FAQs about Measure G

1. What is Measure G?

Measure G is a $58 million general obligation bond initiative that will provide our students and community with upgraded safe and secure facilities that are 21st century learning environments.

Project details are available at:

2. What will Measure G cost?

Measure G will cost approximately $48 per $100,000 of assessed property value (not market value) annually for 30 years, or about $200 per year for the average residence. This is a conservative estimate based on assumptions about interest rates that will be available when the bonds are sold, as well as a conservative estimate of growth in assessed valuation.

3. What is the timeline for completion of these projects?

The projects are expected to be completed within six to seven years, and will be timed and sequenced to create the greatest possible efficiencies while minimizing the impact on current school operations. It is clear, for example, that the replacement of the pool at El Roble can begin immediately since the existing pool is already closed but, on the other hand, classroom refurbishments and replacement of portables may have to be done over several summers. The exact schedule cannot be determined until funding is available and detailed planning can take place.

4. How can I be assured that the Measure G proceeds will be spent only on the designated projects and not operational costs?

By law, Measure G funds may only be spent to fund projects itemized in the ballot measure. Bond funds CANNOT be used for administrators' or teachers' salaries or pensions. Mandatory audits, public reports, as well as the establishment of an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee, will ensure that funds are spent properly. An application for those interested in serving on the Oversight Committee is currently available, and can be found on the District’s webpage at:

5. Doesn’t the State provide other funds for these purposes?

The Leroy F. Green School Facilities Act (SB 50) established a School Facility Program (SFP) in 1998 and, since then, there have been four statewide school construction bonds that have generated $35.4 billion that were used to match $80 billion of local school district general obligation bonds like Measure G. Currently, there are no matching funds identified for the State’s share of the partnership. If the Public School Facilities Bond, Proposition 51, passes this November it would be the first such state bond for this purpose since 2006, and it would provide $9 billion in bond authorization that would be made available to school districts based upon specific eligibility criteria. There is no way of knowing if the District would be able to secure matching funds through this mechanism.

6. How has the District funded other recently completed projects?

The District was fortunate enough to be able to sell two “surplus properties” in the last few years. The proceeds from the sale of these two properties were used to complete a number of very urgent construction projects.

There are also a number of other funding sources that can be utilized to support smaller tasks from year to year, but these are often restricted to specific types of projects. For example, there is a recreational assessment paid for through property taxes that provides funds for maintenance of outdoor spaces where the use is shared by other entities in the community; i.e. the use of school fields for AYSO and other community sports activities. The District also gets fees from developers of new or expanded housing in the community and, therefore, they vary from year to year (typically, $70,000 – $300,000).

7. How was the original project list developed?

There were many people involved in the formation of the Facilities Needs Assessment. School sites had committees that included school administrators, teachers, classified staff, maintenance staff, and parents. All information gathered from the school site committees, or other stakeholder groups was used in the needs assessment. Technical assessments were completed by professional consultants at each site. These assessments were done in order to gain information regarding the physical condition of each building, the structures’ compliance to codes such as: ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act); seismic; structural; fire/life safety (Title 24); infrastructure (plumbing and electrical); and general aesthetic issues. The District held 39 community meetings and forums through the first half of 2016, and conducted a community-wide engagement survey to gather input on a potential projects list. A summary of the results of this survey is available for review at: www.cusd.thoughtexchange.com/welcome.
8. Aren’t some of the projects (particularly the replacement of portable classrooms with modulars) necessary to accommodate the Interdistrict Transfer Students (IDTs) whose parents will not pay for this bond?

Yes, however, state operating funds that are generated and allocated to Claremont, due to the acceptance of Interdistrict Transfer (IDT) students, has allowed the District to offer programs and flexibility that are part of what has made this District so desirable in attracting students from surrounding communities. For example, some of the benefits that are realized by accepting IDT students are: the ability of Claremont families to choose the elementary school they prefer; keeping combination classes at a minimum; and generating the enrollment necessary to have a full-scale International Baccalaureate (IB) program at Claremont High School.

9. How have other school districts financed their facility needs?

Other school districts have financed their facility needs through the passage of local school bonds. Since 2001, when Proposition 39 established new rules and procedures for bond financing of California schools, and through 2015, 862 bond elections for school facilities have been held, of which 82% of them were passed by the voters in those schools districts. (There are about 1,050 school districts in California.) Of the 16 districts near Claremont, that are included in the total, 88% of the bond measures passed.

10. Are other school districts putting bond measures on the ballot this November?

There are 21 school district facilities bond measures on the ballot in L.A. County this November for an average of $190 million per district, or about $14,000 per student. At $58 million and $8,200 per student, Claremont’s bond is among the lowest measures being presented for voter approval.