



COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

**Sample Ballot and
Voter Information Pamphlet**

**Special Vote by Mail
Election**

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2011



OFFICIAL BALLOT
ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
MAY 3, 2011 SPECIAL VOTE BY MAIL ELECTION

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: USE BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PEN ONLY.

To vote on any measure, **complete the arrow**  after the word "Yes" or "No."

Sample Ballot

MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

SCHOOL

B To protect local schools from state budget cuts and provide stable local funding that cannot be taken by the state – to preserve quality instructional time for students, maintain educational and after-school activities, and minimize increases in class sizes and reductions to the school year – shall the New Haven Unified School District levy a tax, \$180 per parcel for four years, with exemptions for seniors and disabled, citizen oversight, no money for administrators' salaries and all funds staying local?

YES  
NO  

Sample Ballot

|

BT:1

CA01-1-424600-1-0001

■ ■

OFFICIAL BALLOT
ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
MAY 3, 2011 SPECIAL VOTE BY MAIL ELECTION

Sample Ballot

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: USE BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PEN ONLY.

To vote on any measure, **complete the arrow**  after the word "Yes" or "No."

MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

SCHOOL

E "To protect local schools from State budget cuts, provide local funding that cannot be taken away by the State, and preserve quality education by:

- Emphasizing core academic instruction in math, science and reading,
- Attracting and retaining highly-qualified teachers,
- Supporting specialized science and reading instruction,
- Supporting school libraries, and

Sample Ballot

- Minimizing class size increases,

shall Pleasanton Unified School District levy \$98 per parcel annually for four years, with a senior exemption, independent oversight and no money for administrators' salaries?"

YES	←	■
NO	←	■



BT:2

CA01-1-520240-2-0002



NEW HAVEN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEASURE B

<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">B To protect local schools from state budget cuts and provide stable local funding that cannot be taken by the state - to preserve quality instructional time for students, maintain educational and after-school activities, and minimize increases in class sizes and reductions to the school year - shall the New Haven Unified School District levy a tax, \$180 per parcel for four years, with exemptions for seniors and disabled, citizen oversight, no money for administrators' salaries and all funds staying local?</p>	YES
	NO

classes and reductions to the school year. The measure further provides that the monies collected shall be accounted for separately and expended only for those specified purposes. The measure provides for an independent citizens' oversight committee and revenue and expenditure reports.

If two-thirds of the qualified electors voting on this measure do not vote for approval, the measure will fail, and the District will not be authorized to levy the special tax outlined above.

s/RICHARD E. WINNIE
County Counsel

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure B, which is printed in full in this sample ballot pamphlet. If you desire an additional copy of the measure, please call the Elections Official's office at (510) 272-6933 and a copy will be mailed to you at no cost.

COUNTY COUNSEL'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE B

ANALYSIS BY THE COUNTY COUNSEL OF A NEW HAVEN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL PARCEL TAX MEASURE

Measure B, a New Haven Unified School District ("District") special parcel tax measure, seeks voter approval to authorize the District to levy an annual special parcel tax on each parcel of taxable real property for four years, beginning July 1, 2011.

School districts have the authority to levy special taxes upon approval by two-thirds of the votes cast on special tax measures pursuant to Article XIII A, Section 4 and Article XIII C, Section 2 of the California Constitution and sections 50075-50077, 50079, and 53722 of the California Government Code.

If two-thirds of the qualified electors voting on this measure vote for approval, the District will impose a special tax on all parcels of taxable real property annually for four years. The tax rate will be \$180.00 (one hundred eighty dollars) per year per parcel.

The Alameda County Treasurer-Tax Collector will collect the tax at the same time and in the same manner as *ad valorem* property taxes. Upon application to the District, the District may grant an exemption to certain individuals who own a beneficial interest in the parcel and occupy the parcel as his or her principal place of residence. These individuals include anyone who is 65 years of age or older (by July 1 of the tax year) or anyone receiving Supplemental Social Security Income for a disability. These individuals must apply annually to the District for the exemption. All property that the Alameda County Treasurer-Tax Collector has determined to be otherwise exempt from or on which are levied no *ad valorem* property taxes in any year shall also be exempt.

