



Sulphur Springs Union School District – Measure CK Frequently Asked Questions



Why do Sulphur Springs' schools need Measure CK?

Sulphur Springs Union School District, which includes the nine public elementary schools in Canyon Country, is considered among the best school districts in California. All nine schools have been named California Distinguished Schools. Local student test scores exceed the state standard of excellence and improve year after year. Despite years of state-imposed cuts to education funding, Sulphur Springs Union School District implemented smart, “belt-tightening” decisions that helped to keep the worst impacts away from students and the classroom. However, to continue supporting high quality education in local schools, our classrooms, libraries, and science and computers labs need repairs and upgrades to support a 21st-century education. Improvements must also be made to school facilities that serve the needs of severely-disabled and medically-fragile students. Measure CK bonds will provide the funds to meet these needs.

How will Measure CK improve and maintain high quality education?

Measure CK will address several key areas to upgrade and repair school facilities and help support the quality academic programs Sulphur Springs' schools provide to local students. Classrooms, science and computer labs and our schools' technology need updating to ensure we can provide 21st-century instruction. Energy efficiency upgrades would cut utility costs, saving money that can be used in the classroom to support core academic instruction.

What specific projects are included in Measure CK?

This measure will support repairs and upgrades in our Sulphur Springs schools, including:

- Modernizing a 40-year-old facility that serves the needs of severely-disabled and medically fragile students
- Reducing debt, resulting in more resources for classroom instruction, including reading, writing, math, science and technology
- Repairing and replacing aging roofs
- Upgrading classrooms and science and computer labs to keep pace with 21st-century learning standards.
- Updating and expanding school libraries with modern technology and adequate space to ensure student and teacher access to important learning materials
- Replacing aging heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems to increase energy efficiency and save money
- Replacing aging, outdated portable classrooms with modern, permanent classrooms

How will Measure CK provide a 21st-century education for local students?

As technology advances, Measure CK will help the District keep pace by regularly updating instructional technology for classrooms and libraries.

How will Measure CK support medically-fragile students?

Valley View Community School Annex, a 40-year-old facility serves the needs of severely- disabled and medically-fragile students. Measure CK will upgrade the school's aging and outdated facilities to ensure they meet 21st-century health, safety and academic standards.

Will all funds stay local?

Yes. All funds generated by Measure CK will stay in our community to support Sulphur Springs Union School District students. None of the funds can be taken away by the State.

Are there fiscal accountability provisions included in Measure CK?

Yes. All funds from Measure CK will be spent to improve facilities in our schools. None of the funds can be spent on administrators' salaries, pensions or benefits. An independent citizens' oversight committee will ensure the funds are spent properly.

How much will Measure CK cost me, as a homeowner?

Measure CK will not raise taxes above current rates. Measure CK will actually result in a two-thirds decrease in the current tax rates property owners pay as of the June 5, 2012 passage of Measure CK. Measure CK will cost property owners no more than \$30 per \$100,000 of the property's assessed value annually – but no new taxes will be levied until existing bonds are completely paid off, in 2016.

Even though the tax from Measure CK won't be levied until 2016, our schools will begin receiving benefits right away. Measure CK will generate \$72 million to upgrade and repair our schools, update technology, reduce debt and improve energy efficiency to save money that can be used in the classroom.

What was needed to pass Measure CK?

Measure CK appeared on the June 5, 2012 ballot. All registered voters who lived in the Sulphur Springs Union School District were eligible to vote. As a Prop 39 Bond, Measure CK had to be supported by at least 55% of those who voted.

What if I have more questions?

If you have questions about Measure CK, please contact the office of Michele Gookins, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services at (661) 252-5131.