

**MEASURE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS**

**SCHOOL**

**LARKSPUR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL  
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES  
MEASURE B**

**B** To partially offset the impact of the Governor's proposed reductions in State funding, facilitate student learning in core academic subjects, and continue to provide a quality education for the entire student population, shall the Larkspur School District supplement its existing assessment, on a temporary basis, at the rate of \$75.00 per year, for a period of two years, beginning on July 1, 2003, with specific exemptions for property owners age 65 or older?

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**FULL TEXT OF RESOLUTION NO. 2002/03-09**

**PARCEL TAX ELECTION**

In the Matter of a ) RESOLUTION AND  
Special Assessment ) ORDER OF ELECTION

WHEREAS, the California State Legislature has failed to provide adequate funding for schools, and as a result of this lack of financial support and without the funds provided by the current special assessment, the Larkspur School District would be forced to reduce or eliminate important instructional programs beneficial and necessary to the children who attend the schools of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed reductions in State funding would result in further substantial reductions in basic instructional program delivery; and

WHEREAS, the voters in the district have consistently supported the District's quality educational program with approval of parcel taxes and school bonds; and

WHEREAS, a reliance solely on State funding will result in loss of critical programs; and

WHEREAS, the District, in the current school year, has engaged in a variety of efforts to balance the budget by cutting personnel, reducing supply budgets, and eliminating all spending not essential to classroom learning; and to generate funds for the educational program, including lobbying in the State Legislature and supporting local fundraising efforts; and

WHEREAS, a thorough and developed public education program delivers many long-lasting benefits and advantages to all of the residents of our community; and a high quality school system favorably impacts property values which are vital to the overall well-being of the entire District; and

WHEREAS, the Larkspur School District is committed to the highest standards of fiscal accountability for which it has been publicly praised by the County Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and Government Code Sections 50075, 50077, 50079 and 53720 et seq., authorize school districts to levy a special assessment for the purpose of providing funds to run the schools of the District upon approval by two-thirds of the votes cast;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing board of the Larkspur School District conduct a special election on June 3, 2003, at which time will be submitted to the qualified voters of the Larkspur School District a measure to authorize a special assessment for the purpose of preserving and continuing vital core academic programs critical to the education of the students of the Larkspur School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Larkspur School District Board of Trustees as follows:

Section 1. A special election is hereby called to be held within the boundaries of the Larkspur School District, to submit to the qualified voters, the following measure, to wit:

**MEASURE B**

To partially offset the impact of the Governor's proposed reductions in State funding, facilitate student learning in core academic subjects, and continue to provide a quality education for the entire student population, shall the Larkspur School District supplement its existing assessment, on a temporary basis, at the rate of \$75.00 per year, for a period of two years, beginning on July 1, 2003, with specific exemptions for property owners age 65 or older?

The special assessment will be imposed for a period of 2 years, beginning July 1, 2003, at the rate of \$75.00 per assessor's parcel, which in tax year 2003/04 would increase the existing authorized assessment of \$237.00 per assessor's parcel, which increases 5% annually, by \$75.00, with an exemption for any beneficial owner of a parcel who has attained the age of 65 on or before May 1 of any assessment year and who uses that parcel as his or her principal place of residence, and continue senior exemptions granted during the term of the current special assessment. Any one application from a qualified applicant will provide an exemption for the parcel for the remaining term of the assessment so long as such applicant continues to use the parcel as his or her principal residence.

The Parcel Assessment currently in effect has supported the following items. In response to the Governor's proposed budget reductions to education, the District is seeking a supplemental assessment to maintain these programs. The District will utilize to the greatest extent possible, the proceeds of this special assessment for the following:

Science: Maintain hands-on science instructional programs for grades 3-5.

Language Arts: Maintain reading support for struggling elementary school students.

School Libraries: Maintain library services to support the development of technology based library research skills and the study of literature at all grade levels.

Music: Maintain a District-wide music program with vocal music in the elementary grades and instrumental music available for grades 5-8.

Computer Education: Maintain an integrated technology program.

Counseling: Maintain counseling services.

Motor Skills: Maintain an elementary motor skills program.

