

Office of the Assistant Superintendent
Business Services
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Arcadia, CA 91006



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December 7, 2016

Dean C. Logan
Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650

Dear Mr. Logan:

I write regarding the February 28, 2017 special election previously called by the Arcadia Unified School District and the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools.

As the District explained previously, the District's preference was to hold a special election on February 28, 2017 to ask its voters to consider a ballot measure; however, it was made aware that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors was then-considering calling a countywide election on March 7, 2017. While the District did not want to create confusion by calling a special election to be held a week before the potential countywide election, the Board of Supervisors was not scheduled to decide on the March 7 election until December 6, 2016 at which time it would be too late for the District to call an election in February. Therefore, the District's governing board adopted Resolution No. 1343 calling the February 28, 2017 election and the County Superintendent ordered the election on December 1, 2016.

Yesterday, the Board of Supervisors voted to call a countywide election on March 7, 2017. As noted above, the District no longer wishes to pursue the February 28, 2017 special election. Through the provisions of Section 8 of Resolution No. 1343, the District's governing board has withdrawn the measure and election previously ordered for February 28, 2017 pursuant to the authority provided to the District by Elections Code section 9605. Attached please find a copy of Resolution No. 1343 filed as the resolution withdrawing the measure and February 28, 2017 election pursuant to this authority.

Please note that the District, as was previously indicated, will also be filing a separate resolution approved by the District's governing board (Resolution No. 1344) calling a special election on a ballot measure to be consolidated with the March 7, 2017 countywide election.

The District appreciates your assistance in advance. If you have any questions, please contact my office at (626) 821-6631.

Sincerely,

Christina Aragon
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

56 December 20, 2016

LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

cc: Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D., County Superintendent of Schools, Los Angeles County
Office of Education
Lori Glasgow, Executive Officer, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors ✓

ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

DATE: November 29, 2016

TO: Board of Education

FROM: David Vannasdall, Superintendent

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1343:
PROPOSING A LOCAL FUNDING BALLOT MEASURE AND
ESTABLISHING SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER;
WITHDRAWING MEASURE UPON ACTION BY THE LOS ANGELES
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

PRESENTED BY: Christina Aragon, Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

BACKGROUND

Thanks to outstanding academic programs in math, science, reading and writing, as well as outstanding teachers and a community that values education, our local schools in Arcadia Unified School District (AUSD) are a source of community pride. AUSD schools rank in the top 4% of all school districts in California and student test scores are well above the California standard for excellence. Over 90% of students who graduate from Arcadia Unified schools go on to college or other post-secondary training.

In 2012, following consecutive years of deep budget cuts that included teacher layoffs, increases to class sizes and cuts to academic programs, over 67% of Arcadia voters approved Measure A to provide locally controlled funding for our schools that cannot be taken away by the state. Funds from Measure A have been used to keep Arcadia Unified schools among the best by preventing further cuts, retaining qualified and experienced teachers and protecting core academic programs in math, science, reading and writing. Since the passage of Measure A, an independent oversight committee has reviewed the use of funds and confirmed they have been spent as promised.

Local school funding approved in 2012 (at \$228 per parcel, per year) automatically expires after five years. Unless renewed by voters, this funding will expire next year and Arcadia Unified schools will lose over \$3 million in annual funding. A funding loss of this magnitude would mean deep cuts including teacher layoffs, increases in class sizes, and elimination of many instructional programs for students.

In order to continue this important source of local school funding, the Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education is considering placing a measure on the ballot in February, 2017 to renew local school funding at \$288 per parcel, per year for 18 years.

As proposed, this local funding measure will appear on the ballot on February 28, 2017. All registered voters in the Arcadia Unified School District will be eligible to vote on such a measure. The election will be conducted by use of mailed ballots only. The District has been made aware that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is considering calling a countywide special election for March 7, 2017; however, the County Board of Supervisors is not due to make this decision until after the deadline for the District to call an election on February 28, 2017. In an effort to protect the ability to hold an election on February 28, 2017 and also to avoid any voter confusion, which could result if two elections were held only one week apart, if the County Board of Supervisors calls a countywide special election on March 7, 2017, Resolution No. 1343 will automatically withdraw the measure from the February 28, 2017 ballot and Resolution No. 1344 (also before the Board) will place the measure before the voters at the consolidated election on March 7, 2017. In any event, the end result will be a single election on a single tax measure either on February 28, 2017 (if no countywide election is called for March 7, 2017) or on March 7, 2017 (if a countywide election is called for that date). The ballot measure must be approved by 2/3 of local voters voting on the measure. The measure would automatically expire in 18 years and cannot be extended without re-approval from 2/3 of local voters.

If approved by voters, funds from a renewal measure could be used for:

- Retaining and attracting high quality teachers
- Keeping schools safe and clean
- Protecting quality math, science, reading, art and music programs
- Maintaining advanced placement and honors courses, in such subjects as physics, chemistry and biology

The proposed renewal measure would continue to require strict accountability protections including:

- An independent citizens' oversight committee and annual audits
- No funds may be used for district office administrators' salaries and benefits
- By law, all funds will stay local to benefit Arcadia Unified schools and cannot be taken by Sacramento

All taxable parcels of land within the Arcadia Unified School District would pay the assessment for our schools, including businesses. This assessment would appear on property tax bills and be collected by the County on the District's behalf.

Through a simple application process, senior citizen homeowners, aged 65 and older, may continue to receive an exemption for their primary residence by filling out a one-page form and providing proof of age and residency. Residents with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income may continue to apply for an exemption. In addition, low-income residents receiving Social Security Disability Insurance benefits may also apply for an exemption.

Sacramento has been an unreliable partner for funding our schools. Funding per student in California is among the lowest in the nation and Arcadia ranks among the lowest funded school districts in LA County. The proposed renewal measure is designed to last for 18 years to ensure Arcadia students born now will have an education protected from deep budget cuts by locally controlled school funding until they graduate from high school.

Arcadia residents benefit from living in a community with great schools. In addition to preparing students to get good jobs and contribute to our local economy, quality schools make Arcadia a desirable place to live and create demand for our homes. This helps keep our property values strong, which is more important than ever.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

Approximately \$173,000 in election costs.

