

BALLOT MEASURE TEXT
Measure L

“To improve the quality of education, shall Springville Union Elementary School District be authorized to acquire, improve and construct school facilities, including a cafeteria/multipurpose room for school and community use, new classrooms to relieve overcrowding, modernization of facilities, new community and student sports fields and qualify the District for State matching funds, by issuing \$6,735,000 of bonds at interest rates below legal limits with an independent citizens’ oversight committee and NO money for administrative salaries?”

BALLOT MEASURE
FULL TEXT OF MEASURE L

BOND AUTHORIZATION

“To improve the quality of education, shall Springville Union Elementary School District be authorized to acquire, improve and construct school facilities, including a cafeteria/multipurpose room for school and community use, new classrooms to relieve overcrowding, modernization of facilities, new community and student sports fields and qualify the District for State matching funds, by issuing \$6,735,000 of bonds at interest rates below legal limits with an independent citizens’ oversight committee and NO money for administrative salaries?”

This proposition may be known and referred to as the Springville Union Elementary School District General Obligation Bond of 2009 or Measure L

FINDINGS

The Springville Union Elementary School District (the “District”), which serves the community of Springville and unincorporated Tulare County, is a recognized leader in providing top quality education to Tulare County students.

The achievements have been accrued by the District as a result of the long history of visionary leadership from the Board of Trustees of the District (the “Board”), as well as from staff members, parents, and members of the District communities. During its long history, the District has benefited from a community which supports its educational institutions by establishing high standards for academic achievement while at the same time providing the means required to meet and surpass those expectations.

In order to provide our students with the same classrooms, school facilities and educational opportunities as other California school districts, major repairs, upgrades, and construction are necessary to ensure these buildings and facilities will support the expectation of excellence for current and future generations.

The Board has prepared a facilities plan and identified significant repairs, upgrades, and construction needs that are more than the District is able to fund from currently available sources or annual revenues.

The District has sought, and continues to seek, all available outside sources of funding to improve our school buildings, including local, state, and federal grants and state bond funds. Historically, the state requires that local school districts provide local funds as a condition of receipt of state matching funds.

It is necessary to seek voter approval of a bond measure in order to provide the local funding for the multipurpose room/cafeteria which will be used by students and the entire community and for identified school facility upgrades, modernization and expansion projects to address student needs.

**IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY TULARE COUNTY COUNSEL
SPRINGVILLE UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND MEASURE
(May 19, 2009 Statewide Special Election)**

Section 1(b) of Article XIII A of the California Constitution permits a school district to seek voter approval to increase the ad valorem taxes above the 1 % limit when used to pay for debt service on certain bonded indebtedness. The Springville Union Elementary School District is seeking approval of two-thirds of the qualified electors. This means that if two-thirds of the voters voting on the measure vote in favor of the measure, the District will be authorized to incur debt by issuing general obligation bonds for the acquisition and improvement of real property for general school purposes. The proceeds may not go to any other purpose, including teacher or administrator salaries or other school operating expenses. The proceeds of the bonds will be deposited into a Building Fund to be held by the Tulare County Treasurer as required by law.

The proposal includes promises by the board of trustees to establish an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee, to have the superintendent of the District file an annual report with the board as long as any proceeds of the bonds remain unspent, and to seek matching funds from the state and other sources. The District will not be legally limited to certain specific school facilities projects, but instead will have the flexibility to acquire and improve real property in accordance with the needs of the District. The District currently plans to spend the funds on a multipurpose room/cafeteria and other identified school facility upgrades, modernization and expansion projects to address student needs.

If the measure is approved, the District will be authorized to increase the ad valorem taxes on property located within the District's boundaries to pay the bond principal, interest and associated costs. The maximum principal amount of the proposed bond cannot exceed \$6,735,000. Education Code section 15102 limits the total bonded indebtedness for an elementary school district to 1.25 percent of the assessed value of the taxable property of the District.

The interest rate will be established at the time of sale and will depend on market rates at that time. If issued under the Government Code, the maximum duration of the bonds cannot exceed 40 years. If issued under the Education Code, the maximum duration of the bond cannot exceed 25 years. The exact effect on tax rates cannot be determined until after the bonds are sold.

This bond measure makes no change to existing law. The electors entitled to vote on this measure are the registered voters within the boundaries of the District. If the measure is not approved by at least two-thirds of the votes cast, the measure will fail and the bonds will not be issued.

KATHLEEN BALES-LANGE
TULARE COUNTY COUNSEL

By: Barbara Booth Grunwald
Deputy County Counsel

**SPRINGVILLE UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX RATE
STATEMENT FOR BOND MEASURE L
ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 19, 2009**

An election will be held in the Springville Union Elementary School District of Tulare County on May 19, 2009, to authorize the sale of \$6,735,000 in general obligation bonds. The following information is submitted in compliance with Sections 9401 and 9404 of the California Elections Code.

1. The best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the first series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is 6.84 cents per \$100 (\$68.38 per \$100,000) of assessed valuations in fiscal year 2009-10.
2. The best estimate of the highest tax rate which would be required to fund this bond issue, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing this statement, is 6.84 cents per \$100 (\$68.38 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2009-10.
3. The best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the last series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement is 6.84 cents per \$100 (\$68.38 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2009-10.
4. These estimates are based on projections derived from information obtained from official sources. The actual tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary depending on the timing of bond sales, the amount of bonds sold at each sale, and actual increases in assessed valuations. The timing of the bond sales and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be governed by the needs of the District. Actual assessed valuations will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined in the assessment and the equalization process.

Dated: February 10, 2009

s/ Connie Owens
Superintendent
Springville Union Elementary School District

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE L

Your YES vote on Measure L will have a lasting, positive impact on our school and community. As taxpayers, we agree in the importance of education and the value of quality schools.

Passage of Measure L will fund a cafeteria/multipurpose gymnasium/theatre for school and community use, new permanent classrooms, modernization of facilities, and new student sports fields.

The District has aggressively pursued all funding options, including State funds, developer impact fees and grants, but these funds alone are not sufficient to meet the facility needs of the District. The District needs local taxpayer support for Measure L to help fund these additional facilities and much needed improvements.

MEASURE L WILL IMPROVE OUR SCHOOLS BY:

- Increasing the number of classrooms available to our children thus improving the educational environment for all students.
- Providing improved athletic and instructional facilities that compliment our current facilities.
- Provide our children and community with modern facilities that promote healthy activity and educational opportunities necessary to be successful in today's world.

MEASURE L MAKES FINANCIAL SENSE BY:

- Allowing the District to potentially qualify for a minimum of \$4 million in grants and State-Matching funds.
- Making much needed upgrades and repairs to our current school site.
- Funds used only to improve our children's school-not to pay for administrative salaries.

MEASURE L HAS APPROPRIATE SAFEGUARDS, INCLUDING:

- A citizen's oversight committee to protect taxpayer funds.
- Require annual independent audits on all Measure L expenditures.

Measure L will improve positively impact Springville School, support the continued quality education of our children, and add to the value of our homes and community.

INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR CHILDREN: VOTE YES ON MEASURE L.

Dated: 02/20/2009

s/ Dianne Shew, President

s/ Chris Ferrell, Board Member

s/ William P. Tuttle, Clerk