If the measure passes, the funding revenue will be used for the specific purposes set forth in the full text of the measure printed in this sample ballot, including: preserving instructional time for students; maintaining educational and after-school activities; and minimizing increases in

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B

Parents, New Haven Teachers, and Civic Leaders urge a YES VOTE on Measure B to protect our neighborhood schools and classrooms from devastating cuts.

Due to the continuing State budget crisis, our schools are facing a new round of cuts – deeper cuts than ever before. New Haven schools could lose an additional \$10 million in funding – the equivalent of 137 teachers.

These reductions come on top of deep cuts already made, including school closures and elimination of over 50 teachers, library aides, counselors and student support staff over the past 3 years. While every effort has been made to keep cuts away from classrooms, the next round of cuts will devastate our local schools.

Measure B won't prevent all cuts in our local schools, *but it will help significantly.*

Measure B authorizes a temporary school parcel tax of \$15 per month to:

- Minimize layoffs of qualified and experienced teachers
- Maintain manageable K-3 class sizes to give young children more time with their teachers
- Minimize reductions to the school year
- Maintain programs that prepare students for college and good jobs
- Protect after-school music, arts and athletics programs that support student learning and help keep children safe from gangs, crime and violence.

ALL funds raised by Measure B will stay local, protecting our children's future.

By law, Measure B funds **cannot** be taken away by the State or spent on administrator salaries. An independent Citizens' Oversight Committee will monitor expenditures to ensure funds are spent as promised. Measure B will last 4 years ONLY. It can't be extended without a vote of the people.

Exemptions will be available to ensure Measure B won't burden senior citizens or disabled residents on fixed incomes.

Take a positive step to protect New Haven children from devastating school cuts.

Please - VOTE YES on B.

s/Mark Green
Union City Mayor

s/Cindy Brewer
Teacher/Lifelong Decoto Resident

s/Mattie F. Rousseau
40-Year Union City Resident

s/Gertrude Q. Gregorio
Former School Board Member

s/Frank Borghi
Lifelong Resident/Retired

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE B WAS SUBMITTED.

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE B
EXHIBIT A
NEW HAVEN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
TAKING CARE OF OUR KIDS
PARCEL TAX MEASURE

This Measure may be known and referred to as the "Taking Care of Our Kids Parcel Tax Measure" or as "Measure B"

FINDINGS

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the New Haven Unified School District (the "Board of Education") believes that a qualified special tax is necessary to support high academic achievement for all students of the New Haven Unified School District (the "District"); and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and Sections 50075, 50076, 50077, 50079 and 53722 *et seq.* of the California Government Code, authorize a school district, upon approval of two-thirds of the electorate voting on the measure, to levy a qualified special tax for specified purposes following notice and a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, repeated reductions in funding in recent years from the State of California ("State") for schools have forced the District to reduce its budget from a high of more than \$112 million in 2007-08 to less than \$99 million in 2010-11; and

WHEREAS, State and Federal funding have been inadequate and uncertain to meet the ongoing objectives of maintaining high academic achievement for all students of the District and the Board has no assurance that future State or Federal funding will permit the District to meet these objectives; and

WHEREAS, in response to these reductions and uncertainties, the Board of Education has in recent years endeavored to reduce District costs and expenses in a manner that does not adversely impact important District academic programs; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined in its best judgment that in order to support high academic achievement for all students in the District, an election is advisable and necessary to request voters to authorize a qualified special tax in the amount of \$180 per year per taxable parcel, to be collected beginning July 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has conducted a public hearing after due notice regarding the proposed authorization of the special tax, as required by law, and

Based upon these findings, provides as follows:

Article 1: TERMS OF THE TAKING CARE OF OUR KIDS PARCEL TAX MEASURE

(a) Terms and Purposes: Upon approval of two thirds of those voting on this measure, the District shall be authorized to and shall levy a qualified special tax of \$180 per year per parcel of taxable real property in the District, commencing July 1, 2011, and expiring June 30, 2015.

The qualified special tax shall be known and referred to as

the "Taking Care of Our Kids Parcel Tax Measure" or "Measure [B]" (hereinafter "Measure"). Proceeds of the Measure shall be authorized to preserve quality instructional time for students, maintain educational and after-school activities, and minimize increases in classes and reductions to the school year.

