



Local Ballot Measure: D

Measure D

Harmony Union School District

Measure Question

55% Majority Needed to Pass

To improve facilities at Harmony and Salmon Creek Schools; repair/replace roofs; construct/modernize classrooms, restrooms and school facilities; and make campus security, health, safety and accessibility improvements; shall Harmony Union School District's measure authorizing \$13,500,000 in bonds, at legal rates, levying approximately \$30 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation (raising \$781,000 annually) while bonds are outstanding, be adopted, with annual audits, independent citizens' oversight, No money for administrator salaries and all money staying local?

What Your Vote Means

YES	NO
A "yes" vote on Measure D will authorize the District to issue the bonds and levy taxes to pay for the indebtedness.	A "no" vote on Measure D will not authorize either the issuance of bonds or the associated levy of taxes.

For and Against Measure D

FOR	AGAINST
Susan McGovern Salmon Creek Teacher Mary E. Szecsey Retired Healthcare Administrator Eugene (Gino) Gaffney IV Landscaper/OCSD Board Member Fawn Nekton Business Owner/HUSD Alumni Jenay Hoffin Business Owner	No argument was submitted against Measure D



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County Counsel's Impartial Analysis of Measure D

California law permits school districts to issue bonds to pay for construction, repair, replacement, and acquisition of school facilities if 55 percent of the voters who vote on the measure approve the sale of the bonds. The Harmony Union School District Board of Trustees ("Board") has placed on the ballot the question of whether to issue \$13,500,000 in bonds for such purposes.

Money raised by bond sales may only be used for the purposes and projects stated in the "Bond Project List" set forth in Measure D, including but not limited to: acquiring, constructing, installing, repairing, renovating, equipping, and otherwise improving infrastructure and school facilities (including outdoor education areas, parking lots, playgrounds, and custodial and storage facilities); wildfire hardening; health and safety systems; and compliance with federal and state disabled accessibility requirements. As required by state law, Measure D prohibits using bond proceeds for teacher or administrator salaries or other operating expenses.

The Board has certified that it evaluated safety, class size, and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List. Inclusion of a project on the Bond Project List does not guarantee it will be funded or completed. The Board will establish the priority and order in which projects are undertaken.

If adopted, Measure D includes "Accountability Safeguards" that require the Board to: annually conduct independent financial and performance audits to ensure bond proceeds have been expended only on projects on the Bond Project List; establish an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee; maintain bond proceeds in a separate account in the County Treasury. Measure D further requires the District's chief fiscal officer to provide an annual report to the Board on the status of projects undertaken and the amount of bond proceeds received and expended in each year.

If approved, Harmony Union School District has discretion to decide when to sell all or any portion of the bonds based on the need for project funds and other factors. The interest rate on the bonds would depend on the market rate at the time the bonds are sold, but not exceed the statutory maximum. The bonds will be repaid with funds raised from an increase in property taxes based upon the assessed value of taxable property in the District. The "Tax Information Statement" prepared by the District's Superintendent estimates the property tax levies required to pay off the bonds. Those tax levies are projections, and could go up or down, depending on a number of factors including the timing and amount of bond sales, and changes in assessed property values in the District.

A "yes" vote on Measure D will authorize the District to issue the bonds and levy taxes to pay for the indebtedness.

A "no" vote on Measure D will not authorize either the issuance of bonds or the associated levy of taxes.

ROBERT PITTMAN
County Counsel

By: s/ Petra Bruggisser
Deputy County Counsel

Tax Information Statement — Measure D

An election will be held in the Harmony Union School District (the "District") on March 5, 2024, to authorize the sale of up to \$13,500,000 in bonds of the District to finance school facilities as described in the proposition. If the bond proposition is approved by at least 55% of the voters of the District voting on the bond proposition, the District expects to issue the bonds in multiple series over time. Principal and interest on the bonds will be payable from the proceeds of tax levies made upon the taxable property in the District. The following information is provided in compliance with Sections 9400 through 9405 of the California Elections Code.

