



SAMPLE BALLOT

& Official Voter Information Pamphlet

Menlo Park City Elementary School District Special Election

2017

Tuesday, March 7

To request a copy of this pamphlet in an accessible format, please contact our office: 1.650.312.5222

Si usted desea recibir su Folleto de Información Oficial para el Votante en español o en un formato accesible, por favor llame a nuestra oficina al 1.888.SMC.VOTE (1.888.762.8683)

如果您希望收到以簡易的格式的中文選票樣本以及正式選民資料手冊，請致電我們的辦公室：1.888.SMC.VOTE (1.888.762.8683)

Check your polling place location on the back cover

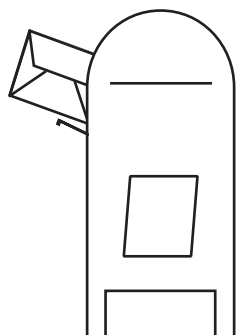
This official election information is compiled and distributed by the
Office of Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder
40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402 | phone 1.650.312.5222

Follow us on twitter @smcvote | www.shapethefuture.org





Vote by Mail



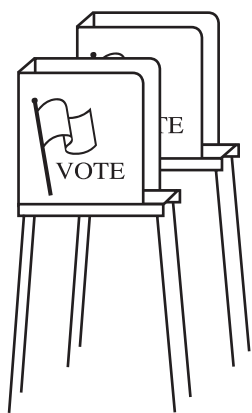
You may vote by mail! You may vote from home! It's Easy!

Ballots will be mailed between February 6 and February 28.

- Request a ballot on www.shapethefuture.org or use the form on the back cover. There is no need to reapply if you are a permanent Vote by Mail voter. Your permanent Vote by Mail status is printed on the back of this pamphlet.
- Verify your voting status on our website www.shapethefuture.org/MyElectionMaterials/
- Return your ballot on or before Election Day, March 7. You can also drop your ballot off at the Town Hall in Atherton, the City Hall in Menlo Park, the Voting Center or any open polling place.

Mailed ballots postmarked on or before Election Day will be accepted if they are received by March 10.

Vote Early in Person



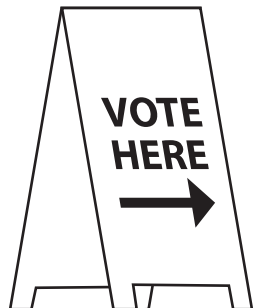
You may vote early at the Voting Center using an eSlate voting machine or obtain a Vote by Mail ballot.

February 6 to March 6, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
March 4, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Registration & Elections Division
Office of Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder
40 Tower Road, San Mateo

Voters with disabilities who are not able to vote at their polling place or at the Voting Center, can vote privately and independently by making an appointment for our Mobile Voting Center service. For more information, go to www.shapethefuture.org/resources/voterassistance. For an appointment, please call 1.650.312.5222.

Vote at the Polls



You may vote at your assigned polling place or the Voting Center on Election Day.

Polling places and the Voting Center are open March 7, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You must be in line to vote no later than 8 p.m.

The location of your polling place is printed on the back cover of this pamphlet.

Or, you can look up your polling place:

- Online: www.shapethefuture.org
- By calling 1.888.SMC.VOTE (1.888.762.8683)



Web Resources

www.shapethefuture.org

Official San Mateo County Registration & Elections Division website. Features information on this election, voter registration, polling place locations, Election Officers and election results.

www.votersedge.org/ca

Collaborative elections website managed by the California League of Women Voters. Features measure information submitted by the sponsors of the measure.



Telephone Numbers

Election Questions	General information number	1.650.312.5222
Elections Fax	General fax number	1.650.312.5348
Language Assistance	Toll-free trilingual general information (English, Spanish and Chinese)	1.888.762.8683
Telecommunications Relay Service	Assistive telephone relay service for people with impaired hearing	711
Election Officer Information	Information regarding Election Officer applications, training, and Election Day assignments	1.650.286.2810
Provisional Voter Assistance	Toll-free information about provisional voting Beginning 29 days after the election, you may call to find out if your provisional ballot was counted.	1.866.830.8683

Chinese and Spanish Election Materials

In San Mateo County, we comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act, which guarantees that voters can receive their election materials in Chinese or Spanish.

To receive this Voter Information Pamphlet and other election materials in Chinese or Spanish, call the Registration & Elections Division toll-free number at 1.888.762.8683 or email registrar@smcare.org.

