

## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE U

### ESCALON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**VOTE YES on Measure U to improve the quality of education in Escalon Unified School District (EUSD) elementary, middle, and high schools.**

Today's high school graduates must compete in a highly technical workforce and global economy. We need schools with adequate classrooms, labs, and technology so **Escalon students** have the same opportunities as others to properly prepare for college and good-paying jobs.

**Unfortunately, most Escalon schools were built over 70 years ago and don't meet current health and safety codes.** Some buildings aren't accessible for students with disabilities; others have hazardous materials like asbestos and lead pipes.

Last year alone Escalon schools had 25 roof leaks!

EUSD has 37 portable classrooms over 25 years old — including at El Portal Middle School, which **all students** attend for grades 7-8. It's expensive to keep repairing aging, deteriorated portables.

No other funding exists to address these significant EUSD school facilities needs.

#### **Measure U will:**

- **Remove** hazardous materials like asbestos/ lead pipes.
- **Repair/replace** deteriorating roofs and faulty plumbing, gas, sewer, HVAC, and electrical systems.
- **Replace** decaying portables with modern, permanent classrooms.
- **Upgrade** older schools to meet current health and safety codes, and provide proper access for students with disabilities.
- **Provide** career technical education facilities so students are prepared for in-demand careers in health science, EMT, agricultural mechanics, and other skilled trades.
- **Improve** student safety and campus security.

**Taxpayer protections are REQUIRED.** No funds are allowed for administrators' salaries. Mandatory independent audits, citizens' oversight, and annual public reporting ensure proper spending. **ALL FUNDS STAY LOCAL**, dedicated to Escalon schools.

Even without school-age children, Measure U is a wise community investment. Quality schools protect property values.

**The need is great and our Escalon kids are worth it! That's why Escalon teachers, parents, and civic leaders urge your support. Please, VOTE YES on U!**

/s/Marlene M. Sousa, Life long Resident

/s/Susan Gentry, Retired Educator/ Escalon Resident

/s/Cecilia Nelson, Life long Resident/ Business owner

/s/Joshua Eichhorn, Escalon Resident/ Business Owner

/s/Richard Thompson, Escalon Resident