PREPARED BY: Christina Aragon, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

CA:cc

ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Arcadia, California

RESOLUTION NO. 1343

**PROPOSING A LOCAL FUNDING BALLOT MEASURE AND ESTABLISHING
SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER; WITHDRAWING MEASURE UPON
ACTION BY THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

WHEREAS, thanks to outstanding academic programs, highly qualified teachers and a community that values education, our schools in the Arcadia Unified School District ("AUSD" or "District") are a source of community pride; and

WHEREAS, Arcadia schools rank in the top 4% of all school districts in California and student test scores are well above the California standard for excellence. Over 90% of students who graduate from Arcadia schools go on to college or other post-secondary training; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, following consecutive years of deep budget cuts that included teacher layoffs, increases to class sizes and cuts to academic programs, over 67% of Arcadia voters approved Measure A to provide locally controlled funding for our schools that cannot be taken away by the state; and

WHEREAS, funds from Measure A have been used to keep Arcadia schools among the best by preventing further cuts, retaining qualified and experienced teachers and protecting core academic programs in math, science, reading and writing; and

WHEREAS, since the passage of Measure A in 2012, an independent oversight committee has reviewed the use of funds and confirmed they have been spent as promised; and

WHEREAS, local school funding approved in 2012 automatically expires after five years and, unless renewed by voters, this funding will expire next year and Arcadia schools will lose over \$3 million in annual funding; and

WHEREAS, a funding loss of this magnitude would mean deep cuts including teacher layoffs, increases in class sizes, and elimination of many instructional programs for students; and

WHEREAS, because Sacramento has been an unreliable partner for funding our schools and funding per student in California is among the lowest in the nation and Arcadia ranks among the lowest funded school districts in Los Angeles County, the District is proposing to renew parcel tax funding for 18 years to ensure Arcadia students born now will benefit from a quality education protected from deep budget cuts by locally controlled school funding until they graduate from high school; and

WHEREAS, renewing local funding would enhance local control of Arcadia schools, make our schools less dependent on Sacramento, and provide vital funding to support students and education at a time when they need it most; and

WHEREAS, by law, all funds from this local funding renewal measure must be used to protect the specified programs in Arcadia schools and cannot be taken away by Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, this local funding renewal measure requires strict accountability including independent citizen oversight and annual audits, to ensure funds are spent as promised; and

WHEREAS, great teachers are essential to excellent education and stable local funding will help our Arcadia neighborhood schools retain experienced and well-trained teachers, ensuring our local students receive the quality education they need to get into top colleges and compete for jobs in today's tough economy; and

WHEREAS, we all benefit from living in a community with great schools in that quality schools make Arcadia a desirable place to live, which creates demand for our homes and helps keep our property values strong; and

WHEREAS, section 4 of article XIII A of the California Constitution and Government Code sections 50075 *et seq.* authorize the District to adopt such a local funding measure in the form of a qualified special tax, subject to two-thirds approval of the voters voting on the measure; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 4000 and 4108 of the Elections Code, a school district may conduct an election by all-mailed ballots; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Education ("Board") has conducted a noticed public hearing, as required by law, on the question of whether or not to place a measure on the ballot to authorize funding to continue the programs and for the purposes identified below; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined in its best judgment that it is advisable to request that the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools ("County Superintendent") call an all-mailed ballot election and submit to the voters of the District the question of whether to adopt a local funding measure in order to maintain the quality of the District public education that has benefited all students and residents; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Education Code and Elections Code such election may be completely or partially consolidated with any other election held on the same day and in the same territory or territory that is in part the same; and,

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors ("Board of Supervisors") is considering calling a countywide special election on March 7, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to avoid any voter confusion which could result if two elections were held only one week apart; and

WHEREAS, the Board may amend or withdraw a measure no later than the 83rd day prior to an election pursuant to Elections Code section 9605.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT HEREBY RESOLVES, DETERMINES, AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.

Section 2. Order of Election; Authority. This Resolution stands as an order pursuant to the Education Code to the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools ("County Superintendent") to call an all-mailed election within the District's boundaries on February 28, 2017.

Section 3. Date and Purpose of Measure. Pursuant to the California Constitution and Government Code, an all-mailed ballot election shall be held within the boundaries of the District on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, for the purpose of voting on a measure ("Measure") which will be presented to voters in substantially the form attached hereto as *Exhibit A*, containing the question of whether the District shall impose a qualified special tax for the educational purposes stated therein. In addition, the full text of the Measure ("Full Ballot Text") shall appear in the ballot pamphlet in substantially the form attached hereto as *Exhibit B*. The authority for the specifications of this election order is contained in the Education Code, and the authority for ordering the election is contained in the Education Code, Elections Code, Government Code, and California Constitution.

Section 4. Exemptions from Qualified Special Tax. An exemption from the tax will be made available to the following individuals pursuant to the Measure:

- (a) Persons in the District who will attain 65 years of age prior to July 1 of the tax year, own a beneficial interest in the parcel, and use that parcel as his or her principal place of residence; or,
- (b) Persons receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age, own a beneficial interest in the parcel, and use that parcel as his or her principal place of residence; or,
- (c) Persons receiving Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, regardless of age, whose yearly income does not exceed 250 percent of the 2012 federal poverty guidelines issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services own a beneficial interest in the parcel, and use that parcel as his or her principal place of residence.

The District shall annually provide to the Los Angeles County Tax Collector or other appropriate Los Angeles County official ("County Tax Collector") a list of parcels that the District has approved for an exemption.

Section 5. Transmittal of Resolution as Election Order. The Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to cause certified copies of this Resolution and order to be delivered, as a resolution ordering an election, not later than November 30, 2016 to the County Superintendent, and no later than December 2, 2016 to the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters ("Registrar") and the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County ("Board of Supervisors").

Section 6. County Superintendent. The County Superintendent is hereby requested to prepare a Formal Notice of School Parcel Tax Election ("Notice") containing the information specified in section 5361 of the Education Code, in substantially the form attached hereto as *Exhibit C*, and to publish and/or post the Notice as required by law. The Secretary to the Board, on behalf of and as may be requested by the County Superintendent, is authorized to cause all notices required by law in connection herewith to be published and posted, as the case may be. The County Superintendent is hereby requested to perform the duties under Education Code section 5302.

Section 7. Election Services.

- (a) *Request to Registrar.* Pursuant to State law, the Registrar is hereby requested to take all steps incident to the preparation for and the holding of the election as an all-mailed ballot election on February 28, 2017 in accordance with law and these specifications. The election may be consolidated with another election as specified below, if such consolidation is feasible and appropriate.
- (b) *Voter Pamphlet.* The Registrar is hereby requested to reprint the Full Ballot Text in substantially the form attached hereto as *Exhibit B* in the voter information pamphlet to be distributed to voters pursuant to the Elections Code. In the event the Full Ballot Text will not be reprinted in the voter information pamphlet in its entirety, the Registrar is hereby requested to print, immediately below the impartial analysis of the Measure, in no less than 10-point boldface type, a legend substantially as follows:

"The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure __. If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters at (800) 815-2666 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you."
- (c) *Consolidation.* The County Superintendent and the Board of Supervisors are hereby requested to consolidate the election ordered hereby with any and all

other elections as may be held on February 28, 2017 in the same territory or in territory that is in part the same.

- (d) *Canvass and Declaration of Results.* The Board of Supervisors is authorized to canvass the returns of the election and declare the result pursuant to the Elections Code.
- (e) *Cost of Election.* The District will reimburse the Registrar and Los Angeles County for costs associated with the election as required by law.
- (f) *Delivery of Notices.* The Board requests that the Registrar deliver a copy of all published notices to the Secretary of this Board pursuant to section 12113 of the Elections Code.