Vote en Español

En el Condado de San Mateo acatamos la Ley Federal de Derechos de Votación, la cual garantiza que los votantes puedan recibir sus materiales electorales en chino o español.

Para recibir este Folleto Informativo del Votante y otros materiales electorales en chino o español, llame gratis a la División de Registros y Elecciones al 1.888.762.8683 o envíe un correo electrónico a registrar@smcare.org.

用中文投票

在聖馬刁縣(San Mateo County)，我們堅持執行聯邦選舉權法案，保證選民可以收到他們的中文和西班牙文的選舉材料。

任何選民想要收到中文或西班牙文的選民資料手冊以及其他選舉材料，可以致電登記註冊及選務處免費電話1.888.762.8683或電郵registrar@smcare.org。

Voting Accessibility



If your Election Day polling place is inaccessible to you, you may request curbside voting assistance.

If you are unable to mark your Vote by Mail ballot privately and independently, you may request our Mobile Voting Center service for people with disabilities.

For more information, call 1.650.312.5222 or email registrar@smcare.org.



eSlate Voting Machine Instructions

The eSlate voting machines are available at the Voting Center during the 29-day voting period prior to Election Day; and at your polling place and the Voting Center on Election Day. These voting machines allow everyone to vote privately and independently. The eSlate records your votes electronically and on paper for you to confirm your choices.



The eSlate voting machines allow almost everyone to vote privately and independently. The "Disabled Access Unit" has an audio ballot, accessibility buttons (tactile input switches) and an input jack for a sip-and-puff device.

1. Select a Language

- Turn the **SELECT** wheel to highlight your language choice, then press **ENTER**.



2. Enter the Access Code

- Turn the **SELECT** wheel to highlight the first number of your Access Code (given by an Election Officer), then press **ENTER**. Repeat for each number of the Access Code.



3. Make your Choices

- Turn the **SELECT** wheel through the instructions to get to the ballot.
- Highlight your choice(s) for each contest and press **ENTER**.
- Repeat for all contests.



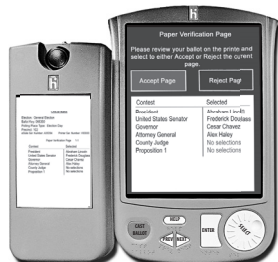
4. Review your Choices

- When finished, review the **Ballot Summary Page**.
- When the page shows your choices, press the **CAST BALLOT** button. The printer will print a paper copy.



5. Verify your Choices

- Compare the paper record with the onscreen summary. If the summary is correct, highlight **Accept** and press **ENTER**.
- If the summary is not correct, highlight **Reject** and press **ENTER**, to make changes.



6. Cast your Ballot

- When all your choices display correctly, press the **CAST BALLOT** button to complete the voting process and record your votes.

When you see the waving American flag or you hear "Your vote has been recorded" on the audio headset, your vote is cast.



Menlo Park City Elementary School District

Measure X

To protect outstanding public schools; retain high-quality teachers, excellent programs, and reasonable class size; avoid teacher layoffs; and sustain property values, shall the Menlo Park City School District replace its expiring parcel tax at the new rate of \$360 expiring after seven years, adjusted annually for inflation, raising \$2.83 million annually to be spent only on teachers and essential educational programs at Encinal, Laurel, Oak Knoll, and Hillview schools with independent oversight, annual audit, and senior exemption?

Full Text

Menlo Park City Elementary School District Excellence in Education Act

This Measure may be known and referred to as the “Menlo Park City Elementary School District Excellence in Education Act.”

FINDINGS

The Board of Education of the Menlo Park City Elementary School District (the “District”) believes an excellent comprehensive education is the foundation of a thriving community. As a locally funded and controlled district, the citizens determine the quality of our local schools based on our community values. To provide the education our community expects and deserves, the District has established the goals of preserving class sizes, retaining and employing exemplary teachers, and maintaining high quality educational programs such as science, art, music, and library for all students.

The District will experience steep reductions in local revenue for the 2017-18 school year and in subsequent years with the expiration of a local educational parcel tax (“Measure C”) on June 30, 2017. Measure C, overwhelmingly approved by voters in 2010, provided funds to offset deep state cuts to education and growing enrollment. The \$207 per parcel that the district receives in Measure C’s final year (2016-17) totals \$1.6 million.

