

Galt Joint Union Elementary School District **Measure H FAQ's**

How are Galt Joint Union Elementary School District schools doing?

Galt Joint Union Elementary School District (GJUESD) is committed to promoting student growth through innovative educational programs that integrate personal strengths with social, emotional, and academic learning for our students.

What challenges are Galt Joint Union Elementary schools facing?

GJUESD is committed to providing a quality education to our students. However, many of our schools were built decades ago and need upgrades to keep up with today's changing education and safety standards. Security systems and fire prevention systems are old and outdated, classroom roofs leak, and older electrical and sewer lines need to be replaced. Our schools have outdated classrooms and science labs that were built for a different era of education and students are learning on equipment that is now outdated.

How is Galt Joint Union Elementary School District planning to address these issues?

To complete needed repairs and improvements across our community schools, the Board of Education has voted unanimously to place a \$27 million bond measure, called "Measure H," on the November 2024 ballot. Should the voters approve Measure H, the local school facilities improvement funding would help GJUESD qualify for state matching funds that will otherwise go to other districts.

What could the Measure H school improvement bond measure do?

Measure H bond funds may only be used for the specific facilities projects outlined in the Project List included in the ballot measure, which includes:

- Improve emergency communications systems
- Install campus security systems including security cameras, lighting, door locks, and fencing
- Upgrade fire safety systems, including safety doors, smoke alarms, and smoke detectors
- Improve access to school facilities for students with disabilities
- Repair or replace leaky roofs
- Repair and replace plumbing and electrical systems
- Repair or replace outdated heating, air conditioning, and ventilation systems
- Repair and renovate aging classrooms, labs, and facilities
- Repair or replace portables/modular classroom facilities
- Upgrade existing athletic facilities and develop additional athletic facilities, including playfields and related infrastructure
- Reconfigure parking lots and bus lanes to increase safe access to schools

How do we know funds from Measure H would be spent wisely?

By law, Measure H bond funds would require fiscal accountability protections, including:

- All funds would be controlled locally for GJUESD schools only and could not be taken away by the State

- Measure H includes a detailed project list outlining the specific use of funds
- An independent citizens' oversight committee and mandatory annual audits would ensure all funds are spent as voters are intended
- No funds could be used for administrators' or staff salaries

How much would this school improvement bond measure cost?

The annual cost of Measure H is estimated to be 3¢ per \$100 of assessed (not market) valuation of local property, while bonds are outstanding. Assessed value is generally based on the original purchase price of a home and is often lower than market value, particularly for those residents that have owned their homes for a long time.

Would Measure H funds benefit all schools in GJUESD?

Yes. Measure H authorizes improvements to all GJUESD school campuses. Funds would be locally controlled and would benefit all Galt Joint Union Elementary School District schools. No funding could be taken away by the State or used for other purposes.

Is there any other way to maintain and improve our schools?

Our district has very few options when it comes to funding the necessary repairs and updates that our schools need. In general, Local matching funds are required for most State facilities funding programs. Redirecting funds in the current budget would take resources out of our classrooms and away from our students. The Measure H school facilities improvement bond could provide the funding needed to fix and improve our schools to ensure we can continue to provide a safe, modern learning environment for all local students.

Haven't we already passed a bond measure?

In 2016, voters in the GJUESD community passed Measure K which authorized a \$19.7 million school facilities bond measure. Measure K funds represented the first phase of facilities improvement needs. While the District was able to complete some critical projects with Measure K funding, the cost of repairs and the breadth of needed facilities upgrades far exceeds what could be accomplished with Measure K alone.

Has the District used funds from previous measure responsibly?

Yes. The Measure K citizens' oversight committee has found that GJUESD completed Measure K projects in alignment with the voter-approved Measure K project list. The oversight committee reports can be viewed at: www.galt.k12.ca.us/Our-District/Measure-KConnection/index.html.

What level of support does Measure H need to pass?

Measure H will need to be supported by 55% of voters in order for it to pass this November. All registered voters living in the Galt Joint Union Elementary School District are eligible to vote on the measure.