Section 8. Withdrawal of Measure. If, no later than December 7, 2016, the County Board of Supervisors votes to call a special countywide election in the County of Los Angeles on March 7, 2017, the following provisions shall be effective:

- (a) *Withdrawal of Measure.* No election on the Measure set forth in this Resolution shall be held. The Resolution shall stand as a resolution withdrawing the Measure from the ballot pursuant to Elections Code section 9605.
- (b) *Transmittal of Resolution as Withdrawal Resolution.* The Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to cause certified copies of this Resolution, as a resolution withdrawing the Measure, to be delivered to the County Superintendent, the Registrar, and the Board of Supervisors no later than December 7, 2016.
- (c) *Official Actions.* The District Superintendent, Board President, or their designees are hereby authorized to execute any other document and to perform all acts necessary to withdraw the Measure from the ballot.
- (d) *Future Measures.* Section 8 does not in any way impact any other resolution adopted by the Board calling an election or placing a measure on the ballot.

Section 9. Collection of Taxes. Subject to two-thirds approval of the voters voting on the Measure, the qualified special tax that is the subject of this Resolution will be levied for 18 years beginning as of July 1, 2017, against all parcels of taxable real property located wholly or partly within the District boundaries. Said qualified special tax will be collected by the County Tax Collector at the same time as and along with, all other taxes and assessments on the County's property tax bills. The qualified special tax will be subject to the same penalties as general *ad valorem* taxes collected by said County Tax Collector. The tax and penalty will bear interest at the same rate as the rate for unpaid *ad valorem* property taxes until paid.

Section 10. Accountability Measures. If the Measure is approved by the voters, then the members of the Board, the District Superintendent, and the other officers of the District are hereby requested and directed, individually and collectively, to provide accountability measures pursuant to Government Code section 50075.1 that include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

- (a) A statement indicating the specific purposes of the qualified special tax;
- (b) A requirement that the proceeds be applied only to the specific purposes identified pursuant to subsection (a); and,
- (c) The creation of an account into which the proceeds must be deposited; and,
- (d) An annual report pursuant to section 50075.3 of the Government Code, as provided in Section 10 hereof.

In addition, the Citizens' Measure A Oversight Committee ("Committee") established by Board Resolution No. 1271 shall ensure that the qualified special tax proceeds of Measure A and this Measure are spent for their authorized purposes, and will report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds, pursuant to Section 10. The Board may revise the Committee's composition, duties, funding, bylaws, and other necessary information regarding its operation.

Section 11. Annual Report. If the Measure is approved by the voters, then pursuant to section 50075.3 of the Government Code, the Board directs the chief fiscal officer of the District to file a report with the Board no later than December 31, 2017 and at least once a year thereafter. The annual report must contain both of the following: (a) The amount of funds collected and expended; and, (b) the status of any project required or authorized to be funded as identified in the Measure. The report may be combined or included with any other report of the District, as long as that report contains all of the information required by this Section. To fulfill its requirement for an annual report, the Committee shall review and make written comments upon each annual report required by this Section before it is presented to the Board.

Section 12. Appropriations Limit. The Board shall provide in each year for an increase in the District's appropriations limit as shall be necessary to ensure that the proceeds of the qualified special tax may be spent for their authorized purposes.

Section 13. Ballot Arguments. The Board President and/or her designees are hereby authorized to prepare and file with the Registrar any ballot argument prepared in connection with the election, including a rebuttal argument, each within the time established by the Registrar, which shall be considered the official ballot arguments of the Board as sponsor of the Measure.

Section 14. Official Actions. The District Superintendent, Board President, or their designees are hereby authorized to execute any other document and to perform all acts necessary to place

the Measure on the ballot or withdraw the Measure from the ballot, including making alterations to the Measure and Full Ballot Text stated in *Exhibit A* and *Exhibit B* hereto, and to this Resolution to comply with requirements of law and election officials or which are, in the judgment of the District Superintendent and/or Board President, in the best interests of the District.

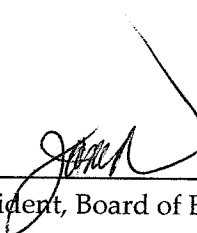
Section 15. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education at its meeting on November 29, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: 4

NOES: 0

ABSENT/NOT VOTING: 1

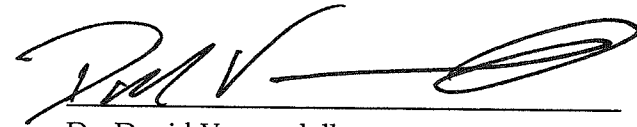


President, Board of Education

I, Dr. David Vannasdall, Secretary to the Board of Education, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the Arcadia Unified School District at its meeting of November 29, 2016, which Resolution is on file in the office of this school district.

11/29/16

Date



Dr. David Vannasdall
Secretary to the Board of Education

EXHIBIT A

LOCAL FUNDING MEASURE
For
ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
(Abbreviated Form)

ARCADIA TEACHER AND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION
PROTECTION MEASURE

To keep Arcadia schools among the best in California by renewing approximately \$4.3 million in annual local funding the state cannot take away, shall Arcadia Unified School District continue attracting/retaining quality teachers; keeping schools safe/clean; protecting quality math, science, technology, reading, writing, art and music programs by extending the expiring school parcel tax at \$288 per parcel annually for 18 years, requiring independent oversight/audits, senior exemptions, and all funds used locally to maintain quality education?

EXHIBIT B

FULL TEXT OF LOCAL FUNDING MEASURE For ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

ARCADIA TEACHER AND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION PROTECTION MEASURE

PURPOSE

Thanks to outstanding academic programs, highly qualified teachers and a community that values education, our schools in the Arcadia Unified School District (“AUSD” or “District”) are a source of community pride. Arcadia schools rank in the top 4% of all school districts in California and student test scores are well above the California standard for excellence. Over 90% of students who graduate from Arcadia schools go on to college or other post-secondary training.

Locally-Controlled School Funding Sustains Excellence

In 2012, following consecutive years of deep budget cuts that included teacher layoffs, increases to class sizes and cuts to academic programs, over 67% of Arcadia voters approved Measure A to provide locally controlled funding for our schools that cannot be taken away by the state. Funds from Measure A have been used to keep Arcadia schools among the best by preventing further cuts, retaining qualified and experienced teachers and protecting core academic programs in math, science, reading and writing. Since the passage of Measure A, an independent oversight committee has reviewed the use of funds and confirmed they have been spent as promised.

Local School Funding Set To Expire Next Year

Local school funding approved in 2012 automatically expires after five years. Unless renewed by voters, this funding will expire next year and Arcadia schools will lose over \$3 million in annual funding. A funding loss of this magnitude would mean deep cuts including teacher layoffs, increases in class sizes, and elimination of many instructional programs for students.