**MEASURE B CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**



Section 2. The text of the measure as displayed on each individual ballot shall be abbreviated and shall read as follows:

LARKSPUR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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YES

NO

Section 3. Commencing on July 1, 2003, the special tax collected annually on all assessor's parcels at the rate specified above, shall be collected and administered in the same manner as *ad valorem* property taxes are fixed and collected under provisions of the California Revenue and Taxation Code.

Section 4. The Superintendent of Schools of Marin County is hereby requested to call an election of the special assessment to be held on June 3, 2003. The County Clerk is hereby requested and authorized to: 1) set forth on all sample ballots relating to this election to be mailed to the qualified electors of the Larkspur School District the measure; and 2) to provide absent voter ballots for the special assessment election for use by qualified electors of the Larkspur School District who are entitled thereto in the manner provided by law.

Section 5. If any section, subsection, phrase or clause of this resolution is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution. This governing board declares that it would have adopted this resolution and each section, subsection, phrase or clause thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, phrases or clauses shall be declared invalid.

Section 6. The Clerk of the Larkspur School District governing board is hereby authorized and directed to certify to the due adoption of this resolution and to transmit a copy hereof so certified to the Marin County Superintendent of Schools and the Marin County Board of Supervisors and to file a copy hereof so certified with the County Clerk of Marin County.

The foregoing resolution was moved by board member Michael Futterman, and adopted on roll call on March 5, 2003, by the following vote:

Ayes: Kathleen Hartzell, Nicole Kowalski, Stacey Weeks, Michael Futterman, Sally Blatt

Noes: None

Absent/Not Voting: None

WHEREUPON, the President declared the foregoing resolution duly adopted and

SO ORDERED,

s/ Sally Blatt, President  
Governing Board of  
Larkspur School District

I, MICHAEL FUTTERMAN, Clerk to the Board of Trustees, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the LARKSPUR SCHOOL DISTRICT at their special meeting of March 5, 2003 which resolution is on file in the office of the Board.

Dated: March 5, 2003

s/ Michael Futterman  
Clerk of the Board

**IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL  
MEASURE B**

If this Measure is approved by a two-thirds vote, the Larkspur School District will be authorized to levy a special tax of Seventy Five Dollars (\$75.00), in addition to its previously imposed special taxes on each parcel of land within the District each year for two (2) years, beginning July 1, 2003. The proceeds of the tax may be used only for the purposes set forth in the Measure.

Specific exemptions will be available for individuals who have attained the age of Sixty-Five (65) years or older.

Dated: March 13, 2003

PATRICK K. FAULKNER  
County Counsel



## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B

### Modest, Temporary and Necessary – A Sensible Investment in Local Education!

The Corte Madera – Larkspur Schools are ranked among the best in the state for outstanding student achievement. Traditionally strong support from parents and community members has helped ensure that our schools offer only the highest quality programs.

Now these very programs are in danger. It is almost certain that the current state budget crisis will drastically reduce funding for our district's core academic programs. We must protect and maintain our community's schools by approving Measure B, an emergency 2 year parcel tax designed to address the state funding shortage.

On June 3, 2003, voters in Corte Madera and Larkspur will have the opportunity to reaffirm their commitment to local education and in turn guarantee continued academic excellence. Measure B will:

- Maintain comprehensive, core educational programs such as, reading, writing and science
- Retain accomplished and experienced teachers

This local tax, deductible from state and federal income taxes, of \$75 per parcel annually (\$6.25 per month) with no yearly adjustment, will expire June 30, 2005. Property owners age 65 and older may apply for an exemption. All funds generated from this measure will go directly to programs at Neil Cummins Elementary and Hall Middle Schools.

Corte Madera and Larkspur recognize the important value of an outstanding school system- it is an asset that distinguishes the Twin Cities and helps maintain property values. A sensible investment in education is the community's commitment to our children and our future. Please join us in continuing to provide local funding to keep our schools strong.

Vote **YES** on Measure B, a sensible investment in local education.

s/ Michael Lappert  
Vice Mayor of Corte Madera

s/ Harry Schriebman, Member  
Corte Madera Community Foundation

s/ Sally Blatt, President  
Governing Board of Larkspur School District

s/ Dan Hillmer, Parent  
Larkspur School District

s/ Marilyn River  
Former School Board President

**NO ARGUMENT AGAINST THIS MEASURE**

**WAS SUBMITTED**

END OF MEASURE B

