



# TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Funding for Community High Schools

### Local High Schools

Schools in Tamalpais Union High School District are among the top in the nation, with highly qualified teachers and exceptional academic and student support programs and graduation rates above 95%.

### Stable Local School Funding

Tam District has relied on local parcel tax funding since 1989 to support high-quality teachers and strong science, technology, engineering, math, reading and writing instruction. Today this funding provides \$16.8 million each year and accounts for 17% of the District's annual budget, supporting 114 teaching and counseling positions.

### Fiscal Management

The District's financial management was recently affirmed by Moody's investor services in their granting of a Aaa credit rating, which is the highest credit rating possible. The District continues to review and manage its budget. With input from the community and the Fiscal Advisory committee, last year the District made \$5.8 million in annual cuts, increased class sizes, cut administrative staff and reduced benefits.

### Rising Student Enrollment

In addition, as student enrollment has increased in recent years, the District has needed to hire more than 70 additional teachers to serve these students. This is a community-funded district, which means that the District does not receive additional funding as more students attend local schools.

### Expiring Local Funding & Potential Parcel Tax Measure

Tam District's local funding measures are set to expire soon. If this funding expires, Tam District would be forced to make significant cuts to teachers, staff and programs. Although no final decisions have been made, the Board of Trustees is considering placing a parcel tax measure on the ballot to renew the current annual \$455 rate and increase it by \$190 per parcel, with annual cost of living adjustments. This would provide \$22.7 million in locally-controlled funding for Tam District schools each year and would prevent significant cuts.

The measure could:

- Maintain high-quality science, technology, engineering, math, reading and writing instruction
- Attract and retain high-quality teachers
- Support music and art programs
- Maintain college preparation programs and resources for all students
- Maintain career-development and vocational job-training programs

### Continued Fiscal Accountability

- All money raised by the measure would be controlled locally and could not be taken away by the State
- None of the money raised by the measure would be used for administrators' salaries
- Independent citizen oversight and audits would be required
- Senior citizens would continue to be exempt from the cost of the measure



### We Want Your Feedback

Please share your thoughts and questions by contacting Superintendent Dr. Tara Taupier at (415) 945-1020 or [ttaupier@tamdistrict.org](mailto:ttaupier@tamdistrict.org).