



EAST WHITTIER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

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East Whittier City School District's Two Bond Proposals Total \$94 Million to Upgrade 13 Campuses

EAST WHITTIER – The East Whittier City School District community will vote in November on two bond measures that would fund updates, repairs and modernization of the District's 10 elementary and three middle schools.

The measures include a \$70 million East Whittier City Schools Health, Safety and Security Bond, and a \$24 million East Whittier City Schools Technology, Science Labs and Facility Improvement Bond.

The District has proposed the two bond measures to comply with Prop. 39, which limits the taxpayer cost of elementary school district measures to \$30 per \$100,000 in assessed property value. The health, safety and security bond will meet that limit; the technology bond will add \$10, for a total of \$40 for the two bonds.

Taxpayers in the District currently pay \$40 per \$100,000 in assessed value for a 1997 bond. The District will pay off that bond in August 2017, before payments would be due on the new bond. Passage of the bond would therefore keep current tax levels.

"We have set up the bonds to keep taxpayer rates the same as they have been," EWCSO Chief Business Officer Rick Holash said.

The bonds will be used to recondition and upgrade District facilities, including roofs, windows and doors, student locker rooms and plumbing, and enhance safety and security across campuses. They will also be used to expand and strengthen network infrastructure, upgrade cabling and improve science labs and classrooms.

If the bonds do not pass, the planned improvements would not be made and local taxpayers would pay \$40 less per \$100,000 in assessed value.

"These bond funds would support improvements in our schools and classrooms, as have our past bond measures," EWCSO Superintendent Mary Branca said.

The District has completed a Facilities Needs Assessment and would create a facilities oversight committee if the bonds pass.

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