(b) Senior Citizen - Disability Exemption Available: An optional exemption from the special tax is available annually to each individual in the District who attains 65 years of age prior to July 1 of the tax year, or for each individual receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability prior to July 1 of the tax year, and who owns a beneficial interest in the parcel, and who uses that parcel as his or her principal place of residence, and who applies to the District on or before July 1 of each tax year. Any application for the exemption must be submitted to the District and must be renewed annually.

Article 2: ACCOUNTABILITY PROVISIONS

(a) Citizens' Oversight Committee: An independent citizens' oversight committee shall be appointed by the Board of Education to ensure that the proceeds from this measure are expended for the purposes described in the measure.

(b) Accountability Requirements: The members of the Board of Education, the District Superintendent, and officers of the District are hereby requested and directed, individually and collectively, to provide accountability measures pursuant to Government Code section 50075.1 that include, but are not limited to, all of the following: (i) a statement indicating the specific purposes of the qualified special tax, (ii) a requirement that the proceeds be applied only to the specific purposes identified pursuant to subsection (i), (iii) the creation of a separate special account into which the proceeds from the special taxes shall be deposited, and (iv) an annual report pursuant to Section 50075.3 of the Government Code.

(c) Annual Report: Pursuant to Section 50075.3 of the Government Code, the Board of Education directs that the Chief Financial Officer of the District file a report with the Board no later than January 1, 2012, and at least once a year thereafter for the duration of the special tax. The annual report shall contain both of the following: (i) the amount of funds collected and expended from the special taxes, and (ii) the status of any projects or programs required or authorized to be funded from the proceeds of the special taxes.

(d) Specific Purposes: All of the purposes set forth in the measure shall constitute the specific purposes of the Taking Care of Our Kids Act, and the proceeds of that special tax shall be applied only for such purposes.

Article 3: PROTECTION OF FUNDING

If the adoption of this Measure results in any decrease in State or Federal funding to the District, then the amount of the special taxes authorized by this Measure will be reduced annually as necessary in order to restore any such reduction in State or Federal funding.

Article 4: LEVY AND COLLECTION

(a) Collection: The Taking Care of Our Kids special tax shall be collected by the Alameda County Treasurer - Tax Collector (the "Tax Collector") at the same time and in the same manner and shall be subject to the same penalties as *ad valorem* property taxes collected by the Tax Collector. The collection of taxes under the Measure shall not decrease the funds available from other sources of the District in any period from the effective date hereof.

(b) Definition: "Parcel of taxable real property" as used herein shall be defined as any unit of real property in the boundaries of the New Haven Unified School District that receives a separate tax bill for *ad valorem* property taxes from the Tax Collector's Office.

(c) Exemption: All property that the Tax Collector has determined to be otherwise exempt from or on which are levied no *ad valorem* property taxes in any year shall also be exempt from the Measure in such year. The Tax Collector's determination of exemption or relief for any reason of any parcel from taxation, other than the Senior Citizen - Disability Exemption, shall be final on the taxpayer for purposes of the Measure. Taxpayers desiring to challenge the Tax Collector's determination should do so under the procedures established by the Tax Collector's Office and Section 4876.5 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code or other applicable law. Taxpayers seeking any refund of taxes paid pursuant to the Measure shall follow the procedures applicable to tax refunds pursuant to the California Revenue and Taxation Code.

(d) List of Senior Citizen - Disability Exemption: Parcels owned and occupied by individuals who are 65 years of age or older, or owned and occupied by individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, may be exempt pursuant to the Senior Citizen - Disability Exemption provisions set forth above. The District shall annually provide a list to the Tax Collector, on or before a date established by the Tax Collector of each year, of the parcels which the District has approved for the Senior Citizen - Disability Exemption as described above.

(e) Duration: The collection of taxes pursuant to this Measure shall be for four years, commencing July 1, 2011 and expiring June 30, 2015.

Article 5: 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.

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEASURE E

<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">E “To protect local schools from State budget cuts, provide local funding that cannot be taken away by the State, and preserve quality education by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasizing core academic instruction in math, science and reading, • Attracting and retaining highly-qualified teachers, • Supporting specialized science and reading instruction, • Supporting school libraries, and • Minimizing class size increases, <p>shall Pleasanton Unified School District levy \$98 per parcel annually for four years, with a senior exemption, independent oversight and no money for administrators' salaries?”</p>	YES
	NO

must apply annually to the District for the exemption by June 15 of each year. All property that is otherwise exempt from or on which are levied no *ad valorem* property taxes in any year shall also be exempt.