Renewing Local School Funding

In order to continue this important source of local school funding, the Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education is proposing to renew local school funding at \$288 per parcel, per year. If approved by voters, funds from a renewal measure would be used for:

- Retaining and attracting high quality teachers
- Keeping schools safe and clean
- Protecting quality math, science, reading, art and music programs

- Maintaining advanced placement and honors courses, in such subjects as physics, chemistry and biology

Strict Fiscal Accountability Would Still Be Mandatory

The proposed renewal measure would continue to require strict accountability protections including:

- An independent citizens' oversight committee and annual audits
- No funds may be used for district office administrators' salaries and benefits
- By law, all funds will stay local to benefit Arcadia schools and cannot be taken by Sacramento

Stable Education Funding Through 12th Grade

Sacramento has been an unreliable partner for funding our schools. Funding per student in California is among the lowest in the nation and Arcadia ranks among the lowest funded school districts in Los Angeles County. The proposed renewal measure is designed to last for 18 years to ensure Arcadia students born now will have an education protected from deep budget cuts by locally controlled school funding until they graduate from high school.

Top Quality Arcadia Schools Contribute To Our Great Community

Arcadia residents benefit from living in a community with great schools. In addition to preparing students to get good jobs and contribute to our local economy, quality schools make Arcadia a desirable place to live and create demand for our homes. This helps keep our property values strong.

TERMS

A. Amount and Basis of Tax

This Measure shall authorize the District to annually levy a qualified special tax of \$288 per Parcel of Taxable Real Property beginning July 1, 2017, and continuing for a period of eighteen (18) years. This qualified special tax is estimated to raise \$4.3 million in annual local funding for District schools. The amount of annual local funding raised by this qualified special tax may vary from year-to-year.

To the extent allowed by law, "Parcel of Taxable Real Property" shall be defined as:

1. Any unit of real property in the District that receives a separate tax bill for ad valorem property taxes from the County Tax Collector.
2. All property that is otherwise exempt from or upon which are levied no ad valorem property taxes in any year shall not be considered a Parcel of Taxable Real Property for purposes of the qualified special tax in such year.

3. Multiple parcels which are contiguous to each other, in actual use as one single-family residential unit, and held under identical ownership will, upon approval of an application from the owners thereof submitted to the District, be treated as a single Parcel of Taxable Real Property. Applications for such treatment must be made to the District on or before July 1, 2017, or before July 1 of any succeeding tax year. Any one approved application from a qualified applicant will provide for such treatment for the remaining term of the qualified special tax, so long as all of the parcels remains eligible for this treatment. Parcels approved for this treatment under the current qualified special tax levied by the District pursuant to Measure A will not require re-application and will continue to receive such treatment for the term of the qualified special tax levied pursuant to this Measure so long as such parcels remain eligible for this treatment.

If any portion of this definition is deemed contrary to law, the Board declares and the voters by approving the Measure concur, that every other section and part of this definition has independent value, and the Board and voters would have adopted each other section and part hereof regardless of every other section or part hereof. If all sections or parts of this definition are deemed contrary to law, "Parcel of Taxable Real Property" shall be defined as any real property in the District assigned an assessor's parcel number.

B. Exemptions

Under procedures adopted by the District, an exemption from payment of the qualified special tax may be granted on any parcel owned by one or more persons who is/are:

1. An individual who will attain 65 years of age prior to July 1 of the tax year, owns a beneficial interest in the parcel, and uses that parcel as his or her principal place of residence; or,
2. Receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age, owns a beneficial interest in the parcel, and uses that parcel as his or her principal place of residence; or,
3. Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, regardless of age, whose yearly income does not exceed 250 percent of the 2012 federal poverty guidelines issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, owns a beneficial interest in the parcel, and uses that parcel as his or her principal place of residence.

Applications for all exemptions shall be made to the District in accordance with District policies and on or before July 1 of any tax year. Any one approved application from a qualified applicant will provide an exemption for the parcel for the remaining term of the qualified special tax so long as such applicant remains eligible for the exemption. Exemptions granted under the current qualified special tax levied by the District pursuant to Measure A will not require re-

approval and will provide an exemption for the parcel for the term of the qualified special tax levied pursuant to this Measure so long as such applicant remains eligible for the exemption.

The District will annually provide to the County Tax Collector or other appropriate County tax official a list of parcels that the District has approved for exemption.

C. Claims / Exemption Procedures

With respect to all general property tax matters within its jurisdiction, the Los Angeles County Tax Assessor or other appropriate Los Angeles County tax official ("County") will make all final determinations of tax exemption or relief for any reason, and that decision will be final and binding. With respect to matters specific to the levy of the qualified special tax, including exemptions and the treatment of certain contiguous parcels, the decisions of the District will be final and binding. The procedures described herein, and any additional procedures established by the Board, will be the exclusive claims procedure for claimants seeking an exemption, refund, reduction, or re-computation of the qualified special tax. Whether any particular claim is to be resolved by the District or by the County will be determined by the District, in coordination with the County as necessary.

The Board may adopt such additional or supplemental procedures as it deems necessary or convenient for the administration of the qualified special tax.

D. Mandatory Accountability Protections

In accordance with the requirements of Government Code sections 50075.1 and 50075.3, the following accountability measures will apply to the qualified special tax levied in accordance with this Measure:

1. The specific purposes of the qualified special tax must be those purposes identified above;
2. The proceeds of the qualified special tax must be applied only to those specific purposes identified above;
3. A separate, special account will be created into which the proceeds of qualified special taxes must be deposited; and,
4. An annual written report must be made to the Board showing (i) the amount of funds collected and expended from the proceeds of the qualified special taxes and (ii) the status of any projects or programs required or authorized to be funded from the proceeds of the qualified special taxes, as identified above. The annual written report may be combined or included with any other report of the District, as long as that report contains all of the information required by this paragraph.

In addition, the Citizens' Measure A Oversight Committee ("Committee") established by Board Resolution No. 1271 shall ensure that the qualified special tax proceeds of Measure A and this Measure are spent for their authorized purposes, and will report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds. The Committee shall fulfill the requirement for an annual report by reviewing and making written comments upon each annual report required by the preceding paragraph before the report is presented to the Board. The Board may revise the Committee's composition, duties, funding, bylaws, and other necessary information regarding its operation.

E. Appropriations Limit

Pursuant to California Constitution article XIII B and applicable laws, the appropriations limit for the District will be adjusted periodically by the aggregate sum collected by levy of this qualified special tax.

F. Protection of Funding

Current law forbids any decrease in State or federal funding to the District resulting from the adoption of qualified special tax. However, if any such funding is reduced or affected because of the adoption of this local funding measure, then the Board may reduce the amount of the qualified special taxes levied as necessary in order to restore such State or federal funding and/or maximize the District's fiscal position for the benefit of the educational program. As a result, whether directly or indirectly, no funding from this measure may be taken away by the State or federal government.

G. Severability

The Board hereby declares, and the voters by approving this Measure concur, that every section and part of this Measure 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 Measure by the voters, should any part of the Measure or taxing formula be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, all remaining parts of the Measure or taxing formula hereof shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent allowed by law.

