



Official Voter Information Guide

April 4, 2017

Woodside Elementary School District Special Mail Ballot Election

To request a copy of this pamphlet in an accessible format or for voting assistance, call 888.SMC.VOTE (888.762.8683) or email registrar@smcare.org.

Para solicitar una copia en Español de este folleto de información para el votante en formato accesible o asistencia para votar, llame 888.SMC.VOTE (888.762.8683) o envíe un correo electrónico a registrar@smcare.org.

要索取這一份無障礙格式手冊或需投票協助，請致電888.SMC.VOTE(888.762.8683)或電郵registrar@smcare.org。

This official election information is compiled and distributed by the
Office of Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder

1E 40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402 | phone 650.312.5222 | www.shapethefuture.org



3 Easy Steps to Vote by Mail

1 Vote



Mark your ballot. Remove the ballot stub. This is your receipt. Put your ballot in the envelope.

Make a mistake on your ballot? We will send another one to you if we receive your request by March 28.

Check the box on the back of the return envelope and put the ballot in the envelope to return to us.

You can also call 650.312.5222, email registrar@smcare.org or exchange your ballot in person at the Voting Center listed below.

2 Sign Your Envelope

1. Sign next to the **X** in the box and write the date.

The signature will be compared with your signature when you registered to vote.

Power of Attorney Not Accepted. Signature will be compared with signature on file. Disabled voters may use a "mark" but must include witness signature.

VOTER'S SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR VERIFICATION	
Signature	Date
X Jane Doe	3/27/2017

2. Seal the envelope.

3 Return Your Ballot



Mail your voted ballot in the POSTAGE PAID ENVELOPE postmarked by **April 4** and it will be counted if it is received by **April 7**.



March 6 through April 4
Drop off your voted ballot during regular business hours at the Woodside Town Hall or at the 24-hour drop box at the Voting Center listed below.



Election Day, April 4
Drop your voted ballot on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Voting Center below.

Voting Center

Registration & Elections Division — **40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402**
Office of the San Mateo County Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder and Chief Elections Officer
Monday through Friday, open from 8 a.m. through 5 p.m.
On Election Day, April 4, 2017, open from 7 a.m. through 8 p.m.

Woodside Elementary School District

Measure Z

To maintain and enhance academic excellence at Woodside School through emphasis on quality instruction, especially in math, science, reading and writing, attracting/ retaining outstanding teachers/ maintaining small class sizes, shall the Woodside Elementary School District extend its existing annual school tax without increasing the current rate of \$290.00 per parcel each year for eight years, adjusted annually, with independent citizens' oversight, an exemption for those 65 years and older, and all funds spent only in Woodside School?

Full Text

WOODSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT Education and Local Control Funding Measure Z

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

To continue funding for core programs in math, science, reading and writing, provide local reliable funding for local schools that cannot be taken by the State, maintain small class sizes, attract and retain highly qualified teachers, with no proceeds used for administrators' salaries, benefits and pensions, the Woodside Elementary School District ("District") proposes to renew its expiring education and local control parcel tax for a period of eight years from its current expiration date (June 30, 2017), starting on July 1, 2017 at the current rate of \$290.00 per parcel per year, adjusted by the San Mateo County Area Consumer Price Index each year but no more than four (4) percent annually, 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 help:

- Protect quality instruction in math, science, reading and writing programs;
- Maintain small class sizes;
- Attract and retain highly qualified teachers; and
- Protect the taxpayers' investment in education and ensure District accountability by providing for taxpayer oversight and financial audits of revenues and expenditures.

The proceeds of the parcel tax shall be deposited into a separate account created by the District.

DEFINITION OF "PARCEL"

For purposes of the education and local control parcel tax, the term "Parcel" means any parcel of land which lies wholly or partially within the boundaries of the Woodside Elementary School District, that receives a separate tax bill for *ad valorem* property taxes from the San Mateo County Assessor/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 education and local control parcel tax in such year.

