

MEASURE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

SCHOOL

**NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOND ELECTION
MEASURE A**

A To repair and rehabilitate local schools, including health and safety repairs to classrooms, and qualify for State matching funds, shall Novato Unified School District, with annual audits and citizens' oversight, upgrade inadequate plumbing, electrical, heating and ventilation systems, renovate children's restrooms, repair deteriorating roofs, remove asbestos, repair dry rot, upgrade fire safety systems, improve intercom and public address systems, and make other improvements to school sites and buildings by issuing \$107 million of bonds within legal interest rates?

**NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULL TEXT OF NOVATO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
BOND OF 2001
MEASURE A**

This Proposition may be known and referred to as the "Novato School Improvement Bond of 2001" or as "Measure A".

FINDINGS

The Novato public schools are a recognized leader in providing top quality education to Marin County students.

By providing outstanding service to generations of students in our community, the Novato public schools have made Novato an attractive home for new residents and businesses, and enhanced the quality of life as well as the property values of our community.

All of the school facilities of the Novato Unified School District are more than 30 years old, and the oldest school has been serving children and the community for more than 50 years.

In order to maintain our schools as effective places for teaching and learning for the future, and to be able to retain and attract students and quality staff to our programs, major renovations and repair work are needed to bring each of our elementary, middle, and high school campuses to current standards of safety, and to ensure they will remain standing for future generations.

The Board of Education of the Novato Unified School District has prepared a facilities plan and identified significant repair and rehabilitation needs that are more than the District is able to fund from currently available sources or annual revenues.

The Novato Unified School District has sought and continues to seek all available outside sources of funding for improving our school buildings, including local, state and federal grants and matching funds. The District has received State grant funds and has used these grants to complete critical projects, but outside money will not be sufficient to provide all of the District's facilities needs.

The voter-approved parcel tax ("A+ for Kids") can only be used for educational programs, and is not available for fixing school buildings.

It is necessary to seek voter approval of a bond measure in order to provide the local funding share of identified school facility repairs and modernization projects.

BOND AUTHORIZATION

By approval of this proposition by at least 55% of the registered voters voting on the proposition, the Novato Unified School District shall be authorized to issue and sell bonds of up to \$107 million in aggregate principal amount to provide financing for the specific school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List attached hereto as Exhibit A, and in order to qualify to receive State matching grant funds, subject to all of the accountability requirements specified below.

BOND PROJECT LIST

The Bond Project List attached to this resolution as Exhibit A shall be considered a part of the ballot proposition, and shall be reproduced in any official document required to contain the full statement of the bond proposition.

The Bond Project List, which is an integral part of this proposition, lists the specific projects the Novato Unified School District proposes to finance with proceeds of the bonds. Listed repairs, rehabilitation projects and upgrades will be completed as needed at a particular school site. Each project is assumed to include its share of costs of the election and bond issuance, architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, construction management, and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. The final cost of each project will be determined as plans are finalized, construction bids are awarded, and projects are completed. Certain construction funds expected from non-bond sources, including State grant funds for eligible projects, have not yet been secured, and therefore the Board of Education cannot guarantee that the bonds will provide sufficient funds to allow completion of all listed projects.

ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS

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

Evaluation of Needs. The Board of Education has prepared an updated facilities plan in order to evaluate and address all of the facilities needs of the Novato Unified School District at each campus and facility, and to determine which projects to finance from a local bond at this time. The Board hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List contained in Exhibit A.

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. The Board of Education shall establish an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (pursuant to Education Code Section 15278 and following), to ensure bond proceeds are expended only for the school facilities projects listed in Exhibit A. The committee shall be established within 60 days of the date when the results of the election appear in the minutes of the Board.

Performance Audits. The Board of Education shall conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects listed in Exhibit A.

Financial Audits. The Board of Education shall conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the bond proceeds until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects listed in Exhibit A.