EXHIBIT C

FORMAL NOTICE OF SCHOOL PARCEL TAX ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified electors of the Arcadia Unified School District of Los Angeles County, California, that in accordance with the provisions of the Education Code of the State of California, an election will be held on February 28, 2017 by all-mailed ballot, at which election the following local funding measure shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District and voted upon:

ARCADIA TEACHER AND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION
PROTECTION MEASURE

To keep Arcadia schools among the best in California by renewing approximately \$4.3 million in annual local funding the state cannot take away, shall Arcadia Unified School District continue attracting/retaining quality teachers; keeping schools safe/clean; protecting quality math, science, technology, reading, writing, art and music programs by extending the expiring school parcel tax at \$288 per parcel annually for 18 years, requiring independent oversight/audits, senior exemptions, and all funds used locally to maintain quality education?

By execution of this formal Notice of Election the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools orders consolidation of the election with such other elections as may be held on the February 28, 2017 in the same territory or in territory that is in part the same.

The Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, by this Notice of Election, has called the election pursuant to a Resolution of the Board of Education of the Arcadia Unified School District, adopted November 29, 2016, in accordance with the provisions of Education Code sections 5302, 5325 and 5361, and Elections Code sections 4000 and 4108.

This Measure may be withdrawn or amended by the Board of Education of the Arcadia Unified School District no later than December 7, 2016. If the Measure is withdrawn by that date, no election on this Measure shall be held.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of _____, 2016.

Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools
Los Angeles County, California

Office of the Assistant Superintendent
Business Services
150 South Third Avenue
Arcadia, CA 91006



ARCADIA
Unified School District

p 626 821 6631
f 626 821 6632
www.ausd.net

December 7, 2016

Lori Glasgow
Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 West Temple Street, Suite 383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Glasgow:

Enclosed please find Resolution No. 1344, adopted by the Arcadia Unified School District's Board of Education at its meeting on November 29, 2016. Resolution No. 1344 orders a special election to be held in the District on March 7, 2017. The Resolution requests that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors consolidate the election with the countywide election now scheduled for the same date and also allow the County Registrar of Voters to conduct the special election in the District.

If you have any questions, please contact my office at (626) 821-6631.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina Aragon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "C".

Christina Aragon
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

DATE: November 29, 2016

TO: Board of Education

FROM: David Vannasdall, Superintendent

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1344:
PROPOSING A LOCAL FUNDING BALLOT MEASURE AND
ESTABLISHING SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER

PRESENTED BY: Christina Aragon, Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

BACKGROUND

Thanks to outstanding academic programs in math, science, reading and writing, as well as outstanding teachers and a community that values education, our local schools in Arcadia Unified School District (AUSD) are a source of community pride. AUSD schools rank in the top 4% of all school districts in California and student test scores are well above the California standard for excellence. Over 90% of students who graduate from Arcadia Unified schools go on to college or other post-secondary training.

In 2012, following consecutive years of deep budget cuts that included teacher layoffs, increases to class sizes and cuts to academic programs, over 67% of Arcadia voters approved Measure A to provide locally controlled funding for our schools that cannot be taken away by the state. Funds from Measure A have been used to keep Arcadia Unified schools among the best by preventing further cuts, retaining qualified and experienced teachers and protecting core academic programs in math, science, reading and writing. Since the passage of Measure A, an independent oversight committee has reviewed the use of funds and confirmed they have been spent as promised.

Local school funding approved in 2012 (at \$228 per parcel, per year) automatically expires after five years. Unless renewed by voters, this funding will expire next year and Arcadia Unified schools will lose over \$3 million in annual funding. A funding loss of this magnitude would mean deep cuts including teacher layoffs, increases in class sizes, and elimination of many instructional programs for students.

In order to continue this important source of local school funding, the Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education is considering placing a measure on the ballot in March, 2017 to renew local school funding at \$288 per parcel, per year for 18 years.

As proposed, this local funding measure will appear on the ballot on March 7, 2017. The Board is also considering Resolution No. 1343, which would place a similar measure on the ballot on February 28, 2017. This need for both resolutions is due to the fact that the District has been made aware that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is considering calling a countywide special election for March 7, 2017; however, the County Board of Supervisors is not due to make this decision until after the deadline for the District to call an election has passed. Resolution No. 1344 would protect the ability of the District to place the measure on the March 7, 2017 ballot if the County Board of Supervisors calls a countywide special election for that date. If the County Board of Supervisors does not call a countywide special election for March 7, 2017, the Board will have the opportunity at its next regular meeting to withdraw Resolution No. 1344 and allow the election to move forward on February 28, 2017 under Resolution No. 1343. In any event, the end result will be a single election on a single tax measure either on February 28, 2017 (if no countywide election is called for March 7, 2017) or on March 7, 2017 (if a countywide election is called for that date). All registered voters in the Arcadia Unified School District will be eligible to vote on such a measure. The ballot measure must be approved by 2/3 of local voters voting on the measure. The measure would automatically expire in 18 years and cannot be extended without re-approval from 2/3 of local voters.

If approved by voters, funds from a renewal measure could be used for:

- Retaining and attracting high quality teachers
- Keeping schools safe and clean
- Protecting quality math, science, reading, art and music programs
- Maintaining advanced placement and honors courses, in such subjects as physics, chemistry and biology

The proposed renewal measure would continue to require strict accountability protections including:

- An independent citizens' oversight committee and annual audits
- No funds may be used for district office administrators' salaries and benefits
- By law, all funds will stay local to benefit Arcadia Unified schools and cannot be taken by Sacramento

All taxable parcels of land within the Arcadia Unified School District would pay the assessment for our schools, including businesses. This assessment would appear on property tax bills and be collected by the County on the District's behalf.

Through a simple application process, senior citizen homeowners, aged 65 and older, may continue to receive an exemption for their primary residence by filling out a one-page form and providing proof of age and residency. Residents with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income may continue to apply for an exemption. In addition, low-income residents receiving Social Security Disability Insurance benefits may also apply for an exemption.

Sacramento has been an unreliable partner for funding our schools. Funding per student in California is among the lowest in the nation and Arcadia ranks among the lowest funded school districts in LA County. The proposed renewal measure is designed to last for 18 years to ensure Arcadia students born now will have an education protected from deep budget cuts by locally controlled school funding until they graduate from high school.

Arcadia residents benefit from living in a community with great schools. In addition to preparing students to get good jobs and contribute to our local economy, quality schools make Arcadia a desirable place to live and create demand for our homes. This helps keep our property values strong, which is more important than ever.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

Approximately \$68,000 in election costs.

