

Argument FOR Measure J

Measure J advises the Pasadena City Council to use one-third of sales tax revenue from Measure I to protect and strengthen public schools. This additional support is essential for our children's future.

Pasadena schools have made significant progress in recent years. Successful magnet programs focus on science, technology, and art. Dual language and international programs are drawing more parents into the public schools, from both within the district and from neighboring areas.

Now, however, this hard-won progress is at risk because the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) faces a major financial crisis.

The district has suffered from the unprecedented state funding cuts during the Great Recession. State funding support has increased since 2007, but even as funding has been restored to pre-recession levels, the rising cost of state and federal mandates has far outpaced revenue increases.

Due to demographic pressures, Pasadena also has fewer children than before, which means less state funding.

Neighboring school districts facing these same issues have already taken action. Most have raised local taxes and invested in their schools. Pasadena has not.

PUSD has already begun laying off teachers and staff, eliminating site personnel serving students. Without Measure J, future cost reductions or state revenue decreases will further impact student services: class sizes may increase; art and music programs may be threatened; advanced courses in math and science and special programs will face significant challenges.

Our children deserve better. Measure J will provide stable local funding, independent of uncertain State and Federal funds.

Good schools benefit everyone in our community, help protect property values, and are essential for a strong economy.

To protect our schools we must pass BOTH Measure I and Measure J. **Please join us in voting YES on BOTH MEASURES!**

Patrick Cahalan

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Vice President, Board of Education

Michelle Richardson Bailey

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School Board Member

Elizabeth Pomeroy

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MAYOR, CITY OF PASADENA

CITY CLERK

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