Rather than decline or even plateau, the District’s enrollment continues to increase beyond anticipated levels. Since the 2010 passage of Measure C, enrollment at Encinal, Laurel, Oak Knoll, and Hillview has risen over 18%. Enrollment in our district schools is projected to increase by at least 10% over the next eight years. Additionally, cuts the state made to schools during the national economic downturn have not been restored to districts like Menlo Park

Complicating the District’s financial planning, the State of California has forced all public school districts to double the rate of pension contribution paid for by the local district. By the year 2020, the District will be required to pay \$3 million more per year than it paid in 2015. This increase is a result of the state’s move to extend the solvency of the state-controlled pension system. Neither the district staff, nor the Board, has the ability to control this requirement. The District must now budget in perpetuity for the increase in its pension contribution.

The Board of Education does not expect additional continuing funds from state, local, or other sources to become available in an amount sufficient to protect reasonable class sizes, high quality teachers, and comprehensive educational programs currently provided by Measure C. Recent shifts in the state’s approach to school funding require communities like Menlo Park and Atherton to shoulder an ever-larger share of funding for their local schools, and this condition will not change in the foreseeable future.

The Board of Education and District staff value all community members’ input and engaged in a months-long public process of dialogue with the community around balancing the level of local funding the schools need to maintain their quality with what the community supports. Outreach included at least 20 articles published in local papers, meeting notices in The Almanac and on local social media, 500+ attendees to 5 Board meetings and 3 public input sessions, 469 online input forms submitted and read, 80+ speakers during public comment, 18,000 MPCSD residents invited to complete community survey, and 1000s of hours of staff and volunteer time. The District also assessed the lessons learned from the many successful community support efforts, as

well as the one that did not garner the supermajority necessary for passage. The overwhelming message from a range of stakeholders is clear—*the community values its schools and, with fiscal responsibility and clarity of purpose, wants to do whatever it takes to protect quality teachers and programs.*

The amount of increase the Board is requesting from voters will not prevent all cuts from being made; but if voters approve this measure, the district can maintain reasonable class sizes, librarians, science aides, credentialed art teachers at all schools, and a comprehensive elective offering at Hillview Middle School. While these additional revenues will ensure the District can retain excellent teachers, valued programs, and the District’s 10-15% reserve fund in the short to medium term, the District Board and staff will partner with the community to establish an even longer-term financial plan.

Therefore, the Board of Education determined that in order to meet these extraordinary challenges and to maintain excellent schools in the District, it is necessary to replace Measure C at the new rate of \$360, resulting in an overall parcel tax increase of \$153 per parcel from the current rate of \$207, adjusted annually for inflation. The Board believes this measure is a reflection of the community’s shared value of providing the strongest possible education to its children through partnership with the District.

TERMS

To protect outstanding public schools; retain high-quality teachers, excellent programs, and reasonable class size; avoid teacher layoffs; and, sustain property values, shall the Menlo Park City School District replace its expiring parcel tax at the new rate of \$360 expiring after seven years, adjusted annually for inflation, raising \$2.83 million annually to be spent only on teachers and essential educational programs at Encinal, Laurel, Oak Knoll, and Hillview schools with independent oversight, annual audit, and exemption for Seniors?

Proceeds of the Menlo Park City Elementary School District Excellence in Education Act shall be authorized to be used to provide financial support to school programs directly benefiting students, as follows:

- to retain and attract excellent classroom teachers;
- to maintain reasonable student to teacher ratios;
- to preserve comprehensive educational programs such as science, art, music, and library; and
- to provide other supplemental financial support to the extent of the available funds to purchase instructional equipment, supplies, and materials for classroom instruction.

No proceeds shall be spent on direct or indirect costs of District administration.

Proceeds shall be fairly and equitably distributed across all schools and students, as the Board of Education of the District shall determine.

A. Amount and Basis of Tax

This Measure shall authorize the District to levy a special tax of \$360 per Parcel of Taxable Real Property beginning July 1, 2017, and continuing for a period of seven (7) years. The District shall provide the County of San Mateo Treasurer-Tax Collector (“County Tax Collector”) a report indicating the parcel number and amount of tax for each Parcel of Taxable Real Property.

This special tax is estimated to raise \$2.83 million in annual local funding for District schools. The amount of annual local

Menlo Park City Elementary School District

funding raised by this special tax may vary from year to year due to changes in the number of parcels exempted from the levy and adjustment for inflation.