For purposes of this education and local control 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 and local control 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 San Mateo County Treasurer and Tax Collector or other appropriate county tax officials, 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 and local control 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 education and local control 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 education and local control parcel tax must be deposited; and (d) an annual written report shall be made to the Governing Board of the District showing (i) the amount of funds collected and expended from the proceeds of the high quality education and local control 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.

Woodside Elementary School District

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

Impartial Analysis of Measure Z

The California Constitution and state law authorize school districts to levy qualified special taxes for specified purposes. Government Code Sections 50077 and 50079 provide that such a tax measure passes if two-thirds of those voting on it vote to approve the measure.

The Woodside Elementary School District (the “District”) currently has an annual parcel tax of \$242.00 per parcel, adjusted for inflation annually, adopted in 2009 that expires June 30, 2017. By this measure, the District’s Governing Board proposes to renew a special tax on parcels in the District that would raise funds to support educational purposes outlined below. If this measure is approved, an annual tax of \$290.00 per parcel, adjusted annually for inflation, would be imposed starting July 1, 2017, for a period of eight years, with the tax ending June 30, 2025.

The proposed tax applies to any unit of real property which lies wholly or partially in the District that receives a separate property tax bill from San Mateo County tax collection officials. Parcels otherwise exempt from property taxes will be exempt from this proposed tax. Parcels that are under identical ownership, contiguous, and occupied solely by the owner for single-family residential purposes may qualify to be treated as a single parcel by submitting an application. Also, any individual who owns and occupies a parcel as a single-family residence may apply for an exemption to the tax if they also: 1) are age 65 years or older; 2) receive Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age; or 3) receive Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, regardless of age, and have an annual income not exceeding 250% of the 2012 federal poverty guidelines. Parcels that already obtained exemption from the expiring tax are automatically exempt from this tax.

The stated purposes of the parcel tax are to: protect quality instruction in math, science, reading, and writing programs; maintain small class sizes; and attract and retain highly qualified teachers. No proceeds may be spent on administrator salaries, benefits, or pensions.

The proceeds of the parcel tax will be placed into a special account. An annual report accounting for tax revenues collected and expended and the status of projects or programs funded by the tax will be filed with the Governing Board. An independent citizens’ oversight committee will be maintained to review expenditures of the parcel tax. The tax will be decreased if any increase in local, state, or federal funding is put in jeopardy based on the existence of the tax. The District’s appropriations limit shall be increased annually if necessary to ensure the revenue from the tax may be spent for the listed purposes.

A “yes” vote on this measure would impose an annual tax of \$290.00 per taxable parcel, adjusted annually, on property within the District for a period of eight years beginning July 1, 2017, for the purposes listed above.

A “no” vote on this measure would not allow the parcel tax to be levied, with the existing annual parcel tax of \$242.00 per parcel, adjusted for inflation, expiring without replacement on June 30, 2017.

This measure passes if two-thirds of those voting on the measure vote “yes.”

Argument in Favor of Measure Z

Measure Z will protect academic excellence in Woodside Elementary School *without raising taxes*. Measure Z simply continues an existing measure to maintain the high quality of education students receive by protecting core academic programs in math, science, reading, writing and the arts and helping to attract and retain the highest quality teachers to educate our students.

Woodside Elementary School is a cornerstone of our community and is part of what makes our neighborhoods exceptional. Our excellent teachers and rigorous math, science and reading curriculum have prepared generations of students to succeed. This measure is critical to help us keep pace with other top school districts.

Specifically, Measure Z will:

- Help attract and retain high quality teachers
- Continue funding for core programs in math, science, reading and writing
- Maintain smaller class sizes
- Continue funding for arts, music and foreign language classes
- Maintain school facilities and athletic fields

Measure Z is a local measure. All funds generated will stay in Woodside for our local students. By law, this money cannot be taken away by the State or spent on administrators’ salaries or pensions. Taxpayer protections are required and an Independent Citizens’ Oversight commission will ensure funds are spent properly.

