



Berryessa Union School District  
1376 Piedmont Road, San Jose, CA 95132

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We Asked About Your Priorities  
for the Berryessa Union School District

## Frequently Asked Questions **Berryessa Union School District**

### Does BUSD receive local funding?

Initially passed in 2008 and renewed in 2012, BUSD schools have relied on locally controlled funding from Measure K, the District's \$79 parcel tax. Measure K funding has helped maintain core academic programs, keep school libraries open and retain quality teachers, counselors and support staff.

However, Measure K funding is soon set to expire. Without this funding, approximately \$1.8 million annually would have to be cut from the school district's annual budget. Cuts of this magnitude would require teacher layoffs and the elimination of academic programs and services that directly impact students.

### What is the District doing to maintain Measure K funding?

To protect the quality of education and instruction in local schools, the Berryessa Union School District Board of Trustees is considering placing a measure on an upcoming ballot to renew expiring Measure K funding. A potential measure would not increase taxes, but simply renew the existing parcel tax at \$79 per parcel per year for eight years.

### Would the potential measure increase my taxes?

No. The proposed measure would simply renew local funding at the current rate, without increasing taxes.

### I am a senior citizen on a fixed income. How does the proposed measure impact me?

Senior citizen homeowners, age 65 and over, could apply for an exemption for their primary residence. If you already receive an exemption from the cost of Measure K, you would not need to reapply.

### How do I know funds would be spent wisely?

If approved, the proposed renewal measure would continue the existing fiscal accountability protections from Measure K, including a citizens' oversight committee and annual audits to ensure appropriate spending of funds.

Additionally, no funds would be used for administrator salaries or benefits, and all funds from the potential measure would be spent only in our local elementary and middle schools and could not be taken by the State.

 [www.tinyurl.com/BUSDParcelTax](http://www.tinyurl.com/BUSDParcelTax)

 (408) 923-1800

### Our Schools

- Brooktree Elementary School
- Cherrywood Elementary School
- Laneview Elementary School
- Majestic Way Elementary School
- Noble Elementary School
- Northwood Elementary School
- Ruskin Elementary School
- Summerdale Elementary School
- Toyon Elementary School
- Vinci Park Elementary School
- Morrill Middle School
- Piedmont Middle School
- Sierramont Middle School

如果您想要這些資訊的 越南文/中文/西班牙文 版·請前往 [www.tinyurl.com/BUSDParcelTax](http://www.tinyurl.com/BUSDParcelTax) 或致電 (408) 923-1800

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# Here's What You Told Us



# Berryessa Union School District Is Planning for the Future



## Dear Neighbor,

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our resilient students, teachers, support staff, administrators and community for coming together in new, meaningful ways to get through a year unlike any other in history.

### Local School Funding Set to Expire

As we prepare for a safe and full return to the classroom this fall, Berryessa Union School District (BUSD) remains committed to providing every student with a quality education that prepares them for high school and 21st-century careers.

Since 2008, our local elementary and middle schools have relied on Measure K, the District's \$79 parcel tax, to protect core academic programs and retain highly qualified teachers. However, this critical source of local funding is soon set to expire.

Without this funding, approximately \$1.8 million annually would have to be cut from the District's annual budget. BUSD is currently evaluating options to renew Measure K funding to maintain quality core education, without increasing taxes.

### You Spoke, We Listened

Last month, we reached out to the community to seek feedback about priorities for maintaining quality education for our students. We're grateful to everyone who has taken time to respond to our survey and provide input as we evaluate potential funding options.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our schools and students. If you have not already done so, please fill out our survey by visiting [www.tinyurl.com/BUSDParcelTax](http://www.tinyurl.com/BUSDParcelTax).

Sincerely,

**Dr. Roxane Fuentes**

Superintendent, Berryessa Union School District

## BUSD Community Survey Responses

Many community members have participated in our survey so far, as we evaluate the best way to support quality education in BUSD schools. Here's what you told us about your priorities:

Maintain core academic programs in science, technology, reading, writing, languages and math	93%
Attract and retain quality teachers	93%
Retain school counselors and library media technicians	85%
Provide learning technology	85%
Keep school libraries open	83%

\*Percentage of respondents indicating high or medium priority. Includes all responses through June 16, 2021.



## Renewing Local Funding Without Increasing Taxes

To protect the quality of education and instruction in local schools, the Berryessa Union School District Board of Trustees is considering placing a measure on an upcoming ballot to renew expiring Measure K funding.

A potential measure would not increase taxes, but simply renew the existing parcel tax at \$79 per parcel per year for eight years to:

- Maintain core academic programs in science, technology, reading, writing, languages and math
- Attract and retain quality teachers
- Retain school counselors and library media technicians
- Provide learning technology
- Keep school libraries open

## Continued Fiscal Accountability

A potential measure would require the same taxpayer protections, including:

- All funds would stay in BUSD schools and could not be taken by the State or used for administrator salaries or pensions
- Independent citizens' oversight and annual audits would be required
- Senior citizen homeowners would continue to be eligible for an exemption



## You're Invited!

Please attend our upcoming virtual meeting when the Board of Trustees will consider a measure to protect quality education in our local schools. The meeting will be from 5:30pm to 7pm on Tuesday, July 13, 2021. For more information, visit [www.tinyurl.com/BUSDBoardMeeting](http://www.tinyurl.com/BUSDBoardMeeting).