If the measure passes, the funding revenue will be used for the specific purposes set forth in the full text of the measure printed in this sample ballot, including: emphasizing core academic instruction; attracting and retaining highly-qualified teachers; supporting specialized science and reading instruction; etc. The measure further provides that the monies collected shall be accounted for separately and expended only for those specified purposes. The measure provides for an independent citizens' oversight committee and revenue and expenditure reports.

If two-thirds of the qualified electors voting on this measure do not vote for approval, the measure will fail, and the District will not be authorized to levy the special tax outlined above.

COUNTY COUNSEL'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE E

ANALYSIS BY THE COUNTY COUNSEL OF A PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL PARCEL TAX MEASURE

Measure E, a Pleasanton Unified School District (“District”) special parcel tax measure, seeks voter approval to authorize the District to levy an annual special parcel tax on each parcel of taxable real property for four years, beginning July 1, 2011.

School districts have the authority to levy special taxes upon approval by two-thirds of the votes cast on special tax measures pursuant to Article XIII A, Section 4 and Article XIII C, Section 2 of the California Constitution and sections 50075-50077, 50079, and 53722 of the California Government Code.

If two-thirds of the qualified electors voting on this measure vote for approval, the District will impose a special tax on all parcels of taxable real property annually for four years. The tax rate will be \$98.00 (ninety-eight dollars) per year per parcel. For purposes of this special parcel tax, “parcel” means any parcel of land that receives a separate tax bill for *ad valorem* property taxes from the Alameda County Treasurer-Tax Collector. Upon application to the District by the owner on or before June 15 of each year, certain, contiguous parcels may be treated as a single parcel.

The Alameda County Treasurer-Tax Collector will collect the tax at the same time and in the same manner as *ad valorem* property taxes. Upon application to the District, the District may grant an exemption to certain owners of a parcel used solely for owner-occupied, single-family residential purposes. These individuals include anyone who is 65 years of age or older or anyone receiving Supplemental Social Security Income for a disability. These individuals

s/RICHARD E. WINNIE
County Counsel

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure E, which is printed in full in this sample ballot pamphlet. If you desire an additional copy of the measure, please call the Elections Official's office at (510) 272-6933 and a copy will be mailed to you at no cost.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE E

We are fortunate to have outstanding schools in Pleasanton. Student test scores exceed standards for excellence and over 90% of our students go on to college. Good schools attract families to Pleasanton, creating demand for our homes and protecting property values.

To remain among the best, Pleasanton schools need stable funding that cannot be taken away by Sacramento. State funding has been reduced by \$19.4 million, requiring deep cuts to academic programs, including reduced reading and math support for students and increased class sizes. The school district has eliminated 67 teachers, 25 school staff and 17 administrators. With millions in new state cuts looming, we cannot allow our high-performing schools to decline.

Measure E will not prevent all of the cuts, but will prevent the most devastating by providing stable and predictable funding to:

- Emphasize core academic instruction that improves math, science and reading skills
- Attract and retain highly-qualified teachers
- Support specialized science and reading instruction
- Keep school libraries open
- Minimize class size increases

Measure E requires mandatory taxpayer protections to guarantee that funds will be used as promised:

- By law, all funds must stay in Pleasanton schools to protect programs for students
- No funds may be taken by the state or other school districts
- No Measure E funds may be used to increase salaries or benefits
- No Measure E funds may be used for administrator salaries or benefits
- The cost is capped at \$98 per year and cannot be increased
- Measure E will expire in 4 years and cannot be extended without voter approval
- Seniors are eligible for an exemption
- Each year a Measure E spending plan must be presented at a public forum
- An independent oversight committee must review the use of funds and report their findings

Please visit <http://www.SupportPleasantonSchools.com> and vote Yes on E.

s/Valerie Arkin
President, Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Education

s/Jana Halle
Teacher of the Year

s/Jan Batcheller
Pleasanton Business Owner

s/John R. Dove
25yr Pleasanton Resident

s/Donna Garrison
Pleasanton Realtor

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE E

What the Pleasanton Unified School District is not telling you:

