenido en nuestra comunidad de la montaña, ¿debería autorizarse al Distrito Escolar Conjunto de Lakeside a implementar un impuesto parcelario temporal de educación de \$647 durante 8 años, con supervisión ciudadana, excepciones disponibles para las personas de la tercera edad, sin fondos para los salarios de los administradores, cada dólar gastado en los alumnos de Lakeside y que no puedan ser tomados por el Estado?

What your vote means

YES	NO
A "Yes" vote is to approve imposition of the special parcel tax.	A "No" vote is against imposition of the special parcel tax.

For and against Measure A

FOR	AGAINST
<p>Marcia Williams On behalf of the Lakeside Teachers' Association</p> <p>Mary "Mert" Parsons 38 Year Community Resident and Parent of 3 Lakeside Graduates</p> <p>Leon Milburn Retired School Board Member, 56 Year Mountain Resident and Property Owner</p> <p>Kathleen Nestler 40 Year Mountain Resident and Director of a non profit organization</p> <p>Wilfred E. Everts Treasurer, Lake Canyon Mutual Water Company</p>	No argument against Measure A was filed.



Arguments and replies are the opinions of the authors. We print them exactly as submitted, including errors.

Argument for Measure A

VOTE YES on A to preserve the outstanding education our children receive at Lakeside School. Without Measure A Lakeside School will be forced to close.

Thanks to the commitment of our community, and your generous support of Lakeside Joint School District's expiring parcel tax, our mountain community has been able to provide an excellent education, with statewide test scores consistently in the top 5%. With the current parcel tax expiring in May 2017—and continued increases in educational costs—we are asking you to support Measure A.

Measure A will preserve core academics, ensuring Lakeside students are prepared for success in high school and beyond.

Measure A will:

- Protect high-quality academic programs in reading, writing, math, and science
- Provide comprehensive education for middle school students
- Attract and retain high-quality teachers
- Keep instructional programs up to date
- Provide a safe, well maintained learning environment

Without Measure A, Lakeside's parcel tax will expire, and Lakeside School will close.

For more than 130 years, exceptional teachers, dedicated parent volunteers, rigorous curricula under your local control have prepared Lakeside children to succeed in high school, college, and careers. We want that legacy to continue.

Unfortunately, years of unfunded government mandates and budget cuts have hurt schools throughout California including Lakeside School.

Lakeside values your investment with strict taxpayer protections over Measure A:

- Seniors are eligible for an exemption
- No funds can be taken by the State
- No funds for administrator salaries
- Every penny stays local
- Mandatory annual audits by an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee

Measure A lasts eight years and cannot be extended without a new vote.

Whether or not you have school-age children, investing in quality local schools is good for our property values and our community.

Please join community leaders, seniors, parents, teachers, and residents from every Lakeside neighborhood: **Vote yes on Measure A!**

Marcia Williams

On behalf of the Lakeside Teachers' Association

Mary "Mert" Parsons

38 Year Community Resident and Parent of 3 Lakeside Graduates

Leon Milburn

Retired School Board Member, 56 Year Mountain Resident and Property Owner

Kathleen Nestler

40 Year Mountain Resident and Director of a non profit organization

Wilfred E. Everts

Treasurer, Lake Canyon Mutual Water Company

No argument against Measure A was filed.



Impartial analysis of Measure A

Dana McRae, County Counsel
By Sharon Carey-Stronck

If this measure is approved by at least two-thirds of those voting on it, the Lakeside Joint School District ("the School District") will be authorized to levy a special tax on real property.

The tax would be imposed for 8 years beginning July 1, 2017, at the rate of \$647 per year on each parcel within the School District. A previously approved education parcel tax of \$311 per year is scheduled to end on June 30, 2017. If approved, this current measure will impose a new education parcel tax immediately after the previous education parcel tax ends.

The proceeds of the special tax, if approved, may be applied only to the purposes set out in the full text of Measure A which is printed in this pamphlet. It may not be used for administrators' salaries, benefits or pensions.

In accordance with State law, this measure includes accountability procedures. The School District would create a separate account into which the proceeds of the special tax would be deposited. An annual written report would show the amount of the special taxes which have been collected and expended, and the status of projects to be funded from those proceeds.

The School District would also maintain its existing Citizen's Oversight Committee to provide oversight as to the expenditure of parcel tax revenues.

The special parcel tax is to be collected in the same manner as other property taxes.

