



**Petaluma City Schools**  
200 Douglas Avenue  
Petaluma, CA 94952



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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT VOTING

### Petaluma City Schools Board of Education Votes to Place Parcel Tax Measure on March 5, 2024 Ballot

#### When can I vote on the measure?

The parcel tax measure will appear on the March 5, 2024 ballot.

#### Who can vote on the measure?

All registered voters in the Petaluma City Schools boundaries will have the opportunity to vote on the measure.

#### When will ballots be mailed?

All voters should receive a ballot in the mail the week of February 5, 2024.

#### When is the last day to register to vote in this election?

The last day to register is February 19, 2024. After this date, voters wishing to vote in the election must vote with Conditional Voter Registration at the county elections office.

#### When is the last day to request a vote-by-mail ballot?

The last day to request a vote-by-mail ballot is February 27, 2024.

#### How do I register to vote?

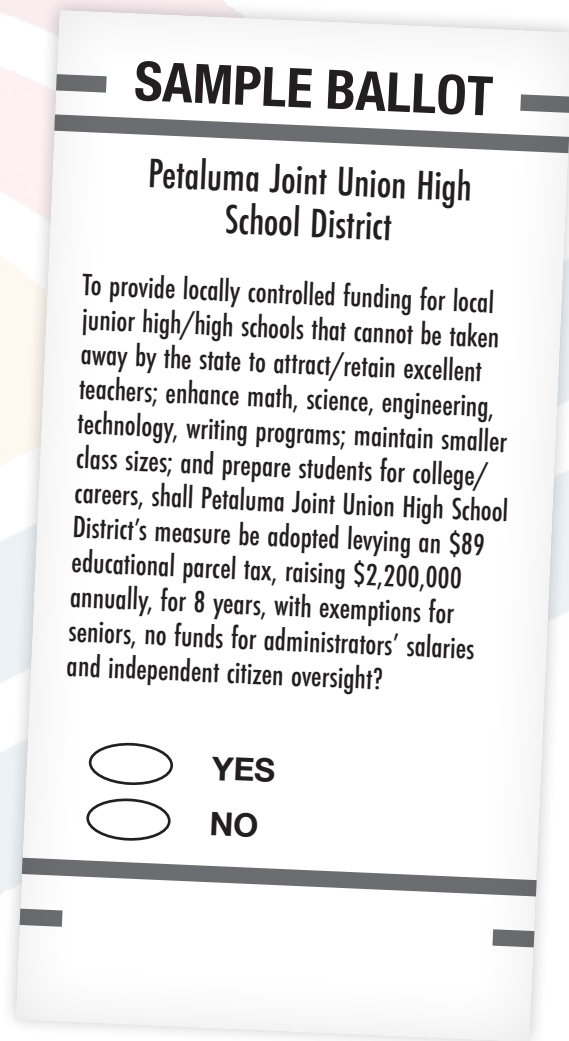
Visit [www.registertovote.ca.gov](http://www.registertovote.ca.gov) or call (800) 345-8683 if you are not registered to vote or need to update your registration information.

