

## Argument in Favor of Measure A

Measure A renews our community's commitment to high quality public schools.

Our strong community support enables the Menlo Park City Elementary School District to deliver an excellent education to our local students at Encinal, Laurel, Oak Knoll and Hillview schools. However, the small class sizes, high quality teachers and comprehensive academic programs our students experience daily are at risk if the expiring 2010 parcel tax is not renewed.

### The need to renew is clear:

- Without the approval of Measure A, the District will lose existing funding for at least 13 teachers.
- The need is NOT temporary. Current enrollment of 2,938 is 38% higher than 2005. Enrollment is projected to increase to 3,151 by 2020 and 3,280 by 2025.
- State funding is inadequate. Overall State funding to our schools has declined from 19% of our budget in 2001 to only 9% today, and is unreliable.
- Growth in property tax and other funding is insufficient to address current enrollment. Without Measure A, we cannot maintain existing high quality programs.
- Our District provides a high quality education for less cost per student than comparable local districts.

### Measure A maintains:

- Small class sizes
- Our high quality and comprehensive educational program
- Our ability to attract and retain outstanding teachers

Measure A simply continues the expiring 2010 parcel tax at the existing \$201.38 amount taxpayers currently pay. Without approval of Measure A, the District will lose existing funding for at least 13 teachers, increasing class sizes and jeopardizing our current outstanding programs. An independent Citizens' Oversight Committee will review an annual audit of funds. Measure A offers an exemption to those 65 and older.

Please join us in voting Yes on Measure A to renew our community's long-term investment in our outstanding public schools.

For more information, please visit [www.SupportMenloParkSchools.org](http://www.SupportMenloParkSchools.org)

Author: Jody Buckley

Signers:

Charlot Singleton, Community Volunteer

Allen Weiner, Sequoia Union High School District Trustee

Tom Lemieux, Realtor

Shari Conrad, Community Volunteer

Mark Box, Retired Business Executive