1. The best estimate of the average annual tax rate that would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue over the entire duration of the bond debt service, based on assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$28.00 per \$100,000 (2.80 cents per \$100) of assessed valuation. The final fiscal year in which the tax to be levied to fund this bond issue is anticipated to be collected is fiscal year 2058-59.
2. The best estimate of the highest tax rate that would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$30.00 per \$100,000 (3.00 cents per \$100) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2024-25 and such tax rate is expected to continue through fiscal year 2053-54.
3. The best estimate of the total debt service, including the principal and interest, that would be required to be repaid if all of the bonds are issued and sold is approximately \$27.4 million.

Voters should note that estimated tax rates are based on the **ASSESSED VALUE** of taxable property on the County's official tax rolls, *not* on the property's market value, which could be more or less than the assessed value. In addition, taxpayers eligible for a property tax exemption, such as the homeowner's exemption, will be taxed at a lower effective tax rate than described above. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills and tax advisors to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

Attention of all voters is directed to the fact that the foregoing information is based upon the District's projections and estimates only, which are not binding upon the District. The average annual tax rate, the highest tax rate, the final fiscal year in which the tax is anticipated to be collected and the year or years in which they will apply, and the actual total debt service, may vary from those presently estimated for a variety of reasons, including, without limitation, due to variations in the timing of bond sales, the amount or amortization of bonds sold, market conditions at the time of each sale, and actual assessed valuations over the term of repayment of the bonds. The dates of sale and the amount or amortization of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the District based on need for project funds and other factors, including the legal limitations on bonds approved by a 55% affirmative vote. Market conditions, including, without limitation, interest rates, are affected by economic and other factors beyond the control of the District and will depend on the bond market at the time of each sale. Actual future assessed valuation will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process. The growth or decline in assessed valuation is the result of a number of economic and other factors outside the control of the District.

Dated: Nov. 9, 2023.

s/ Matthew Morgan
Superintendent
Harmony Union School District



Local Ballot Measure: D

Arguments and rebuttals are the opinions of the authors. They are printed exactly as submitted, including errors.

Argument in Favor of Measure D	Argument Against Measure D
<p>Harmony and Salmon Creek School are the most important assets in our community and should be our number one priority. Quality schools improve student achievement, increase property values, prepare children for a productive future, and create greater neighborhood safety. Our teachers and staff do a great job educating local children, but many classrooms and buildings in the Harmony Union School District are outdated and inadequate to provide children with the school facilities they need to succeed.</p> <p>Our schools are outdated and major upgrades and renovations need to be made. While facilities have been well maintained, aging classrooms must be upgraded since many do not meet 21st century standards. Measure D would allow the District to improve our elementary schools and the quality of education provided to local children. By investing in our schools, we can meet today's safety, technological, and educational standards as well as better our community.</p> <p>If passed, Measure D will provide funding to make critical facility improvements to Harmony and Salmon Creek Schools including; repairing or replacing leaky roofs; modernizing outdated classrooms, restrooms and school facilities, repairing or replacing outdated heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems; making health, campus safety and security improvements; fire protection; energy and emergency infrastructure; and constructing classrooms, restrooms and school facilities.</p> <p>Measure D makes financial sense and protects taxpayers. By law, spending must be reviewed and annually audited by an independent citizens' oversight committee. All bond funds must be spent locally and cannot be taken by the State. Also, funds are required to be spent only on our schools, not for administrator or teacher salaries.</p> <p>Measure D upgrades and renovates old and inadequate school facilities, improves the education of local children, and maintains the quality of our community. That's something we can all support. Please join us and Vote Yes On Measure D!</p> <p>s/ Susan McGovern s/ Mary E. Szecsey Salmon Creek Teacher Retired Healthcare Administrator</p> <p>s/ Eugene (Gino) Gaffney IV s/ Fawn Nekton Landscape/OCSD Board Member Business Owner/HUSD Alumni</p> <p>s/ Jenay Hoffin Business Owner</p>	<p>No Argument Was Submitted Against Measure D</p>



Local Ballot Measure: D

Full Text of Measure D

HARMONY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL SAFETY, RENOVATION AND CONSTRUCTION MEASURE

This proposition may be known and referred to as the "Harmony Union School District School Safety, Renovation and Construction Measure" or as "Measure D".