Special Bond Proceeds Account; Annual Report to Board. Upon approval of this proposition and the sale of any bonds approved, the Board of Education shall take actions necessary to establish an account in which proceeds of the sale of bonds will be deposited. As long as any proceeds of the bonds remain unexpended, the Superintendent of the District shall cause a report to be filed with the Board no later than January 1 of each year, commencing January 1, 2002, stating (1) the amount of bond proceeds received and expended in that year, and (2) the status of any project funded or to be funded from bond proceeds. The report may relate to the calendar year, fiscal year, or other appropriate annual period as the Superintendent shall determine, and may be incorporated into the annual budget, audit, or other appropriate routine report to the Board.

FURTHER SPECIFICATIONS

No Administrator Salaries. 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,



(Full Text of Measure A Continued)

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.

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

Other Terms of Bonds. When sold, the bonds shall bear interest at an annual rate not exceeding the statutory maximum, and that interest will 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 25 years from the date borne by that bond.

**EXHIBIT A
NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOND PROJECT LIST
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

HAMILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (One Main Gate Road)

- Install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Repair dry rot, termite damage, other needed structural repairs to school building
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

LOMA VERDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (399 Alameda de la Loma)

- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

LU SUTTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1800 Center Road)

- Install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

LYNWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1320 Lynwood Drive)

- Install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

OLIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (629 Plum Street)

- Upgrade fire alarm systems, install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY (755 Sutro Avenue)

- Upgrade fire alarm systems, install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials

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(Full Text of Measure A Continued)

PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY (Continued)

- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

RANCHO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1430 Johnson Street)

- Upgrade fire alarm systems, install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

SAN RAMON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (45 San Ramon Way)

- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade school phone and intercom systems
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL (720 Diablo Avenue)

- Upgrade fire alarm systems, install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California

HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL (Continued)

- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Replace science laboratory equipment
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

SAN JOSE MIDDLE SCHOOL (1000 Sunset Parkway)

- Upgrade fire alarm systems, install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Upgrade school phone and intercom systems
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Repair dry rot, termite damage, other needed structural repairs to school building
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Replace science laboratory equipment
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

SINALOA MIDDLE SCHOOL (2045 Vineyard)

- Upgrade fire alarm systems, install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
- Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Replace science laboratory equipment
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

HIGH SCHOOLS

NOVATO HIGH SCHOOL/NORTH MARIN HIGH SCHOOL

- (625 Arthur Street)
- Install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles



(Full Text of Measure A Continued)

NOVATO HIGH SCHOOL/NORTH MARIN HIGH SCHOOL

(Continued)

- Upgrade school phone and intercom systems
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Repair dry rot, termite damage, other needed structural repairs to school building
 - Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
 - Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
- Upgrade heating and ventilation systems
- Improvements to classroom interiors, including:
 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
 - install marker boards and tackable surfaces
- Replace science laboratory equipment
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

SAN MARIN HIGH (15 San Marin Drive)

- Upgrade fire alarm systems, install fire hydrants
- Improve access for fire and emergency vehicles
- Upgrade school phone and intercom systems
- Repair and replace school building roofs
- Remove hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials
 - Americans with Disability Act ("ADA") improvements, including ramps, pathways, restrooms, etc., as required by the State of California
- Upgrade electrical systems, including panels, circuit breakers, transformers, wiring and outlets
- Repair and paint exterior walls, replace exterior siding, if needed
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 - patch, paint and refinish (or replace, as necessary) walls and wall coverings, floors and floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, drapes and blinds
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- Replace science laboratory equipment
- Upgrade exterior lighting for safety and security
- Repair and renovate school grounds and fields for safety

CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES

- Consistent with the Novato Unified School District's obligation under Proposition 39 (approved by California voters in November 2000) and Section 47614 of the Education Code, provide classroom capacity, including furnishings and equipment, for approximately 200 in-district charter school students at a level comparable to students attending district-run schools, at a site or sites to be determined.

**IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL
MEASURE A**

If this Measure is approved by a fifty-five percent (55%) vote, pursuant to the Article XIII A(1)(b)(3) of the California Constitution, the NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT will be authorized to incur bonded indebtedness of One Hundred Seven Million Dollars (\$107,000,000) with an interest rate not-to-exceed the limit set by law. The proceeds of the proposed bonds must be used for the purposes set forth in the Measure and for no other purposes, and will be subject to oversight by a citizens' oversight committee and annual independent audits to assure that the funds are spent only on school and classroom improvements.

Dated: August 22, 2001

PATRICK K. FAULKNER
County Counsel

**REQUIRED STATEMENT REGARDING
STATE MATCHING FUNDS
MEASURE A**

Approval of Measure A does not guarantee that the proposed project or projects in the Novato Unified School District that are the subject of bonds under Measure A will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by Measure A. The District's proposal for the project or projects assumes the receipt of matching state funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure.

MEASURE A CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



**TAX RATE STATEMENT
MEASURE A**

An election will be held in the Novato Unified School District (the "District") on November 6, 2001, to authorize the sale of up to \$107 million in bonds of the District to finance school facilities as described in the proposition. If the bonds are approved, the District expects to sell the bonds in 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 9400-9404 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

1. The best estimate of the tax which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the first series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is 5.996 cents per \$100 (\$59.96 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2002-03.
2. The best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the last series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is 5.995 cents per \$100 (\$59.95 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2008-09.
3. The best estimate of the highest tax rate which 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 6.0 cents per \$100 (\$60.00 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2021-22.

Voters should note that estimated tax rate is based on the *ASSESSED VALUE* of taxable property on the County's official tax rolls, *not* on the property's market 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. Certain taxpayers may also be eligible to postpone payment of taxes. 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 actual tax rates and the years in which they will apply 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 construction 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.

Dated: August 7, 2001

JOHN BERNARD
Superintendent

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF AND AGAINST

THIS MEASURE

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE A

Good schools are essential for a vibrant local economy. **Modernized schools mean an increase in property values for everyone.** Business, labor, real estate, law enforcement, religious leaders, community leaders, parents, teachers and homeowners support Measure A.

Novato's public schools, teachers and students give our community much to be proud of academically. **Our schools are among the highest achieving in the county** and Marin is the highest achieving county in the state.

Our school facilities have served generations of students and their families; **the newest buildings are 30 years old and the oldest are 50.** Despite regular maintenance and aggressive pursuit of state and federal grants, significant work is needed to ensure that our schools provide a safe and effective place for teaching and learning for today's children and for those of future generations.

Passage of Measure A will provide \$107 million to meet the most critical facilities needs at Novato's 14 public schools to bring each facility to current standards of safety and to accommodate the demands of today's instructional programs.

A YES vote on Measure A provides funds to:

- Replace or repair deteriorating roofs;
- Upgrade inadequate plumbing, electrical, heating and ventilation systems;
- Upgrade fire safety systems;
- Renovate children's restrooms and make facilities accessible for all students;
- Remove asbestos and repair dry rot;
- Install additional exterior safety lighting;
- Repair safety needs on paved areas and playing fields;
- Renovate classrooms and science labs;
- Provide necessary matching funds to obtain state grant money.

The District Education Center and the Maintenance facility are not included in Measure A. Measure A funds can not be used for administrative salaries. **Independent audits and a citizen's oversight committee representing the community will ensure that monies are spent only on projects identified in the measure and approved by voters.**

Novato needs safe schools – our children deserve no less.
Vote **YES** on Measure A.

s/ Mary Jane Burke
Marin County Superintendent of Schools

s/ Perry Newman, President
Novato Unified Board of Trustees

s/ Amy Peele, President
North Marin Council PTA

s/ Brian Brady
Novato Chief of Police

s/ Charles W. Bennett
Board of Directors,
Novato Chamber of Commerce

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE A

Our schools *have* become run-down and deserve to be fixed. That is not the reason many of us oppose Measure A. The reason is the **unfairness** of Measure A as a solution.