PREPARED BY: Christina Aragon, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

CA:cc

**ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Arcadia, California**

RESOLUTION NO. 1344

**PROPOSING A LOCAL FUNDING BALLOT MEASURE AND ESTABLISHING
SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER**

WHEREAS, thanks to outstanding academic programs, highly qualified teachers and a community that values education, our schools in the Arcadia Unified School District ("AUSD" or "District") are a source of community pride; and

WHEREAS, Arcadia schools rank in the top 4% of all school districts in California and student test scores are well above the California standard for excellence. Over 90% of students who graduate from Arcadia schools go on to college or other post-secondary training; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, following consecutive years of deep budget cuts that included teacher layoffs, increases to class sizes and cuts to academic programs, over 67% of Arcadia voters approved Measure A to provide locally controlled funding for our schools that cannot be taken away by the state; and

WHEREAS, funds from Measure A have been used to keep Arcadia schools among the best by preventing further cuts, retaining qualified and experienced teachers and protecting core academic programs in math, science, reading and writing; and

WHEREAS, since the passage of Measure A in 2012, an independent oversight committee has reviewed the use of funds and confirmed they have been spent as promised; and

WHEREAS, local school funding approved in 2012 automatically expires after five years and, unless renewed by voters, this funding will expire next year and Arcadia schools will lose over \$3 million in annual funding; and

WHEREAS, a funding loss of this magnitude would mean deep cuts including teacher layoffs, increases in class sizes, and elimination of many instructional programs for students; and

WHEREAS, because Sacramento has been an unreliable partner for funding our schools and funding per student in California is among the lowest in the nation and Arcadia ranks among the lowest funded school districts in Los Angeles County, the District is proposing to renew parcel tax funding for 18 years to ensure Arcadia students born now will benefit from a quality education protected from deep budget cuts by locally controlled school funding until they graduate from high school; and

WHEREAS, renewing local funding would enhance local control of Arcadia schools, make our schools less dependent on Sacramento, and provide vital funding to support students and education at a time when they need it most; and

WHEREAS, by law, all funds from this local funding renewal measure must be used to protect the specified programs in Arcadia schools and cannot be taken away by Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, this local funding renewal measure requires strict accountability including independent citizen oversight and annual audits, to ensure funds are spent as promised; and

WHEREAS, great teachers are essential to excellent education and stable local funding will help our Arcadia neighborhood schools retain experienced and well-trained teachers, ensuring our local students receive the quality education they need to get into top colleges and compete for jobs in today's tough economy; and

WHEREAS, we all benefit from living in a community with great schools in that quality schools make Arcadia a desirable place to live, which creates demand for our homes and helps keep our property values strong; and

WHEREAS, section 4 of article XIII A of the California Constitution and Government Code sections 50075 *et seq.* authorize the District to adopt such a local funding measure in the form of a qualified special tax, subject to two-thirds approval of the voters voting on the measure; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Education ("Board") has conducted a noticed public hearing, as required by law, on the question of whether or not to place a measure on the ballot to authorize funding to continue the programs and for the purposes identified below; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined in its best judgment that it is advisable to request that the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools ("County Superintendent") call an election and submit to the voters of the District the question of whether to adopt a local funding measure in order to maintain the quality of the District public education that has benefited all students and residents; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Education Code and Elections Code such election may be completely or partially consolidated with any other election held on the same day and in the same territory or territory that is in part the same.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT HEREBY RESOLVES, DETERMINES, AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.

Section 2. Order of Election; Authority. This Resolution stands as an order pursuant to the Education Code to the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools ("County Superintendent") to call an election within the District's boundaries on March 7, 2017.

Section 3. Date and Purpose of Measure. Pursuant to the California Constitution and Government Code, an election shall be held within the boundaries of the District on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, for the purpose of voting on a measure ("Measure") which will be presented to voters in substantially the form attached hereto as *Exhibit A*, containing the question of whether the District shall impose a qualified special tax for the educational purposes stated therein. In addition, the full text of the Measure ("Full Ballot Text") shall appear in the ballot pamphlet in substantially the form attached hereto as *Exhibit B*. The authority for the specifications of this election order is contained in the Education Code, and the authority for ordering the election is contained in the Education Code, Elections Code, Government Code, and California Constitution.

Section 4. Exemptions from Qualified Special Tax. An exemption from the tax will be made available to the following individuals pursuant to the Measure:

- (a) Persons in the District who will attain 65 years of age prior to July 1 of the tax year, own a beneficial interest in the parcel, and use that parcel as his or her principal place of residence; or,
- (b) Persons receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age, own a beneficial interest in the parcel, and use that parcel as his or her principal place of residence; or,
- (c) Persons receiving Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, regardless of age, whose yearly income does not exceed 250 percent of the 2012 federal poverty guidelines issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services own a beneficial interest in the parcel, and use that parcel as his or her principal place of residence.

The District shall annually provide to the Los Angeles County Tax Collector or other appropriate Los Angeles County official ("County Tax Collector") a list of parcels that the District has approved for an exemption.

Section 5. Transmittal of Resolution. The Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to cause certified copies of this Resolution and order to be delivered not later than December 7, 2016 to the County Superintendent, and no later than December 9, 2016 to the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters ("Registrar") and the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County ("Board of Supervisors").

Section 6. County Superintendent. The County Superintendent is hereby requested to prepare a Formal Notice of School Parcel Tax Election ("Notice") containing the information specified in section 5361 of the Education Code, in substantially the form attached hereto as *Exhibit C*, and

to publish and/or post the Notice as required by law. The Secretary to the Board, on behalf of and as may be requested by the County Superintendent, is authorized to cause all notices required by law in connection herewith to be published and posted, as the case may be. The County Superintendent is hereby requested to perform the duties under Education Code section 5302.

Section 7. Election Services.

- (a) *Request to Registrar.* Pursuant to State law, the Registrar is hereby requested to take all steps incident to the preparation for and the holding of the election on March 7, 2017 in accordance with law and these specifications. The election may be consolidated with another election as specified below, if such consolidation is feasible and appropriate.
- (b) *Voter Pamphlet.* The Registrar is hereby requested to reprint the Full Ballot Text in substantially the form attached hereto as *Exhibit B* in the voter information pamphlet to be distributed to voters pursuant to the Elections Code. In the event the Full Ballot Text will not be reprinted in the voter information pamphlet in its entirety, the Registrar is hereby requested to print, immediately below the impartial analysis of the Measure, in no less than 10-point boldface type, a legend substantially as follows:

“The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure __. If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters at (800) 815-2666 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.”
- (c) *Consolidation.* The County Superintendent and the Board of Supervisors are hereby requested to consolidate the election ordered hereby with any and all other elections as may be held on the same day in the same territory or in territory that is in part the same.
- (d) *Canvass and Declaration of Results.* The Board of Supervisors is authorized to canvass the returns of the election and declare the result pursuant to the Elections Code.
- (e) *Cost of Election.* The District will reimburse the Registrar and Los Angeles County for costs associated with the election as required by law.
- (f) *Delivery of Notices.* The Board requests that the Registrar deliver a copy of all published notices to the Secretary of this Board pursuant to section 12113 of the Elections Code.

