

# Improving the Quality of Local Schools Santa Ana Unified School District

## **Preparing Students for the Future**

Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) is the largest school district in Orange County. Over the last six years, the graduation rate has increased by 9%, surpassing the State average. The District has a partnership with Santa Ana College to create better access to college and good jobs. We are committed to preparing our students to succeed in today's competitive Orange County job market.



#### Addressing Safety Upgrades and Essential Repairs

Our first school opened its doors in 1889 as the first high school in the county. Many of our schools were built more than 40 years ago and need to be modernized to support quality education. Some classrooms, labs and other school facilities are deteriorating, and roofs, plumbing and electrical systems need to be repaired and even replaced. Upgrades to our schools will help ensure our District can serve our students for decades to come.

## Local Funding to Support Strong Schools

Academic standards are rising for what it takes to compete in the 21st Century. We need to upgrade our schools, facilities and classrooms to keep pace. On July 16, the SAUSD Board of Education voted to place a \$232 million school improvement bond measure on the November 6, 2018 ballot. The measure would provide locally-controlled funding to repair and improve local schools. If approved, the measure would make SAUSD eligible for \$62 million in matching funds from the State. A measure would:

- Provide the classrooms, laboratories, facilities and technology needed to support high-quality instruction in math, science, engineering and technology
- Repair or replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing, gas and electrical systems
- Provide modern science labs, engineering labs and career technical education facilities so students are prepared for college and in-demand careers in fields like health sciences, engineering, technology, robotics and skilled trades
- Upgrade older schools so they meet the same academic and safety standards as newer schools
- Replace failing heating and ventilation systems and improve insulation, doors, windows and irrigation to improve energy and water efficiency and save money
- Remove hazardous materials like asbestos and lead paint from older school sites

#### **Fiscal Accountability Would Be Required**

- Independent citizens' oversight, annual audits and a detailed project list would be required
- All money raised by the measure would stay local and could not be taken away by the State
- No money could be used for administrators' or teachers' salaries or benefits
- The measure would cost approximately \$24 per \$100,000 of assessed (not market) value annually, or about \$5.25 per month for the typical homeowner

#### We Want to Hear from You

For questions or comments, please contact the District at (714) 558-5501 or visit www.sausd.us/LetsTalk.