Measure Z provides an exemption for senior citizens.

Measure Z is a modest, thoughtful proposal that asks for significantly less money than neighboring districts. Great schools make great communities by protecting our property values and keeping ours strong and prosperous. Measure Z is a wise investment that will not increase local tax rates but *will* protect our local school district.

Join neighbors, parents, teachers and local community leaders to support Woodside Elementary School. **PLEASE, VOTE YES on Z.**

- | | | |
|-----|---|------------------|
| /s/ | Claire Pollioni
WESD Board of Trustees President | January 13, 2017 |
| /s/ | Wendy Warren Roth
WESD Board of Trustees Vice President | January 13, 2017 |
| /s/ | Elizabeth L. Hobson
Woodside Planning Commission Vice Chair | January 12, 2017 |
| /s/ | William L. Butler
CEO W. L. Butler Construction, Inc. | January 12, 2017 |
| /s/ | Erika Demma
Real Estate Agent Coldwell Banker | January 12, 2017 |

No Argument Against Measure Z Submitted



Accessible Voting

in San Mateo County

In order to ensure that every citizen can vote privately, securely and independently, the San Mateo County Registration & Elections Division offers many options for people to cast their vote. Voters may Vote by Mail, Vote In Person or vote via our Mobile Voting Center.

Voter Information

Information regarding this election is available here in print, electronically as a PDF and through a screen readable link at www.shapethefuture.org/MyElectionMaterials.

Vote by Mail

Voters must sign the return envelope so it can be compared to the voter's signature on file in accordance with state law. Voters who currently cannot sign the return envelope have three alternatives:

1. The voter can use his or her authorized signature stamp;
2. The voter can make his or her "mark" or print an "X". Then, a witness must write "Witnessed by:" and sign near the mark; or
3. The voter can re-register with their new signature or mark so that the voter registration record has the voter's most recent signature.

Assistance Available in Person

Voters have access to English, Chinese and Spanish language ballots on all eSlate Voting Machines. The eSlate Disabled Access Unit has an integrated audio ballot reader, accessibility buttons (tactile input switches) and an input jack which may be used for a personal sip-and-puff device. Voters may bring up to two people, including Elections Division staff into the voting booth for assistance. Voters may not bring an employer or union agent.



Voting Center at the Registration & Elections Division at 40 Tower Road, San Mateo

- Accessible for voting under federal and state regulations and guidelines.
- March 6 to April 3, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Election Day: April 4, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Mobile Voting Center – For voters who are unable to vote at the Voting Center nor on a Vote by Mail ballot

- We can help arrange a ride to a voting location or set up an accessible eSlate voting machine at a convenient location inside or outside a home.
- Service is available March 6 to April 4, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
- Service is by appointment only. Voters who contact us Monday through Thursday will receive service the following day or sooner. Voters who contact us on Fridays can schedule an appointment for the following Monday or sooner if possible.

*Special accommodations can be made for service outside established hours.

- To schedule an appointment, call 888.SMC.VOTE (888.762.8683) or email us at registrar@smcare.org no later than the day before the desired voting date.



Sample Ballot 12000010100011



**SAMPLE BALLOT
SPECIAL ELECTION
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
April 04, 2017**

1

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:

Use a black or blue ink pen to mark your choice on the ballot. To vote for your choice in this contest, completely fill in the box provided to the left of your choice.

**MEASURE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS
SCHOOL**

**WOODSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE Z**

"To maintain and enhance academic excellence at Woodside School through emphasis on quality instruction, especially in math, science, reading and writing, attracting/ retaining outstanding teachers/ maintaining small class sizes, shall the Woodside Elementary School District extend its existing annual school tax without increasing the current rate of \$290.00 per parcel each year for eight years, adjusted annually, with independent citizens' oversight, an exemption for those 65 years and older, and all funds spent only in Woodside School?"

- YES
- NO

Sample Ballot

2663031114





Sample Ballot12000010200018



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2663031114

Sample Ballot