

**November, 2019 Override Election,
Santa Cruz Valley Union High
School District**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will this result in a tax increase?

No. In fact, in fact there is a possibility that the overall tax rate for the district could actually decline even with approval to continue the current override funding.

2. Why did the citizens' committee recommend continuation of the current override funding?

The citizens' committee reviewed how the district is using the current override funding to determine whether there continues to be a need for the additional dollars. After a thorough review and exploration of whether there were other options for the district, it was decided that the only course of action was to seek continuation of the current override funding.

The primary reasons for the committee's recommendations were that this approach would:

- Provide continued funding to the district without increasing taxes;
- strengthen the high school curriculum and instruction by providing all students with access to highly qualified teachers and a well rounded curriculum;
- protect the district's investment in its high school by addressing the identified needs and, at the same time, maintaining or possibly reducing the tax rate for taxpayers (see question #1).

3. How will the funding be used?

The 15% override funding would continue to allow the district to:

- Maintain elective classes for students such as band, music, art and career

and technical education (culinary arts, welding, construction, etc.);

- Maintain a safe and orderly environment by providing funding for security;
- Maintain athletic funding for current teams for uniforms, equipment, fields and coaches' salaries.
- Attract and retain highly qualified teachers by maintaining competitive teacher salaries and benefits.

4. Doesn't the state provide sufficient funding to school districts?

In 2008, the state significantly cut the amount of funding provided to schools. As a result, many teachers and other school employees went multiple years with no raises, a shortage of classroom supplies, and, in some cases, elimination of support for many extracurricular programs or classes. Our district, through the passage of this override has been able to significantly lessen the impact of some of these cuts. However, even with the additional state dollars being provided for teacher salaries, it will not eliminate the need for continuation of the current override funding to address the listed priorities.

5. What happens if the override does not pass?

The District will be forced to cut over \$450,000 from the budget over the next three budget years with an initial cut of approximately \$155,000 for the 2020-2021 school year. Cuts will continue to be made each of the following budget years until the entire \$450,000 is eliminated from the budget. Cuts to the district budget of this large size will negatively impact our various programs and personnel which in turn will have a huge impact on our students.