### **MEASURE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS**

# **SCHOOL**

# LAGUNITAS SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL TAX ASSESSMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS MEASURE B

Shall Lagunitas School District secure and improve its Arts, Sciences, Music, Language, Environmental, and Technology programs, and professional services for children in need, as well as safeguarding reduced class size, by levying \$197 per assessor's parcel per year, with 6.5% yearly cost-of-living adjustment for eight years, beginning July 1st, 2002, exempting any parcel used as a principal place of residence by any owner 65 years old before May 1st of that year?

# LAGUNITAS SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL TAX ASSESSMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL MEASURE B

If this Measure is approved by a two-thirds vote, the Lagunitas School District will be authorized to levy a special tax of One Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$197.00) per assessor's parcel per year for eight (8) years, beginning July 1, 2002, with Six and One-Half Percent (6.5%) yearly cost-of-living adjustment. The Measure specifies that proceeds of the tax are to be used for Arts, Sciences, Music, Language, Environmental and Technology programs and professional services for children in need.

An exemption is created for any parcel used as a principal place of residence by any owner who has attained the age of Sixty-Five (65) years on or before May 1 of any applicable year.

Dated: August 22, 2001

PATRICK K. FAULKNER County Counsel

# ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B

Dear Valley Voters,

Our Lagunitas School District provides outstanding education through unique programs, great teachers, and extraordinary parent involvement. Our innovative programs serve as models for other schools across the nation. Our graduates consistently excel in standardized test scores and high-school grades, emerging unusually well-adapted to the real world.

Yet the Lagunitas School District is the lowest-funded in Marin. This is because our District is not big enough, nor small enough, nor rich enough, nor poor enough to receive equitable funding by California's complicated 19-page formula. California itself has been among the lowest states in per-pupil funding for decades.

As a result, our School District depends on local funds for 21% of its educational budget to pay for vital programs including:

- Environmental Studies
- Class Size Reduction
- Library Services
- Technology
- Counseling Services
- Ar
- Music
- Foreign Language
- Physical Education
- Science
- Instructional Materials

As Valley voters, we have proudly supported local funding for these programs for 15 years. Measure B does not request new funds, but merely continues our commitment to these critical programs.

To offset reduced state funding, volunteers and staff have held numerous fundraisers, lobbied the State Legislature, and secured grants from Federal, State, and local agencies. To reduce costs, our District released staff, cut programs and services, and engaged more volunteers.

Strong schools like ours develop responsible citizens and leaders. They also keep our community vital and enhance our property values. Your support for Measure B is essential for the Lagunitas School District to continue to provide quality education that the children of our Valley deserve.

If Measure B fails, local funding for these programs will end in June.

Please Vote YES on Measure B.

- s/ David Cort, Director San Geronimo Valley Cultural Center
- s/ Edie Robinson Long -Time Valley Resident
- s/ Jack Kornfield, Senior Teacher Spirit Rock Center
- s/ Frances L. Van Midde Homemaker
- s/ Kent Julin, PhD Forest Ecologist

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST THIS MEASURE WAS SUBMITTED

**END OF MEASURE B** 

