

Welcome Back, Families! Update on Making Our Classrooms Safer Measure O

Dear Spreckels Union School District Parent,

Welcome back! We're excited to begin a new school year with you and your child. Thank you for the privilege of serving your family.

I want to update you on our commitment to providing a well-rounded education in safe, clean, and well-equipped classrooms. As a result, this summer the Board of Education unanimously placed Measure O – the Spreckels Union School District Classroom Repair, Upgrade, Safety Measure – on the November 5, 2024 ballot for voter consideration.

As many of you know, our local schools are aging and need basic health, safety, and structural repairs. If enacted, Measure O will address needs identified by parents and the community, such as:

- Repairing leaky roofs
- Providing safe school drinking water
- Upgrading smoke and fire alarm systems
- Removing asbestos, lead paint, and mold
- Replacing deteriorating portables with permanent classrooms

Measure O includes strict fiscal safeguards including public disclosure of all spending, annual audits, and an independent citizens' committee. By law, all funds are legally required to benefit our schools and cannot be taken by the County or State government.

If enacted, Measure O will benefit both our elementary and middle school and allow the District to continue to attract and retain quality teachers. Please see the reverse side of this letter for answers to Frequently Asked Questions. For more information, visit: www.spreckelsdistrict.org.

We encourage all eligible parents and the community to vote in the November 5th election and make informed decisions. Please don't forget to vote on Measure O for our schools. Visit www.registertovote.ca.gov to check your voter registration status or register to vote.

Sincerely,

Eric Tarallo Superintendent Amanda O'Hara Spreckels Elementary School Principal



Information About Measure O Making Our Schools Safer Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is Measure O?

A: Measure O is the Spreckels Union School District Classroom Repair, Upgrade, Safety Measure, that will appear on your November 5, 2024, ballot to make our local schools safer.

Q: Why was Measure O placed on the ballot?

A: Our local elementary and middle schools are aging and need basic health, safety, and structural repairs to ensure all students can learn in safe, clean, and well-equipped classrooms. Measure O, designed with community feedback, will enable the District to address key priorities, including attracting and retaining quality teachers and providing a well-rounded education.

Q: What repairs and upgrades are included in Measure O?

A: Measure O, if enacted, will make basic repairs at both of our local schools by continuing to fix leaking roofs and decaying walls, plumbing, bathrooms, and gas lines, upgrading electrical systems and wiring for computer technology, continuing to provide safe drinking water, installing new windows and proper insulation, and replacing deteriorating portables with permanent classrooms

Q: How does Measure O improve school safety?

A: If enacted, Measure O improves school safety and emergency communications systems, adds safety lighting, automatic door locks, security cameras, and upgrades earthquake and fire safety systems to provide safe learning environments for our children.

Q: What fiscal accountability?

A: If enacted, Measure O includes strict fiscal safeguards including public disclosure of all spending, annual audits, and an independent citizen's oversight committee. By law, no money from Measure O can be spent on administrators' salaries or pensions. All funds are guaranteed for local schools and cannot be taken by the County or State government.

Q: What does Measure O cost?

A: Measure O is a \$27,000,000 local education bond measure. If passed, it will levy 3 cents per \$100 of assessed (not market) valuation.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: To get more information on Measure O, visit <u>www.spreckelsdistrict.org/MeasureO</u>. To register to vote before the October 21st deadline, visit <u>https://registertovote.ca.gov/.</u>