BOND AUTHORIZATION

By approval of this proposition by at least 55% of the voters of the Harmony Union School District (the "District") voting on the proposition, the District shall be authorized to issue and sell bonds of up to \$13,500,000 in aggregate principal amount to provide financing for the specific school facilities projects listed under the heading entitled "BOND PROJECT LIST" below (the "Bond Project List"), subject to all of the accountability safeguards specified below.

ACCOUNTABILITY SAFEGUARDS

The provisions in this section are specifically included in this proposition in order that the voters and taxpayers of the District may be assured that their money will be spent to address specific school facilities needs of the District, all in compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the Constitution of the State of California (the "California Constitution"), and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000 (codified at Sections 15264 and following of the California Education Code).

Evaluation of Needs. The Board of Trustees of the District (the "Board") has evaluated the facilities needs of the District in order to determine which projects to finance from a local bond at this time. In order to address the facilities needs of the District, the Board deems it necessary and advisable to fund the specific school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. The Board hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List.

Limitations on Use of Bonds. Proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition shall be used only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses. More specifically, the Bond Project List provides for the specific projects the District proposes to finance with proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition and such proceeds shall be applied only to those specific purposes.

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. In accordance with and pursuant to California Education Code Section 15278 *et seq.*, the Board shall establish an independent citizens' oversight committee, within 60 days of the date that the Board enters the election results on its minutes pursuant to Section 15274 of the California Education Code, to ensure that (a) bond revenues are expended only for the purposes specified in Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution, and (b) that no funds are used for any teacher or administrative salaries or other school operating expenses. In accordance with Section 15282 of the California Education Code, the citizens' oversight committee shall consist of at least seven members and shall include a member active in a business organization representing the business community located within the District, a member active in a senior citizens' organization, a member active in a bona fide taxpayers' organization, a member that is a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District, and a member that is both a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District and active in a parent-teacher organization. No employee or official of the District and no vendor, contractor or consultant of the District shall be appointed to the citizens' oversight committee.

Annual Performance Audits. In compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California

Constitution, and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000, the Board shall conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition have been expended only on the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. These audits shall be conducted in accordance with the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States for performance audits. The results of these audits shall be made publicly available and shall be submitted to the citizens' oversight committee in accordance with Section 15286 of the California Education Code.

Annual Financial Audits. In compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(D) of the California Constitution, and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000, the Board shall conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. These audits shall be conducted in accordance with the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States for financial audits. The results of these audits shall be made publicly available and shall be submitted to the citizens' oversight committee in accordance with Section 15286 of the California Education Code.

Special Bond Proceeds Account; Annual Report to Board. In compliance with the requirements of California Government Code Section 53410 and following, upon approval of this proposition and the sale of any bonds approved, the Board shall take actions necessary to establish an account in which proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition shall be deposited. In compliance with the requirements of California Government Code Section 53411, as long as any proceeds of the bonds remain unexpended, the chief fiscal officer of the District shall cause a report to be filed with the Board at least once a year, stating (a) the amount of funds collected and expended in that year, and (b) the status of any project required or authorized to be funded from bond proceeds. The report may relate to the calendar year, fiscal year, or other appropriate annual period as the chief fiscal officer of the District shall determine, and may be incorporated into the annual budget, audit, or other appropriate routine report to the Board.

FURTHER SPECIFICATIONS

Single Purpose. All of the purposes enumerated in this proposition shall be united and voted upon as one single proposition, pursuant to California Education Code Section 15100, and all the enumerated purposes shall constitute the specific single purpose of the bonds, and the proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition shall be spent only for such purpose, pursuant to California Government Code Section 53410.