- Seniors will pay. If you forget to apply every year for the exemption, you pay.
- You are already paying a Pleasanton Unified School District parcel tax averaging \$866/year until the year 2024.
- Administrators retire with pensions up to \$178,120 per year according to CaliforniaPensionReform.com, in addition to health insurance paid for by the District.
- Rather than freezing salaries, the District chose to eliminate 67 new, energetic teachers while handing out \$9,000,000 in raises for administrators and employees.
- There are no rules that direct the spending of the money raised by this measure, and no guarantee the funds will be spent as promised.
- Pleasanton homes will retain their appeal to buyers comparing schools. The Pleasanton Unified School District receives more State funding than neighboring districts.
- Salaries have not been frozen; in fact, they increase automatically every year. At least \$15,000,000 in increases will be given out during the term of this tax.
- The District recently received an additional \$3,400,000 from the Federal government towards next year's budget.

The status quo cannot continue at our children's expense. The Pleasanton Unified School District needs to address urgently needed structural reforms for a quality education now and into the future.

Vote NO on Measure E
www.PleasantonParcelTaxInfo.com

s/Steve Brozosky
Former Pleasanton Unified School District Board Member

s/Raquel Vargas
Pleasanton Resident

s/Kay Ayala
Former City Council Member School/City Liaison Committee

s/Dorene Paradiso-Carroll
Former Human Services Commissioner

s/Anne E. Fox
Former PUSD Strategic Planning Committee Member

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E

The Pleasanton Unified School District is not telling you the truth! The School District will be giving out raises to administrators, teachers and support staff during the term of the parcel tax.

- **During the term of this parcel tax, the district will give out raises totaling \$15,000,000.** This parcel tax will not even cover those raises. There will be no money available for instructional programs, libraries, or minimizing class size increases.
- **School District income increased \$18,000,000 during the last three years.** District audit reports show 2008 income of \$147M and 2010 income increasing to \$165M. During those years they have used those funds to hand out \$9,000,000 in raises.
- **Fifteen of our school administrators have recently retired with annual retirement pay between \$100,872 and \$178,120 per year.** School Administrators would like you to believe that they are not well paid. CaliforniaPensionReform.com shows otherwise.
- **The District wants more of your money but will not commit to how the money will be used.** The ballot measure's language is purposely vague and does not outline specific, concrete educational programs. Omission of binding language allows for a lack of accountability to taxpayers.
- **The Pleasanton Unified School District spent \$70,000 on research for this measure and \$250,000 to pay for this special election** - money that could have been used to fund the programs the measure addresses.

We support our teachers and our children's educational system and want to protect our local schools. However, this tax increase will not even cover the intended raises.

It is unacceptable for the Pleasanton Unified School District to mislead residents. Increasing taxes in order to hand out more raises and fund bloated Administrators' pensions is simply irresponsible and unsustainable.

s/David Miller
PUSD Parent

s/Deborah L. Beardsley
Pleasanton Resident

s/Cynthia Gehl
Pleasanton Resident

s/Douglas W. Miller
Veteran's Advocate

s/Connie M Cox
Realtor

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E

Please read the LEGALLY-BINDING text of Measure E for yourself. A copy is included in your ballot materials and quoted here verbatim:

Measure E: *"Under no circumstances shall any of the proceeds of the core academic instruction parcel tax be used for administrators' salaries or benefits and no parcel tax revenue will be used to increase salaries or benefits for employees."*

(Source: Full Text of Measure E, Lines 32-36)

Measure E: *"...an independent citizen oversight committee (will) provide oversight and accountability to ensure the funds are used to:*

- *Emphasize core academic instruction that improves math, science and reading skills;*
- *Attract and retain highly-qualified teachers;*
- *Support specialized science and reading instruction;*
- *Keep school libraries open and maintain library services and materials; and*
- *Minimize class size increases...*

The proceeds of the core academic instruction parcel tax shall be applied only to those specific purposes identified above."

(Source: Full Text of Measure E, Lines 21-31/101-103)

PUSD has reduced spending by \$19.4 million, cut programs, eliminated dozens of teachers and staff, negotiated salary and benefit concessions from employees, and frozen the salary schedule.