Section 8. Collection of Taxes. Subject to two-thirds approval of the voters voting on the Measure, the qualified special tax that is the subject of this Resolution will be levied for 18 years beginning as of July 1, 2017, against all parcels of taxable real property located wholly or partly within the District boundaries. Said qualified special tax will be collected by the County Tax Collector at the same time as and along with, all other taxes and assessments on the County's property tax bills. The qualified special tax will be subject to the same penalties as general *ad valorem* taxes collected by said County Tax Collector. The tax and penalty will bear interest at the same rate as the rate for unpaid *ad valorem* property taxes until paid.

Section 9. Accountability Measures. If the Measure is approved by the voters, then the members of the Board, the District Superintendent, and the other officers of the District are hereby requested and directed, individually and collectively, to provide accountability measures pursuant to Government Code section 50075.1 that include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

- (a) A statement indicating the specific purposes of the qualified special tax;
- (b) A requirement that the proceeds be applied only to the specific purposes identified pursuant to subsection (a); and,
- (c) The creation of an account into which the proceeds must be deposited; and,
- (d) An annual report pursuant to section 50075.3 of the Government Code, as provided in Section 10 hereof.

In addition, the Citizens' Measure A Oversight Committee ("Committee") established by Board Resolution No. 1271 shall ensure that the qualified special tax proceeds of Measure A and this Measure are spent for their authorized purposes, and will report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds, pursuant to Section 10. The Board may revise the Committee's composition, duties, funding, bylaws, and other necessary information regarding its operation.

Section 10. Annual Report. If the Measure is approved by the voters, then pursuant to section 50075.3 of the Government Code, the Board directs the chief fiscal officer of the District to file a report with the Board no later than December 31, 2017 and at least once a year thereafter. The annual report must contain both of the following: (a) The amount of funds collected and expended; and, (b) the status of any project required or authorized to be funded as identified in the Measure. The report may be combined or included with any other report of the District, as long as that report contains all of the information required by this Section. To fulfill its requirement for an annual report, the Committee shall review and make written comments upon each annual report required by this Section before it is presented to the Board.

Section 11. Appropriations Limit. The Board shall provide in each year for an increase in the District's appropriations limit as shall be necessary to ensure that the proceeds of the qualified special tax may be spent for their authorized purposes.

Section 12. Ballot Arguments. The Board President and/or her designees are hereby authorized to prepare and file with the Registrar any ballot argument prepared in connection with the election, including a rebuttal argument, each within the time established by the Registrar, which shall be considered the official ballot arguments of the Board as sponsor of the Measure.

Section 13. Official Actions. The District Superintendent, Board President, or their designees are hereby authorized to execute any other document and to perform all acts necessary to place the Measure on the ballot, including making alterations to the Measure and Full Ballot Text stated in *Exhibit A* and *Exhibit B* hereto, and to this Resolution to comply with requirements of law and election officials or which are, in the judgment of the District Superintendent and/or Board President, in the best interests of the District.

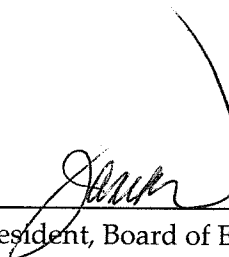
Section 14. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education at its meeting on November 29, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: 4

NOES: ~~0~~


ABSENT NOT VOTING: 1



President, Board of Education

I, Dr. David Vannasdall, Secretary to the Board of Education, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the Arcadia Unified School District at its meeting of November 29, 2016, which Resolution is on file in the office of this school district.

11/29/16
Date



Dr. David Vannasdall
Secretary to the Board of Education

EXHIBIT A

LOCAL FUNDING MEASURE
For
ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
(Abbreviated Form)

ARCADIA TEACHER AND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION
PROTECTION MEASURE

To keep Arcadia schools among the best in California by renewing approximately \$4.3 million in annual local funding the state cannot take away, shall Arcadia Unified School District continue attracting/retaining quality teachers; keeping schools safe/clean; protecting quality math, science, technology, reading, writing, art and music programs by extending the expiring school parcel tax at \$288 per parcel annually for 18 years, requiring independent oversight/audits, senior exemptions, and all funds used locally to maintain quality education?

EXHIBIT B

FULL TEXT OF LOCAL FUNDING MEASURE For ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

ARCADIA TEACHER AND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION PROTECTION MEASURE

PURPOSE

Thanks to outstanding academic programs, highly qualified teachers and a community that values education, our schools in the Arcadia Unified School District (“AUSD” or “District”) are a source of community pride. Arcadia schools rank in the top 4% of all school districts in California and student test scores are well above the California standard for excellence. Over 90% of students who graduate from Arcadia schools go on to college or other post-secondary training.

Locally-Controlled School Funding Sustains Excellence

In 2012, following consecutive years of deep budget cuts that included teacher layoffs, increases to class sizes and cuts to academic programs, over 67% of Arcadia voters approved Measure A to provide locally controlled funding for our schools that cannot be taken away by the state. Funds from Measure A have been used to keep Arcadia schools among the best by preventing further cuts, retaining qualified and experienced teachers and protecting core academic programs in math, science, reading and writing. Since the passage of Measure A, an independent oversight committee has reviewed the use of funds and confirmed they have been spent as promised.

Local School Funding Set To Expire Next Year

Local school funding approved in 2012 automatically expires after five years. Unless renewed by voters, this funding will expire next year and Arcadia schools will lose over \$3 million in annual funding. A funding loss of this magnitude would mean deep cuts including teacher layoffs, increases in class sizes, and elimination of many instructional programs for students.

Renewing Local School Funding

In order to continue this important source of local school funding, the Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education is proposing to renew local school funding at \$288 per parcel, per year. If approved by voters, funds from a renewal measure would be used for:

- Retaining and attracting high quality teachers
- Keeping schools safe and clean
- Protecting quality math, science, reading, art and music programs

- Maintaining advanced placement and honors courses, in such subjects as physics, chemistry and biology

Strict Fiscal Accountability Would Still Be Mandatory

The proposed renewal measure would continue to require strict accountability protections including:

- An independent citizens' oversight committee and annual audits
- No funds may be used for district office administrators' salaries and benefits
- By law, all funds will stay local to benefit Arcadia schools and cannot be taken by Sacramento

Stable Education Funding Through 12th Grade

Sacramento has been an unreliable partner for funding our schools. Funding per student in California is among the lowest in the nation and Arcadia ranks among the lowest funded school districts in Los Angeles County. The proposed renewal measure is designed to last for 18 years to ensure Arcadia students born now will have an education protected from deep budget cuts by locally controlled school funding until they graduate from high school.

Top Quality Arcadia Schools Contribute To Our Great Community

Arcadia residents benefit from living in a community with great schools. In addition to preparing students to get good jobs and contribute to our local economy, quality schools make Arcadia a desirable place to live and create demand for our homes. This helps keep our property values strong.