Bonds may be Issued in Excess of Statutory Bonding Limit. Issuance of all of the authorized bonds might require the outstanding debt of the District to exceed its statutory bonding limit (currently 1.25% of the total assessed valuation of taxable property in the District). In that event, the District intends to seek a waiver of its bonding limit from the State Board of Education, which has the power to waive certain requirements of the California Education Code applicable to the District. By approval of this proposition, the voters have authorized the District to seek such a waiver, and to issue authorized bonds in excess of the District's statutory bonding limit as the State Board of Education may approve. No such waiver has yet been sought or granted.

Other Terms of the Bonds. When sold, the bonds shall bear interest at an annual rate not exceeding the statutory maximum, and that interest shall be made payable at the time or times permitted by law. The bonds may be issued and sold in several series, and no bond shall be made to mature more than the statutory maximum number of years from the date borne by that bond.



Local Ballot Measure: D

Full Text of Measure D (Continued)

BOND PROJECT LIST

The Bond Project List below lists the specific projects the District proposes to finance with proceeds of the bonds. The Bond Project List shall be considered a part of this bond proposition and shall be reproduced in any official document required to contain the full statement of the bond proposition. Listed projects will be completed as needed at a particular school or school facility site according to Board-established priorities, and the order in which such projects appear on the Bond Project List is not an indication of priority for funding or completion. In so far as permitted by law, each project is assumed to include its share of costs of the election and bond issuance, construction-related costs, such as project and construction management, architectural, engineering, inspection and similar planning and testing costs, demolition and interim housing costs, legal, accounting and similar fees, costs related to the independent annual financial and performance audits, a contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs, and other costs incidental to or necessary for completion of the listed projects (whether the related work is performed by the District or third parties). The final cost of each project will be determined as plans are finalized, construction bids are awarded, and projects are completed. In addition, certain project funds expected from non-local bond sources have not yet been secured. Therefore, the Board cannot guarantee that the bond proceeds will provide sufficient funds to allow completion of all listed projects. Alternatively, if the District obtains unexpected funds from non-local bond sources with respect to listed projects, such projects may be enhanced, supplemented or expanded to the extent of such funds. Some projects may be subject to further government approvals, including by State officials and boards and/or local environmental or agency approval. Inclusion of a project on the Bond Project List is not a guarantee that the project will be completed (regardless of whether bond funds are available).

The specific projects authorized to be financed with proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition are as follows:

HARMONY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT PROJECTS

The following projects are authorized to be financed at all school facilities sites District wide:

- Acquire, install and integrate backup power systems, infrastructure, fixtures and equipment.
- Wildfire hardening and prevention improvements to school facilities and grounds.
- Acquire, replace, upgrade and/or install security, health and safety improvements and systems, including lighting, fencing, smoke detectors, fire alarms, sprinklers, security alarms, signage, safety doors, safety locks and hardware, cameras and emergency communication systems.
- Improve, correct, restore and/or renovate grounds, buildings, and structures or portions thereof to eliminate or mitigate health and safety risks and/or comply with local, state and federal building, health, safety, access and other related requirements, including access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Construct and/or acquire and install additional classrooms and restroom facilities.
- Renovate, rehabilitate, replace, upgrade and/or acquire and install flooring and finishes, siding, roofing, casework and cabinetry.
- Acquire and install and/or replace heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.
- Construct and/or acquire and install outdoor environmental education facilities, including outdoor learning areas, shade structures and walkways.

- Reconfigure, renovate, repair, resurface, improve and/or expand parking lots and related areas, including ingress and egress and student pick-up/drop-off areas.
- Renovate, repair, resurface and/or install and improve playgrounds, and acquire, improve, replace and/or upgrade playground equipment and fixtures.
- Construct and/or acquire and install custodial and storage facilities.