“Parcel of Taxable Real Property” is defined as any unit of real property in the District that receives a separate tax bill for ad valorem property taxes from the County Tax Collector’s Office. All property that is otherwise exempt from or upon which no ad valorem property taxes are levied in any year shall also be exempt from the special tax in such year.

To account for the impact of inflation on the cost of delivering the classroom programs and student services supported by the Measure, the amount of the qualified special tax shall be adjusted annually, commencing with the tax levied in the 2018-19 tax year, for inflation by the change in the “Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers San Francisco–Oakland–San Jose (1982-84=100)” published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In the event this index is no longer published, the Board shall adopt a comparable index of general price levels, as it shall reasonably determine. The Board shall cause the tax to be levied at the adjusted amount, or at such lesser amount in any year in which the Board deems such reduced amount sufficient and appropriate to meet the District’s budgetary needs, or believes such reduced amount is appropriate in reaction to State budget changes.

B. Exemptions

Upon application and pursuant to any procedures adopted by the District, an exemption from payment of the special tax may be granted on any parcel owned by one or more persons:

- a) Sixty-five years of age or over who occupies said parcel as a principal residence; or,
- b) Receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age, who occupies said parcel as a principal residence; 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, who occupies said parcel as a principal residence.

Exemptions may be granted based on a one-time application and exemptions granted under prior special taxes levied by the District will not require re-approval, subject to the District’s right to verify a property owner’s continuing qualification for exemption.

C. Claims / Exemption Procedures

With respect to all general property tax matters within its jurisdiction, the County Tax Collector or other appropriate County tax official 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 tax, including exemptions provided above, the application of the definition of “Parcel of Taxable Property” to any parcel(s), the legality or validity of the special tax, or any other disputed matter specific to the application of the special tax, the decisions of the District shall be final and binding. The procedures described herein, and any additional procedures established by the Board, shall be the exclusive claims procedure for claimants seeking an exemption, refund, reduction, or re-computation of the special tax. Whether any particular claim is to be resolved by the District or by the County shall be determined by the District, in coordination with the County as necessary.

D. Accountability Provisions

1. Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee. The Board shall provide for an independent citizens’ oversight committee to review the Annual Audit and other records of how monies raised under this Measure have been spent only for the purposes named in this Measure. The Board shall establish, and may revise, requirements regarding the composition,

duties, funding, and other necessary information regarding the committee’s operation and shall have the option to assign these duties to the already existing Finance and Audit Committee of the Board.

2. Annual Audit. Upon the levy and collection of the qualified special tax, the Board shall cause an account to be established for deposit of the proceeds, pursuant to Government Code section 50075.1. For so long as any proceeds remain unexpended, the Superintendent or the chief financial officer of the District shall cause a report to be filed with the Board no later than December 31 of each year, commencing December 31, 2017, stating (1) the amount collected and expended in such year, and (2) the status of any projects or description of any programs funded. The costs of preparing the annual report may be paid from the proceeds of the parcel tax. The report may relate to the calendar year, fiscal year, or other appropriate annual period, as said officer shall determine, and may be incorporated into or filed with the annual budget, audit, or other appropriate routine report to the Board.

3. Specific Purposes. All of the purposes named in this Measure shall constitute the specific purposes of the Measure, and proceeds of the tax shall be applied only for such purposes.

E. Appropriations Limit

Pursuant to California Constitution Article XIII B and applicable laws, the appropriations limit for the District will be adjusted periodically by the aggregate sum collected by levy of this special tax. This provision shall be deemed to be declaratory of existing procedures governing District expenditures.

F. Protection of Funding

Current law forbids any decrease in State or federal funding to the District resulting from the adoption of a special tax. However, if any such funding is reduced or affected because of the adoption of this local funding measure, then the Board may reduce the amount of the special taxes levied as necessary in order to restore such State or federal funding and/or maximize the District’s fiscal position for the benefit of the educational program. As a result, whether directly or indirectly, no funding from this measure may be taken away by the State or federal governments.

G. Severability

The Board hereby declares, and the voters by approving this measure concur, that every section, paragraph, sentence and clause of this measure has independent value, and the Board and the voters would have adopted each provision hereof regardless of every other provision hereof. Upon approval of this measure by the voters, should any part be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, all remaining parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Menlo Park City Elementary School District

Impartial Analysis of Measure X

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 Menlo Park City Elementary School District (the “District”) currently has an annual parcel tax of \$207 per parcel adopted in 2010 that will expire June 30, 2017. By this measure, the District’s Board of Education proposes to renew and increase a special tax on parcels in the District that would raise funds to support various educational purposes outlined below. If this measure is approved, an annual tax of \$360 per parcel, adjusted annually for inflation, would be imposed starting on July 1, 2017, for a period of seven years, with the tax ending June 30, 2024.