Property owners whose property is used solely for owner-occupied, single family residential purposes and who are 65 years of age or older, or who meet other criteria regardless of age, may obtain an exemption from this parcel tax by applying to the School District. Owners who currently receive an exemption from the School District's existing Measure C parcel tax of \$311 will not need to file a new application for exemption. The School District may establish procedures to verify the continued qualification of an exemption. Owners of contiguous parcels meeting specified criteria may also apply to the District to have them treated as a single parcel for purposes of the tax.

The School District Board of Trustees proposes to reduce this parcel tax if it has the unintended effect of decreasing or offsetting local, state or federal government funding sources that would otherwise be available to the School District.

This measure was placed on the ballot by the Board of Trustees of the Lakeside Joint School District.

A "yes" vote is to approve imposition of the special parcel tax.

A "no" vote is against imposition of the special parcel tax.

Full text of Measure A

Lakeside Joint School District

Quality Education Funding Measure A

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

To continue funding for essential academic programs, provide reliable funding for local schools that cannot be taken by the State, retain quality teachers, with no proceeds used for administrators' salaries, benefits and pensions, the Lakeside Joint School District proposes to replace its existing parcel tax for a period of eight years starting on July 1, 2017 at a rate of \$647 per parcel per year, with an exemption available for senior citizens and certain disabled persons, and to implement accountability measures, including citizen oversight, to ensure the funds are used to:

- Protect academic programs in English, math and science for all students
- Provide comprehensive education for middle-school students
- Keep instructional programs up-to-date
- Retain high-quality teachers;
- The proceeds of the parcel tax shall be deposited into a separate account created by the District.

DEFINITION OF "PARCEL"

For purposes of the high quality education parcel tax, the term "Parcel" means any parcel of land which lies wholly or partially within the boundaries of the Lakeside Joint School District, that receives a separate tax bill for *ad valorem* property taxes from the Santa Clara County Tax Collector and Santa Cruz County Tax Collector, as applicable. All property that is otherwise exempt from or upon which are levied no *ad valorem* property taxes in any year shall also be exempt from the quality education parcel tax in such year.



For purposes of this quality education parcel tax, any such “Parcels” which are (i) contiguous, and (ii) used solely for owner-occupied, single-family residential purposes, and (iii) held under identical ownership may, by submitting to the District an application of the owners thereof by June 15 of any year, be treated as a single “parcel” for purposes of the levy of the high quality education parcel tax.

EXEMPTION FOR SENIORS AND SSI RECIPIENTS

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 50079 (b)(1), any owner of a Parcel used solely for owner-occupied, single-family residential purposes and who are either (a) 65 years of age or older on or before June 30 of the fiscal year immediately preceding the year in which the tax would apply, or (b) persons receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age, or (c) receiving Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, regardless of age, whose yearly income does not exceed 250 percent of the 2012 federal poverty guidelines issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, may obtain an exemption from the parcel tax by submitting an application therefore, by June 15 of any year, to the District.

Persons who are owners of Parcels used solely for owner-occupied, single-family residential purposes and currently exempted from the District’s expiring Measure C parcel tax shall automatically be exempted from this Measure without having to file a new application.

The District may establish administrative procedures to periodically verify the continuance of any previously granted exemption.

With respect to all general property tax matters within its jurisdiction, the Santa Clara County Treasurer and Tax Collector and Santa Cruz County Treasurer and Tax Collector, or other appropriate tax officials of such counties, shall make all final determinations of tax exemption or relief for any reason, and that decision shall be final and binding. With respect to matters specific to the levy of the high-quality education parcel tax, including any exemptions and the classification of property for purposes of calculating the tax, the decisions of the District shall be final and binding.

REDUCTION IN TAX IF RESULT IS LESS OTHER GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

The collection of the quality education parcel tax is not intended to decrease or offset any increase in local, state or federal government revenue sources that would otherwise be available to the District during the period of the parcel tax. In the event that the levy and collection does have such an effect, the District may cease the levy or shall reduce the parcel tax to the extent that such action would restore the amount of the decrease or offset in other revenues.

ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

In accordance with the requirements of California Government Code Sections 50075.1 and 50075.3, the following accountability measures, among others, shall apply to the parcel tax levied in accordance with this Measure: (a) the specific purposes of the parcel tax shall be those purposes identified above; (b) the proceeds of the parcel tax shall be applied only to those specific purposes identified above; (c) a separate, special account shall be created into which the proceeds of the quality education parcel tax must be deposited; and (d) an annual written report shall be made to the Board of Trustees of the District showing (i) the amount of funds collected and expended from the proceeds of the high quality education parcel tax and (ii) the status of any projects or programs required or authorized to be funded from the proceeds of the parcel tax, as identified above. In addition to the accountability measures required by law, the District will maintain its existing Citizens’ Oversight Committee to provide oversight as to the expenditure of parcel tax revenues.