

Madera Unified School District Measure M FAQ

How is Madera Unified School District doing?

In Madera Unified School District (MUSD), we strive to provide every student with a well-rounded education ensuring they are prepared for college and careers, and to contribute to our local economy. Student achievement in MUSD is on the rise. In fact, this year we're seeing the best-ever high school graduation rate in the history of our District.

Since 2005, MUSD has built and opened six new schools in an effort to accommodate continued increasing student enrollment, including Matilda Torres High School which is scheduled to open in August 2020.

What challenges does MUSD face?

Our elementary and middle schools are facing significant overcrowding and student enrollment throughout the district has continued to steadily increase. Many school sites are over capacity and use temporary portables to accommodate our current enrollment. Additionally, our facilities are in need of safety and security improvements. To address increased enrollment and enable the District to continue providing local students with a high-quality education, the District needs to build a new middle school, two new elementary schools, and expand and improve current classrooms, labs and student support facilities.

How does MUSD plan to address these challenges?

In order to address student overcrowding and provide safe and modern classrooms for local students, the MUSD Board of Education voted to place Measure M, a \$120 million bond measure, on the November 2018 ballot. Measure M would provide local funding that could not be taken away by the State to modernize and expand our school facilities.

What specific projects would Measure M fund?

If approved by 55% of local voters, Measure M would:

- Construct a new concurrent enrollment middle school to reduce student overcrowding and provide career technical education programs in areas like agriculture, engineering, robotics and public safety
- Construct new school facilities to accommodate our growing community
- Make student safety and security improvements and improve accessibility for students with disabilities
- Improve student access to computers and modern technology
- Upgrade physical education fields and facilities for school and community use
- Modernize outdated classrooms, restrooms and school facilities and replace temporary portables with permanent classrooms

What is a concurrent enrollment middle school? Which students will attend the new site?

Eighth grade students will be able to take courses in Agriculture, Engineering/Robotics, Health, Public Safety, Entrepreneurship and Visual/Performing Arts. These career technology education environments will help local students feel engaged and empowered as they move on in their education journey.

The new facility will be shared between all existing middle schools and will be made available to all eligible MUSD eighth-graders with two daily 600-student sessions, mornings and afternoons. The students will have three classes at the interactive center and three classes at their own school campus.

Would all funds benefit our schools in MUSD?

Yes. By law, all funds from Measure M would stay local to improve MUSD schools and could not be taken by the State.

How do we know funds from Measure M would be spent wisely?

Measure M contains mandatory fiscal accountability provisions to ensure proper use of funds, including:

- All funds must stay local to improve MUSD schools
- By law, no funds could be taken by the State
- An independent citizens' oversight committee and annual audits would ensure funds are spent as voters intended

How much would Measure M cost?

Measure M would cost approximately \$49 per \$100,000 of assessed (not market) property value. The assessed value is based off the original purchase price of the home and often lower than the current market value.

What about Measure G?

Local voters approved Measure G in 2014 so the District could address significant enrollment growth and overcrowding at our high schools and improve access to computers and technology. Thanks to Measure G, MUSD broke ground on our new high school, Matilda Torres High School, in April. It is scheduled to open in August 2020 and serve 2,200 students.

However, Measure G was never intended to address all of our school facility needs. As our District continues to grow, we need to address enrollment growth in our middle and elementary schools and ensure we have the educational facilities necessary to support student achievement. An additional source of local funding is needed to provide safe and modern classrooms for MUSD students and construct a new middle school.

When will Measure M appear on the ballot?

Measure M will appear on the November 6, 2018 ballot. All voters in MUSD are eligible to vote on the bond measure. Measure M needs to be supported by 55% of those who vote on it in order to pass.

How can I register to vote or learn more about voting?

You can register to vote at www.registertovote.ca.gov. To find out more about voting, please contact the Madera County Registrar of Voters at (800) 435-0509 or visit VoteMadera.com.

How can I learn more?

MUSD welcomes your feedback and questions. Please contact Rosalind Cox, Director of Facilities Planning at rosalindcox@maderausd.org or (559) 675-4548 with any questions or comments.