The proposed tax applies to any unit of real property in the District that receives a separate property tax bill from San Mateo County tax collection officials. Any individual who owns and occupies a parcel as a principal 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.

The stated purposes of the parcel tax are to: retain and attract excellent classroom teachers; maintain reasonable student-to-teacher ratios; preserve comprehensive education programs such as science, art, music, and library; provide other supplemental financial support to purchase instructional equipment, supplies, and materials for classroom instruction; and maintain a comprehensive elective offering at Hillview Middle School. Proceeds shall be used for programs at Encinal School, Laurel School, Oak Knoll School, and Hillview Middle School and shall be fairly and equitably distributed across all schools and students as determined by the District’s governing board. No proceeds may be spent on direct or indirect costs of District administration.

The proceeds of the parcel tax will be placed into a special account. An annual report accounting for parcel tax revenues collected and expended and the status of projects or programs funded by the tax will be filed with the Board of Education. An independent citizens’ oversight committee will be appointed to review the 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 \$360 per taxable parcel, adjusted annually, on property within the District for a period of seven 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 \$207 per parcel expiring without replacement on June 30, 2017.

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

This half page intentionally left blank

Menlo Park City Elementary School District

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

Argument in Favor of Measure X	Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure X
<p>The Menlo Park City School District (MPCSD) has some of the best K-8 schools in California - Laurel, Encinal, Oak Knoll and Hillview - with talented, dedicated teachers and staff. California state funding for education is near the bottom nationwide, and MPCSD's high-quality education is only possible due to our community's support and commitment. Our local parcel taxes provide 15% of the funding for our district, and one of these parcel taxes will expire in June. The loss of this funding, along with increasing state obligations and enrollment, will generate a budget deficit of over \$5 million in five years.</p> <p>To preserve high-quality education and continue to invest in our future, we must approve this critical parcel tax.</p> <p>Without Measure X:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Expiring parcel tax funding will be lost;✓ Teacher reductions start Spring 2017;✓ Art, library, and science programs will be significantly diminished; and✓ Class sizes will increase. <p>A vote FOR Measure X will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Keep classes sizes reasonable;✓ Protect art, library, and science programs; and✓ Retain our highly qualified and experienced teachers. <p>In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Funds from Measure X can't be taken by the state. They are required by law to be used exclusively for our award-winning K-8 schools.✓ Revenue raised by Measure X will be tracked and is subject to strict fiscal controls and oversight, including independent annual audits.✓ Includes exemption for residents 65 and over. <p>Menlo Park City School District depends on this crucial funding to provide a bright future for our children and keep our property values strong. YES on Measure X means investing in our students, teachers, and the future of our community.</p> <p>For more information go to SupportMenloParkSchools.org.</p> <p>Please vote YES on Measure X on March 7, 2017.</p>	<p>In May 2016, voters defeated TWO parcel taxes. Only 22.5% of registered voters supported Measure A. Only 20% supported Measure C.</p> <p>Existing parcel taxes providing 15% of district funding, and generous contributions from MPAEF and PTO's, have created schools which go far beyond basics. Bonded indebtedness of \$131,000,000 approved by voters has added to the grandiosity of MPCSD schools. Voters do not need to raise taxes because the District is already collecting far more than necessary to provide more than basic education.</p> <p>The state has an obligation to provide equal education to everybody. MPCSD tells voters they can have better schools than their neighbors if they increase taxes. This is wrong. Every child is entitled to equal education no matter what school the government forces her to go to. Eventually, the state must adjust funding to approach equality. Because MPCSD could stop the tax, they claim the state cannot take money away.</p> <p>A NO vote allows one existing tax to expire, still leaving \$684 in parcel taxes having NO expiration date. Proponents claim a \$5,000,000 budget deficit will result. Wrong! The district has plans to prevent that from happening.</p> <p>Proponents claim this tax will be subject to "oversight". But their similar bond oversight committee has 4 VACANCIES out of 7 members!</p> <p>Political consultants hired by the district, crafted ballot language to elicit voter approval. The phrase "replace its expiring parcel tax at the new rate of \$360..." recommended by those consultants, DELIBERATELY hide \$153 increase!</p> <p>Vote NO on Measure X!</p>
	<p>/s/ John J. Jack Hickey December 27, 2016 Member, Libertarian Party San Mateo County</p> <p>/s/ Harland Harrison December 27, 2016 Chair Libertarian Party of San Mateo County CA</p>
<p>/s/ David Ackerman December 12, 2016 Retired Principal</p> <p>/s/ Caroline Lucas December 15, 2016 Educator</p> <p>/s/ Sarah Cueva December 11, 2016 Pediatrician</p> <p>/s/ Charlot Singleton December 11, 2016 Community Volunteer</p> <p>/s/ Mark Box December 11, 2016 Investor</p>	

