



## Local Ballot Measure: M

Arguments and rebuttals are the opinions of the authors. We print them exactly as submitted.

### Argument In Favor of Measure M

Our local public schools are our community's most valuable assets. They teach our children critical skills, prepare them for future success, boost home values, and support local businesses. Investing in education benefits us all.

**Vote YES on Measure M** to improve the schools and classrooms of Pajaro Valley Unified School District—serving Amesti, Aptos, Corralitos, Freedom, Interlaken, La Selva Beach, Las Lomas, Pajaro and Watsonville—and provide students with the resources necessary to succeed in a safe and secure environment.

Measure M projects include:

- **Expanding High School Career and Technical Education:** Renovating classrooms for coding, robotics and engineering.
- **Critical Infrastructure Repairs:** Repairing or replacing deteriorating roofs, aging electrical wiring, leaking pipes and plumbing, and inefficient heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems.
- **Enhanced Safety Measures:** Upgrading emergency communications and security systems for safer schools.
- **Teacher/Staff Housing:** Building below-market rental housing for teachers and staff to make our district more competitive in attracting and retaining highly qualified personnel.
- **Improving School Safety:** Installing point-of-entry access systems and additional fencing to control unauthorized school entry.

Measure M also offers critical taxpayer protections for our community:

- **Guaranteed Funding for Our Schools:** By law, Measure M funds will be spent on Pajaro Valley USD and **cannot be taken by the state and spent elsewhere.**
- **Transparency and Accountability: Public disclosure of all spending,** independent citizens' oversight and annual audits ensure responsible use of funds.
- **State Matching Funds:** Measure M qualifies Pajaro Valley Unified School District for additional matching funds from the state, providing more funding for repairs and renovations.
- **Funding Only for School Projects:** Funds cannot pay for employees' salaries, pensions or benefits.

**Measure M improves our schools and communities and ensures that our children have the resources they need to thrive,** all while protecting the value of our homes and businesses. Please join parents, grandparents, guardians, teachers, neighbors, business owners and community leaders in voting **YES on Measure M.**

/s/Francisco Estrada, PVUSD Graduate and Former Mayor  
/s/Russell Bryan Love, SCCOE Teacher of the Year, PVUSD Teacher  
/s/Robert H. Allen, Resident, Attorney, PVUSD Alumni, and PVUSD Parent  
/s/Consuelo Alba, Resident and Executive Director of local non-profit  
/s/Jasmine Najera, Resident, PVUSD Parent, CEO of youth serving non-profit

### Rebuttal To Argument In Favor of Measure M

We urge you to **Vote "NO" on Measure M**, costing \$315,000,000 (**Million**) requiring payments of approximately **\$556,452,817 (Million) over 30 years.**

Measure M will increase everyone's taxes in the District by multiples of \$60 depending on assessed property value, with the average tax being \$360-\$420/year, increasing every time the property is sold.

Simply put, we **CANNOT AFFORD** another tax on our properties. Whether you're a property owner or renter, it'll make everyone's housing and business costs more expensive.

Why doesn't the Pajaro Valley Unified School District manage their money better to make these "wants and needs" a priority when they are creating budgets instead of always asking the property owners for more? Isn't that what homeowners have to do when they know they need a new roof or plumbing work?

Shouldn't Pajaro Valley Unified School District focus on educating kids and not branch out into property management for staff?

We agree their needs are important; but most people just can't afford to pay for them. Pajaro Valley Unified School District must look within to finance their "want list".

We cannot afford to shoulder yet another Pajaro Valley Unified School District tax, especially considering all the other taxes and bonds on the ballot.

Many on fixed incomes simply cannot squeeze their budgets any further. Measure M does not exempt seniors or the disabled.

When Santa Cruz County is the most expensive county to live in the U.S., we should not make it MORE expensive.

Please **"Vote No"** on Measure M. We cannot afford another bond that will make Santa Cruz County less affordable.

/s/ Kris A. Kirby, Business Owner, Community Member

/s/ Juan Francisco Barba, Realtor

/s/ Rebecca Steinbruner, Community Member