Measure A is unfair because even though most recent bond measures have passed in Marin County, this wasn't enough for some people. So, Proposition 39 was passed to lower the required percentage needed for approval. Although the proponents have given up trying to sneak bond measures through in special elections, they instead resorted to changing the rules to make it easier to pass them.

Also, Measure A would hit the elderly on fixed incomes hard. Unlike a parcel tax from which such residents can be exempted, a bond measure allows no such exemptions. After a lifetime of paying taxes, those who have chosen to retire in Novato on fixed incomes deserve a break, not Measure A.

Finally, Measure A places the greatest burden on those who already pay the most for education. Your choice of *when* you bought your home and *how much* you spent determines how much you pay. Thus, a retired person on a fixed income may pay several times as much of the cost of Measure A as a neighbor with three school age children living in an identical home.

Half of our state taxes, lottery revenues, parcel taxes, and billions in bond measures already go to education. Money is less the problem than how it is allocated and spent.

s/ Paul Jakab
Father of Two Pre-schoolers and Resident

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ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE A

This measure is a Proposition 39 Property Tax Increase. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association opposes all Proposition 39 Property Tax Increases. For more than 100 years the California Constitution required a 2/3's vote of the people to increase your property taxes. That was changed to 55% for certain property tax increases with a \$30,000,000 highly deceptive campaign financed by billionaires whose companies pay little or no property taxes. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association, by far the largest and most successful organization of ordinary taxpayers in California, fiercely opposed Proposition 39. Leading a campaign funded by average homeowners, we fought back. Out-spent 10-1, we lost in a very close vote. Your local School Board could have put a normal bond proposal on the ballot which would have required a 2/3's vote. Other school districts with elections on the same day chose a normal bond. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association is not opposing any of them. But your School Board chose to try to impose a Proposition 39 Property Tax Increase upon you. If just 55% vote "Yes" it will result in about \$214,000,000 in new property taxes in your school district, including interest, fees and charges. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association strongly recommends that you vote "No" on this property tax increase.

s/ Mrs. Howard Jarvis, Chair (Hon.)
HOWARD JARVIS TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

s/ Trevor A. Grimm, Esq.
HOWARD JARVIS TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE A

A significant benefit of a Proposition 39 bond measure is the increased requirements it imposes for accountability to Novato's taxpayers. Proposition 39 requires that independent audits be conducted and a citizens' oversight committee be established to ensure that bond proceeds are used only for projects outlined in the ballot and approved by voters.

Your tax dollars will go directly to fixing the most critical needs at each of our public school facilities.

- Measure A funds will be used only to improve our current facilities – no new construction is included.
- Measure A does not include the District Education Center or the Maintenance facility.
- Measure A funds cannot be used for administrative salaries.

All of Novato's schools are 30 years old or more – the oldest are 50. The District performs regular maintenance and repairs and has been aggressive in pursuit of additional state and federal funding for modernization and critical hardship. But the reality is these buildings are at an age where extensive work is required to keep them safe. Passage of Measure A will provide \$107 million to bring our school facilities to current standards of safety and to accommodate the demands of today's instructional programs.

Modernized schools mean an increase in property values for everyone. As taxpayers, businessowners and members of the Novato community we stand ready to vote YES on Measure A - YES to protecting our community's investment in our school facilities and YES to providing safe and effective places for teaching and learning.

Unsafe is unacceptable. Vote YES on Measure A.

s/ Robert T. Doyle
Marin County Sheriff

s/ Nancy Marsh Sangster
Senior Advocate

s/ J. Dietrich Stroeh
Co-Principal, CSW / Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group

s/ Richard L. Mitchell
Homeowner

s/ Hugh Scott
University Instructor

END OF MEASURE A