Menlo Park City Elementary School District

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

Argument Against Measure X	Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure X
<p>In May 2016, the Menlo Park City School District (MPCSD) placed TWO parcel taxes on an all-mail ballot. They BOTH FAILED.</p> <p>Proponents blamed the 2/3 vote requirement for their loss, but the 2/3 vote protects property owners from the whims of short-sighted alarmists. Lowering the 2/3 requirement for school bonds has created a massive increase in bonded indebtedness and our children will be stuck with the bill.</p> <p>Now, only 10 months after losing two tax measures, MPCSD returned in this off-year election. This time, a YES vote would raise their CPI adjusted “take” to about \$1,044 per parcel. Voting NO would allow that total to drop to around \$684.</p> <p>MPCSD does not need any more taxes and has budget plans which do not require them. The 1% General Property Tax already includes taxes for MPCSD. <i>Parcel taxes</i> are levied <i>above</i> that 1% tax, as are the additional taxes servicing over \$130,000,000 bonded indebtedness of MPCSD.</p> <p>Californians pay plenty for education. Nearly half of all general fund taxes in California are spent on education. Then, there are State “on behalf” payments, (from our taxes), to service bonds providing “matching funds” to the District. Voters already authorized bonds for MPCSD, for \$91.1 million in 2006 and \$23 million in 2013. If you choose to vote NO on this parcel tax, don’t let anyone accuse you of not supporting education!</p> <p>If school districts in California face budget problems, blame the unfunded liabilities in California’s “defined benefit” pension plans, CalPERS and CalSTRS. People in the private sector saw retirement plans devastated by the financial meltdown in 2008, but not public employees. Government should solve its long-term problem of pension funds, instead of continually asking for tax increases.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Menlo Park City School District can continue to provide an above average education with their existing revenue. Vote NO on another parcel tax.</p>	<p>Menlo Park schools face serious financial challenges. Critical funding from an existing, voter-approved parcel tax will expire in June. Without Measure X our District’s annual budget deficit will grow to \$5 million in five years.</p> <p>Our schools need Measure X to prevent teacher layoffs; maintain reasonable class sizes; and preserve our science, art, and library programs.</p> <p>Some argue that California spends too much on education. In fact, California is ranked #35 nationwide in spending per student. Given state school funding allocations, communities like ours depend on parcel taxes to supplement school budgets. Our local parcel taxes represent 15% of MPCSD’s funding.</p> <p>Even with these taxes, MPCSD spends less per pupil than comparably high-performing districts nearby. Nationwide, well-funded affluent districts spend up to twice our amount per student.</p> <p>To minimize taxes, our Superintendent has proposed \$2 million in budget cuts. Together with Measure X, the cuts reflect a multi-year plan for financial stability that preserves our educational programs, meets state-mandated obligations, and maintains required reserves.</p> <p>This plan is the result of an exhaustive, months-long public dialogue and budget review. Over 2,500 members of the public participated.</p> <p>Our community has always supported education. Thriving local schools make our neighborhoods stronger, more vibrant and connected. We must continue to invest in our young minds, maintain our property values, and ensure our community’s future.</p> <p>Vote YES on Measure X to renew our commitment to Encinal School, Laurel School, Oak Knoll School, and Hillview Middle School.</p>
<p>/s/ John J. Jack Hickey December 15, 2016 Member, Libertarian Party of San Mateo County CA</p> <p>/s/ Harland Harrison December 15, 2016 Chair, Libertarian Party of San Mateo County CA</p>	<p>/s/ Rebecca Bloom December 19, 2016 former benefits and compensation attorney</p> <p>/s/ Sherwin Chen December 20, 2016 MPCSD Finance and Audit Committee Member</p> <p>/s/ Veronica Kogler December 20, 2016 Realtor</p> <p>/s/ Jeffrey Child December 21, 2016 Former MPCSD Trustee</p> <p>/s/ Victor Vuchic December 22, 2016 Education Researcher</p>



