



Local Ballot Measure: A

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

Argument Against Measure A

Measure A is \$340 million for construction -- even though enrollment is declining in Monterey Peninsula Unified School District and throughout California.

Already 61% of every base property tax dollar goes to schools.

Measure A would **add** many thousands of dollars to our tax bills over 30 years of bond payback.

- Soaring taxes hurt everyone: homeowners, renters, small businesses.
- Tax rate for MPUSD's three bonds would climb to over \$100 per \$100,000 of assessed value: \$50 per \$100,000 for Measure A *plus* \$51.62 per \$100,000 for two existing bonds per County Assessor.
 - Example: Home assessed at \$800,000 would pay \$800 per year taxes to MPUSD.
 - \$800 per year multiplied by 30 years is \$24,000!

Taxpayers would be in debt for over \$1.2 BILLION

- MPUSD is asking voters to approve this **third** bond in 14 years:
 - **\$340 million** (Measure A) plus **\$213 million** (2018) plus **\$110 million** (2010)

\$60 million of Measure A would construct 60 to 80 rental units for MPUSD staff, a real estate scheme raising MPUSD property values at taxpayer expense.

- Housing is needed by many, including families of MPUSD students, but these rentals would be only for MPUSD staff.
- 76% of MPUSD teachers prefer salary increases and to choose where they live instead of MPUSD-controlled housing.
- MPUSD could use rental income to increase administrator salaries.

Measure A exceeds MPUSD's bonding capacity. It relies on future increased property values or a state waiver.

Measure A is too vague about how taxpayers' \$340 million could be spent.

- MPUSD failed to do urgent repairs that MPUSD promised to voters in MPUSD's recent two bonds.
- MPUSD has failed to adequately manage our hundreds of millions of tax dollars.

Information: <https://www.montereypeninsulataxpayers.org/>

Put education first. Don't saddle our children with huge tax debt. Vote **NO on Measure A.**

/s/ Tony Tollner, Retired Business Owner

/s/ Julie Engell, Concerned Voter

/s/ Susan Nine, Former 10-year President of Teachers Association

/s/ Julie Conrad, Community Volunteer

/s/ Rick Heuer, President, Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association

Rebuttal To Argument Against Measure A

Measure A's opponents have the facts WRONG! Don't be misled and learn the FACTS:

FACT: Measure A is focused on keeping our students safe. Measure A will upgrade school safety and security systems and make necessary updates to plumbing, electrical, and ventilation systems.

FACT: Our local schools need urgent repairs. All of our local schools are over 50 years old and need essential repairs and updates to serve our communities for decades to come. If we want our kids to succeed in school, college, and careers, we need to provide safe and clean schools staffed by qualified teachers.

FACT: Teachers and school staff are leaving the area for places with more affordable housing and lower cost of living. Measure A helps provide affordable rentable housing so we can attract and retain dedicated teachers and staff, improving the quality of education in our schools.

FACT: Measure A includes strict fiscal accountability protections. Every penny of Measure A remains under local control for our schools only. Measure A requires mandatory citizens' oversight, independent annual audits, and public reports.

FACT: Measure A will help our District qualify for state matching funds. Without Measure A matching funds will go to other communities.

FACT: Not one penny from Measure A can be spent on administrators' salaries or pensions.

FACT: Measure A puts education first. Measure A will upgrade and repair classrooms for modern instruction and expand career technical facilities to prepare students for college and in-demand careers.

Put education first. Join trusted local leaders in voting YES on A for Safe, Quality Local Schools.

/s/ Paul W. Davis, Small Business Owner

/s/ Erica Graham, Parent and Treasurer of Marina High Booster Club

/s/ Bruce Delgado, Mayor, City of Marina

/s/ Mike Ventimiglia, Retired Division Chief Monterey Fire Department

/s Helen Rucker, Retired Educator and Former President Monterey County NAACP