



SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 21, 2016

To: Whom It May Concern
From: The Board of Trustees of Montecito Union School District
RE: Support for Proposition 51, the Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016

The Board of Trustees of Montecito Union School District is pleased to support Proposition 51, the Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016.

It is undeniable that adequate and modern facilities are essential to student achievement – California's students simply cannot fulfill their full academic potential if clean, safe and secure school sites are not provided. California is home to more than six million students, many of whom spend their schooldays in classrooms which are outdated, woefully inadequate and not conducive to academic success. In many areas of the state, this problem has a disproportionate effect on our most at-risk students.

California's current system for funding facilities construction and modernization is out of money and faces a substantial backlog of unfunded needs.

Proposition 51 would generate \$7 billion in bond revenue for K-12 education, with \$3 billion allocated to new construction and \$3 billion for modernization, and another \$1 billion split between charter schools and Career Technical Education facilities needs. Most of these funds are matched with local money, which expands the benefit to communities and to the state.

As we prepare our students to become the next generation of California's workforce, we must do so with school facilities that reflect what success looks like in the 21st Century, and are on par with California's place as an innovate leader in the global economy.

The Board of Trustees of Montecito Union School District urges California voters to support Proposition 51, the Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016 at the polls in November.

Sincerely,

Tammy Murphy, Superintendent
(Montecito Union School District)

**Resolution #2016/17-06 in Support of Proposition 51—
Kindergarten through Community College Public Education
Facilities Bond Act of 2016**

WHEREAS, the California Constitution finds public education is a State responsibility in Article IX Section 5; and

WHEREAS, Article 1 Section 28 states that public schools shall be safe, secure and peaceful; and

WHEREAS, the State has met its constitutional responsibilities since 1982 by providing consistent State bond resources through programs contained in Division 1, Part 10, Article 12 and Article 12.5 of the Education Code; and

WHEREAS, the State is out of school facility funds and cannot provide the State match for almost \$2 billion in projects filed under current law; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 51—the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016—provides for renovation and upgrade of existing classrooms, construction of new classrooms to accommodate growth, and for career technical education facilities to provide job training to meet the trained workforce needs of California’s employers; and

WHEREAS, the California unemployment rate is greater than the national unemployment rate; and

WHEREAS, 13,000 middle class jobs are created for each \$1 billion in school facility infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS, these jobs will be created throughout California and will include almost all building trades; and

WHEREAS, the new Local Control Funding Formula and Local Control Accountability Plan are intended to improve educational achievement for all students but do not provide dedicated facilities funding; and

WHEREAS, quality 21st Century school facilities designed for student needs of today and tomorrow enhance academic achievement and further the State’s academic goals; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 51—the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016—will not raise State taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Proposition 51—Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016—State matching funds will reduce the need for additional local property taxes for school facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montecito Union School District supports Proposition 51—the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016.

Passed, approved, and adopted this (date) 9/20/2016.

5 Yes

/ No

/ Absent

/ Abstain

SIGNED:

Mary Kirkhart
Board President, Ms. Mary Kirkhart

ATTEST:

Tammy Murphy
Secretary to the Board, Mr. Peter van Duinwyk / Tammy Murphy, Superintendent