Sample Ballot 12000010100011



**SAMPLE BALLOT
SPECIAL ELECTION
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
March 07, 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**

**MENLO PARK CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE X**

To protect outstanding public schools; retain high-quality teachers, excellent programs, and reasonable class size; avoid teacher layoffs; and sustain property values, shall the Menlo Park City School District replace its expiring parcel tax at the new rate of \$360 expiring after seven years, adjusted annually for inflation, raising \$2.83 million annually to be spent only on teachers and essential educational programs at Encinal, Laurel, Oak Knoll, and Hillview schools with independent oversight, annual audit, and senior exemption?

- YES
- NO

Sample Ballot

2513031187

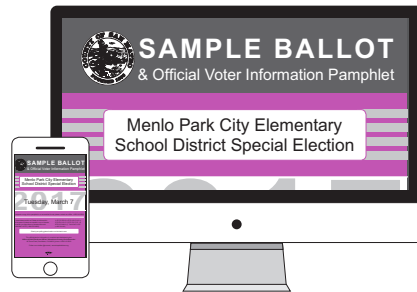


Want to get this pamphlet on your mobile phone?

Want to zoom in to read this on your computer?

Next time, you don't have to wait for the mail – get the web link as soon as the pamphlet is available.

Join the more than 45,000 voters currently signed up to Go Green! and help save taxpayer dollars.



To sign up:

- Click **“Go Green! Get My Future Voter Pamphlet Online”** on www.shapethefuture.org and complete the form, or
- Mark the box **“I want to Go Green!”** on the postcard on the back of this pamphlet. Mail the postcard to us.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sign me up to Vote by Mail for only this election (become a One-Time Vote by Mail voter).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sign me up to Vote by Mail in every election (become a Permanent Vote by Mail voter).
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I want to Go Green! Sign me up to get my voter pamphlet online for future elections. Email (optional and will remain confidential)
janedoe @ email.com	
<small>If you sign up to get your voter pamphlet online, we will send you an email with a link to your voter pamphlet.</small>	

You can access the Voter Pamphlet from shapethefuture.org. If you provide your email address, we will send you a link to the pamphlet when it is ready. The email address you provide for this purpose is confidential.

SEPARATE HERE

SEPARATE HERE



PLACE FOREVER STAMP or 49¢ POSTAGE HERE



Your signature is required to sign up to Vote by Mail

Mark Church
 Chief Elections Officer
 San Mateo County
 Registration & Elections Division
 P.O. Box 5870
 San Mateo CA 94402-5870



San Mateo County
 Registration & Elections Division
 40 Tower Road
 San Mateo CA 94402-4098

NONPROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 REDWOOD CITY, CA
 PERMIT NO. 451



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

→ POSTMASTER DELIVER TO:

**Special Election
 March 7, 2017**

Call 1.888.SMC.VOTE
 (1.888.762.8683) for information
 about accessible voting options.



Your polling place is accessible
 under state and federal law.

*Polling places change.
 Has yours?*

Your Polling Place Location

▼ SEPARATE HERE

For more information: www.shapethefuture.org or 1.650.312.5222.

SEPARATE HERE ▼

▶▶▶
Sign Up to Vote by Mail

Send this form to the Registration & Elections Division on or before February 28, 2017 via mail, email (registrar@smcare.org) or fax (1.650.312.5348).

Permanent Vote by Mail voters do not need to reapply. See bottom right corner.

1	Name	Birthdate (optional)
2	Your residence street address in San Mateo County (Do not use P.O. Box or Mailing Address)	
3	Mailing address where you want to receive your ballot if different from your residence	

Sign me up to Vote by Mail for only this election (become a One-Time Vote by Mail voter).
 Sign me up to Vote by Mail in every election (become a Permanent Vote by Mail voter).
 I want to Go Green! Sign me up to get my voter pamphlet online for future elections. Email (optional and will remain confidential)

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that the information above is true and correct.

4 **Sign Here** (Signature as registered)

X

Date

If you see the words PERMANENT VOTE BY MAIL VOTER below, you do not need to return this postcard.

@

If you sign up to get your voter pamphlet online, we will send you an email with a link to your voter pamphlet.