MISCELLANEOUS

All listed bond projects include the following as needed:

- Planning, designing and providing temporary housing necessary for listed bond projects.
- The inspection, sampling and analysis of grounds, buildings and building materials to determine the presence of hazardous materials or substances, including asbestos, lead, etc., and the encapsulation, removal, disposal and other remediation or control of such hazardous materials and substances.
- Seismic and historical evaluations, site surveys (including topographic, geological and utility surveys), and infrastructure analyses.
- Necessary onsite and offsite preparation or restoration in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable buildings or other temporary buildings, including demolition of structures; removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, drainage, utility lines (gas, water, sewer, electrical, data and voice, etc.), trees and landscaping; and relocating fire access roads or ingress/egress pathways.
- Address other unforeseen conditions revealed by construction, renovation or modernization (including plumbing or gas line breaks, dry rot, seismic and structural deficiencies, etc.).
- Acquire or construct other improvements required to comply with building codes, including seismic safety requirements, the Field Act, and access requirements.
- Acquisition of any rights-of-way, easements, licenses and/or real property made necessary by listed bond projects, or lease of real property made necessary by the listed bond projects.
- Acquire or construct storage facilities and other space on an interim basis, as needed to accommodate construction materials, equipment, and personnel.
- Furnishing and equipping of classrooms and other school facilities; furnishing and equipping shall include initial purchases, and scheduled and necessary replacements, upgrades and updating of technology.
- All other costs and work necessary or incidental to the listed bond projects.

PROJECTS INVOLVING RENOVATION, REHABILITATION OR REPAIR

For any project involving renovation, rehabilitation or repair of a building or the major portion of a building, the District shall be authorized to proceed with new replacement construction instead (including any necessary demolition) if the Board of Trustees determines that replacement new construction is more practical than renovation, rehabilitation or repair, considering the building's age, condition, expected remaining life, comparative cost and other relevant factors.



Local Ballot Measure: D

Full Text of Measure D (Continued)

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Interpretation. The terms of this bond proposition and the words used in the Bond Project List shall be interpreted broadly to effect the purpose of providing broad and clear authority for the officers and employees of the District to provide for the school facilities projects the District proposes to finance with the proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition within the authority provided by law, including Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution, California Education Code Section 15000 *et seq.* and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such words as repair, improve, upgrade, expand, modernize, renovate, and reconfigure are used in the Bond Project List to describe school facilities projects in plain English and are not intended to expand the nature of such projects beyond, or have an effect on, and shall be interpreted to only permit, what is authorized under Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution, California Education Code Section 15000 *et seq.* and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000. In this regard, the Bond Project List does not authorize, and shall not be interpreted to authorize, expending proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition for current maintenance, operation or repairs. The school facilities projects on the Bond Project List only authorize capital expenditures.

Estimated Ballot Information. The Board hereby declares, and the voters by approving this bond proposition concur, that the information included in the statement of the bond proposition to be voted on pursuant to Section 13119 of the California Elections Code is based upon the District's projections and estimates only and is not binding upon the District. The amount of money to be raised annually and the rate and duration of the tax to be levied for the bonds may vary from those presently estimated due to variations from these estimates in the timing of bond sales, the amount of bonds sold and market interest rates at the time of each sale, and actual assessed valuations over the term of repayment of the bonds. The dates of sale and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the District based on need for project funds and other factors. The actual interest rates at which the bonds will be sold will depend on the bond market at the time of each sale. Actual future assessed valuation will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process.

Headings. The headings or titles of the sections of the bond proposition, including any headings or titles included in the Bond Project List, are solely for convenience of reference and shall not affect the meaning, construction or effect of the bond proposition.

Severability. The Board hereby declares, and the voters by approving this bond proposition concur, that every section and part of this bond proposition has independent value, and the Board and the voters would have adopted each provision hereof regardless of every other provision hereof. Upon approval of this bond proposition by the voters, should any part be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, all remaining parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent allowed by law, and to this end the provisions of this bond proposition are severable.