Here's the truth about Measure E:

- The cost is modest (\$98)
- The duration is short (4 years)
- Strict accountability is mandatory
- No funds may be used for raises or benefit enhancements
- All funds must be used to protect specific instructional programs
- Quality schools keep property values high

Please vote Yes on E for stable school funding that the state cannot take away from Pleasanton.

s/Barbara Hempill
Past President, Livermore - Amador Valley League of Women Voters

s/William A. Evans
Lieutenant Colonel USAF Retired

s/Sally W. Stock
30 year retired elementary teacher

s/Brian Damiani
CFP, Owner, Financial Planner

s/Paul E. DeJarnatt
CPA

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE E

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Support Core Academic Instruction Measure E

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

To protect local schools from State budget cuts, provide local funding that cannot be taken away by the State, and preserve quality education by emphasizing core academic instruction that improves math, science and reading skills, attracting and retaining highly-qualified teachers, supporting specialized science and reading instruction, keeping school libraries open, maintaining library services and materials and minimizing class size increases, with no proceeds used for administrative salaries and benefits, the Pleasanton Unified School District ("District") proposes to establish a core academic instruction parcel tax for a period of four years, beginning July 1, 2011, at the rate of \$98 per year, on each assessor's parcel located within the Pleasanton Unified School District, with an exemption available for senior citizens and recipients of SSI for a disability, and to implement strict accountability measures, including the appointment of an independent citizen oversight committee, to provide oversight and accountability to ensure the funds are used to:

- Emphasize core academic instruction that improves math, science and reading skills;
- Attract and retain highly-qualified teachers;
- Support specialized science and reading instruction;
- Keep school libraries open and maintain library services and materials; and
- Minimize class size increases.

Under no circumstances shall any of the proceeds of the core academic instruction parcel tax be used for administrators' salaries or benefits and no parcel tax revenue will be used to increase salaries or benefits for employees.

AMOUNT OF CORE ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION PARCEL TAX; PERIOD OF ASSESSMENT

The core academic instruction parcel tax shall be \$98 (or less as provided below) per year for four (4) full years assessed against each Parcel.

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

DEFINITION OF "PARCEL"

For purposes of the core academic instruction parcel tax, the term "Parcel" means any parcel of land which lies wholly or partially within the boundaries of the Pleasanton Unified School District, that receives a separate tax bill for *ad valorem* property taxes from the Alameda County Assessor/Tax Collector. 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 core academic instruction parcel tax in such year.

For purposes of this core academic instruction 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 an application of the owners thereof by June 15 of each year to the District, be treated as a single "parcel" for purposes of the levy of the core academic instruction parcel tax.

EXEMPTION FOR SENIORS AND SSI RECIPIENTS

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 50079 (b), any owners of a Parcel used solely for owner-occupied, single-family residential purposes and who are either (a) 65 years of age or older or (b) persons receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age, may obtain an exemption from the core academic instruction parcel tax by annually submitting an application therefore, by June 15 of each year, to the District.

With respect to all general property tax matters within its jurisdiction, the Alameda County Assessor/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 core academic instruction parcel tax, including the Senior Citizen Exemption and the SSI Exemption 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 core academic instruction 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 core academic instruction parcel tax. In the event that the levy and collection does have such an effect, the District shall cease the levy or shall reduce the core academic instruction 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 core academic instruction parcel tax levied in accordance with this Measure: (a) the specific purposes of the core academic instruction parcel tax shall be those purposes identified above; (b) the proceeds of the core academic instruction 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 core academic instruction parcel tax must be deposited; and (d) an annual written report shall be made to the Board of Education of the District showing (i) the amount of funds collected and expended from the proceeds of the core academic instruction parcel tax and (ii) the status of

any projects or programs required or authorized to be funded from the proceeds of the core academic instruction parcel tax, as identified above.

In addition to the accountability measures required by law, an independent citizen oversight committee shall be appointed by the Board of Education of the District to review the expenditures funded by the measure in order to ensure that said funds were spent for the purposes approved by the voters. The oversight committee shall have at least seven members appointed by the Board of Education, each shall reside within the District and the oversight committee shall meet regularly (but no less frequently than twice a year) at times which coincide with the District's submission of interim budget reports to the County Office of Education and the State. Employees of the District and members of the Board of Education shall not serve on the oversight committee. The oversight committee will monitor the expenditures of these funds by the District and will submit an annual written report to the Board and community on how these funds have been spent.

In addition to the formation of an oversight committee, prior to the annual submission of the parcel tax levy to the County the District shall conduct a public forum during which the District shall present its plan for parcel tax expenditures for the upcoming year and receive input from the public on such plans. Copies of such plans shall be provided to the oversight committee.