TERMS

A. Amount and Basis of Tax

This Measure shall authorize the District to annually levy a qualified special tax of \$288 per Parcel of Taxable Real Property beginning July 1, 2017, and continuing for a period of eighteen (18) years. This qualified special tax is estimated to raise \$4.3 million in annual local funding for District schools. The amount of annual local funding raised by this qualified special tax may vary from year-to-year.

To the extent allowed by law, "Parcel of Taxable Real Property" shall be defined as:

1. Any unit of real property in the District that receives a separate tax bill for ad valorem property taxes from the County Tax Collector.
2. All property that is otherwise exempt from or upon which are levied no ad valorem property taxes in any year shall not be considered a Parcel of Taxable Real Property for purposes of the qualified special tax in such year.

3. Multiple parcels which are contiguous to each other, in actual use as one single-family residential unit, and held under identical ownership will, upon approval of an application from the owners thereof submitted to the District, be treated as a single Parcel of Taxable Real Property. Applications for such treatment must be made to the District on or before July 1, 2017, or before July 1 of any succeeding tax year. Any one approved application from a qualified applicant will provide for such treatment for the remaining term of the qualified special tax, so long as all of the parcels remains eligible for this treatment. Parcels approved for this treatment under the current qualified special tax levied by the District pursuant to Measure A will not require re-application and will continue to receive such treatment for the term of the qualified special tax levied pursuant to this Measure so long as such parcels remain eligible for this treatment.

If any portion of this definition is deemed contrary to law, the Board declares and the voters by approving the Measure concur, that every other section and part of this definition has independent value, and the Board and voters would have adopted each other section and part hereof regardless of every other section or part hereof. If all sections or parts of this definition are deemed contrary to law, "Parcel of Taxable Real Property" shall be defined as any real property in the District assigned an assessor's parcel number.

B. Exemptions

Under procedures adopted by the District, an exemption from payment of the qualified special tax may be granted on any parcel owned by one or more persons who is/are:

1. An individual who will attain 65 years of age prior to July 1 of the tax year, owns a beneficial interest in the parcel, and uses that parcel as his or her principal place of residence; or,
2. Receiving Supplemental Security Income for a disability, regardless of age, owns a beneficial interest in the parcel, and uses that parcel as his or her principal place of residence; or,
3. Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, regardless of age, whose yearly income does not exceed 250 percent of the 2012 federal poverty guidelines issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, owns a beneficial interest in the parcel, and uses that parcel as his or her principal place of residence.

Applications for all exemptions shall be made to the District in accordance with District policies and on or before July 1 of any tax year. Any one approved application from a qualified applicant will provide an exemption for the parcel for the remaining term of the qualified special tax so long as such applicant remains eligible for the exemption. Exemptions granted under the current qualified special tax levied by the District pursuant to Measure A will not require re-

approval and will provide an exemption for the parcel for the term of the qualified special tax levied pursuant to this Measure so long as such applicant remains eligible for the exemption.

The District will annually provide to the County Tax Collector or other appropriate County tax official a list of parcels that the District has approved for exemption.

C. Claims / Exemption Procedures

With respect to all general property tax matters within its jurisdiction, the Los Angeles County Tax Assessor or other appropriate Los Angeles County tax official ("County") will make all final determinations of tax exemption or relief for any reason, and that decision will be final and binding. With respect to matters specific to the levy of the qualified special tax, including exemptions and the treatment of certain contiguous parcels, the decisions of the District will be final and binding. The procedures described herein, and any additional procedures established by the Board, will be the exclusive claims procedure for claimants seeking an exemption, refund, reduction, or re-computation of the qualified special tax. Whether any particular claim is to be resolved by the District or by the County will be determined by the District, in coordination with the County as necessary.

The Board may adopt such additional or supplemental procedures as it deems necessary or convenient for the administration of the qualified special tax.

D. Mandatory Accountability Protections

In accordance with the requirements of Government Code sections 50075.1 and 50075.3, the following accountability measures will apply to the qualified special tax levied in accordance with this Measure:

1. The specific purposes of the qualified special tax must be those purposes identified above;
2. The proceeds of the qualified special tax must be applied only to those specific purposes identified above;
3. A separate, special account will be created into which the proceeds of qualified special taxes must be deposited; and,
4. An annual written report must be made to the Board showing (i) the amount of funds collected and expended from the proceeds of the qualified special taxes and (ii) the status of any projects or programs required or authorized to be funded from the proceeds of the qualified special taxes, as identified above. The annual written report may be combined or included with any other report of the District, as long as that report contains all of the information required by this paragraph.

In addition, the Citizens' Measure A Oversight Committee ("Committee") established by Board Resolution No. 1271 shall ensure that the qualified special tax proceeds of Measure A and this Measure are spent for their authorized purposes, and will report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds. The Committee shall fulfill the requirement for an annual report by reviewing and making written comments upon each annual report required by the preceding paragraph before the report is presented to the Board. The Board may revise the Committee's composition, duties, funding, bylaws, and other necessary information regarding its operation.

E. Appropriations Limit

Pursuant to California Constitution article XIII B and applicable laws, the appropriations limit for the District will be adjusted periodically by the aggregate sum collected by levy of this qualified special tax.

F. Protection of Funding

Current law forbids any decrease in State or federal funding to the District resulting from the adoption of qualified special tax. However, if any such funding is reduced or affected because of the adoption of this local funding measure, then the Board may reduce the amount of the qualified special taxes levied as necessary in order to restore such State or federal funding and/or maximize the District's fiscal position for the benefit of the educational program. As a result, whether directly or indirectly, no funding from this measure may be taken away by the State or federal government.

G. Severability

The Board hereby declares, and the voters by approving this Measure concur, that every section and part of this Measure 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 Measure by the voters, should any part of the Measure or taxing formula be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, all remaining parts of the Measure or taxing formula hereof shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent allowed by law.

EXHIBIT C

FORMAL NOTICE OF SCHOOL PARCEL TAX ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified electors of the Arcadia Unified School District of Los Angeles County, California, that in accordance with the provisions of the Education Code of the State of California, an election will be held on March 7, 2017, at which election the following local funding measure shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District and voted upon:

ARCADIA TEACHER AND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION
PROTECTION MEASURE

To keep Arcadia schools among the best in California by renewing approximately \$4.3 million in annual local funding the state cannot take away, shall Arcadia Unified School District continue attracting/retaining quality teachers; keeping schools safe/clean; protecting quality math, science, technology, reading, writing, art and music programs by extending the expiring school parcel tax at \$288 per parcel annually for 18 years, requiring independent oversight/audits, senior exemptions, and all funds used locally to maintain quality education?

By execution of this formal Notice of Election the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools orders consolidation of the election with such other elections as may be held on the same day in the same territory or in territory that is in part the same.

The Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, by this Notice of Election, has called the election pursuant to a Resolution of the Board of Education of the Arcadia Unified School District, adopted November 29, 2016, in accordance with the provisions of Education Code sections 5302, 5325 and 5361.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of _____, 2016.

Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools
Los Angeles County, California