#### What level of support is required for passage?

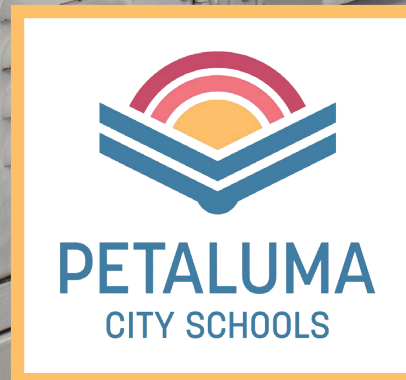
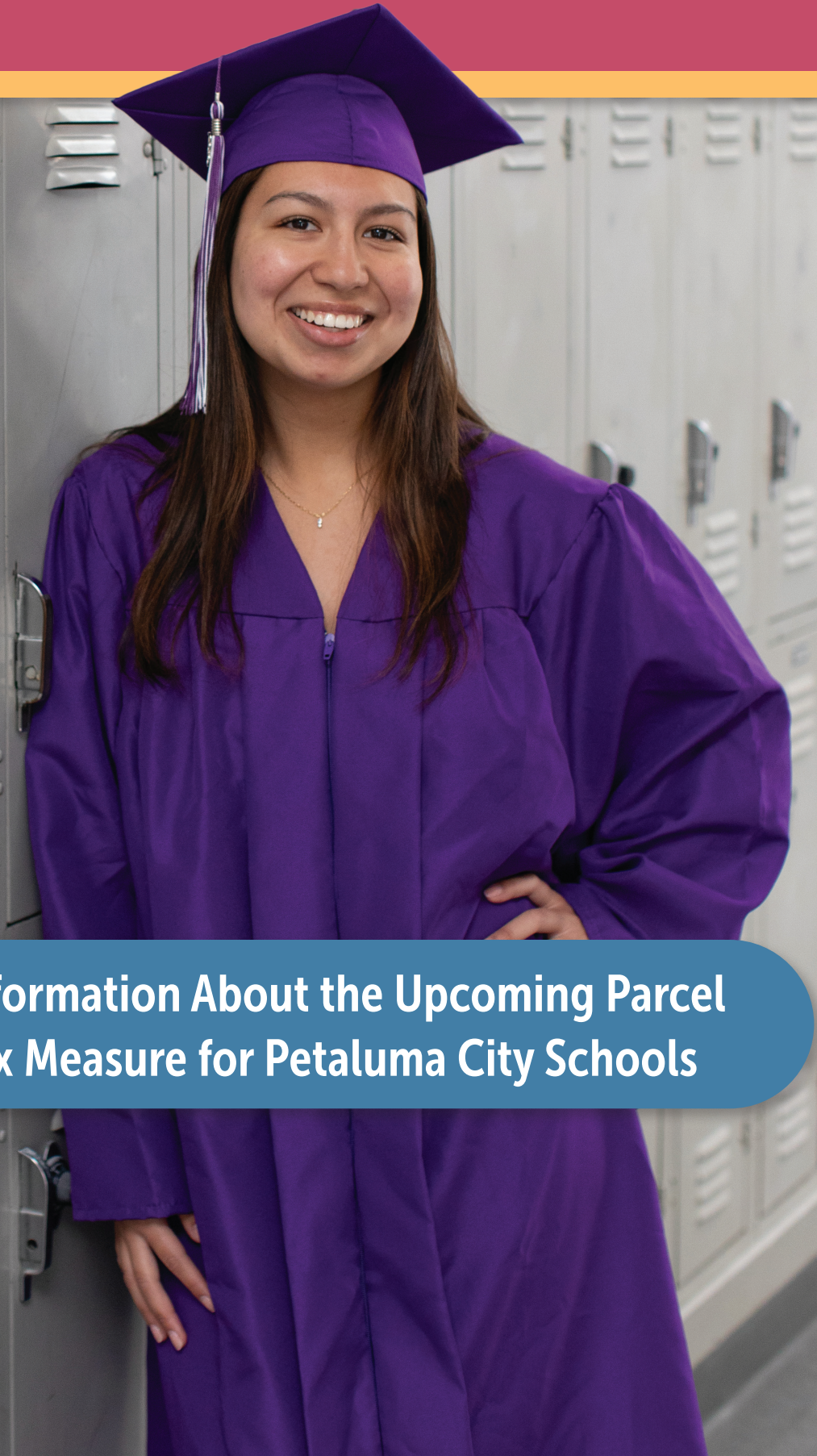
In order to pass, this measure must be supported by two-thirds of those who vote on it.

#### What if I have more questions about voting?

Contact the Sonoma County Registrar of Voters at (707) 565-6800 or visit their website at [tinyurl.com/SonomaCoROV](http://tinyurl.com/SonomaCoROV) for more information.



# NOTICE TO VOTERS



Information About the Upcoming Parcel  
Tax Measure for Petaluma City Schools



[PetalumaCitySchools.org](http://PetalumaCitySchools.org)



[/PetalumaCitySchools](https://www.facebook.com/PetalumaCitySchools)



[@PetalumaCitySchools](https://www.instagram.com/PetalumaCitySchools)

# UPCOMING PARCEL TAX BALLOT MEASURE COULD HELP ATTRACT & RETAIN TEACHERS

## BOARD VOTES TO PLACE MEASURE ON MARCH 5, 2024 BALLOT

On November 14, the Petaluma City Schools (PCS) Board of Education voted to place a parcel tax measure on the March 5, 2024 ballot. If passed by local voters, the parcel tax measure would cost \$89 per year and raise approximately \$2.2 million annually.

Community input helped inform the Board's decision to move forward. Earlier this month, PCS sent a notice to invite community members to a PCS Board of Education meeting to discuss placing an education funding measure on the ballot. Thank you to everyone who provided feedback.

## SCHOOL FUNDING CHALLENGES

Nationally, California ranks among the lowest in per student public school funding. Even more challenging, PCS receives far less funding than many school districts in the North Bay. As a result, PCS is losing teachers to other nearby school districts that are able to offer more competitive compensation.

If approved, the measure would provide locally-controlled funding to protect the quality of education in our community and keep great teachers in local classrooms.

To learn more about the measure adopted by the Board, visit [www.PetalumaCitySchools.org/localfunding](http://www.PetalumaCitySchools.org/localfunding).



## RETAINING QUALIFIED TEACHERS AND SUPPORTING INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

Having a great teacher in the classroom is the most important element of providing a quality education for students. Qualified and experienced teachers support high-quality instruction in science, technology, engineering, math, writing, arts and music.

## LOCAL FUNDING FOR TEACHERS AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

If approved by 66.7% of voters, funding from the proposed local parcel tax measure could be used in local junior high and high schools to:

- 👤 Attract and retain excellent teachers
- 🔧 Enhance science, technology, engineering, math and writing opportunities for students
- 🎵 Expand art, music and language programs
- 👥 Maintain smaller class sizes
- 📖 Provide school librarians and keep school libraries open
- 🎓 Prepare students for college and careers



## FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND LOCAL CONTROL

A local education parcel tax measure would include fiscal accountability protections, including:

- ◆ Funding would be controlled locally and could not be taken away by the State
- ◆ None of the money raised could be used for administrators' salaries or pensions
- ◆ Public disclosure of all spending, independent citizens' oversight and mandatory annual audits would ensure funds are spent as promised
- ◆ Homeowners age 65 and over and low income homeowners with disabilities would be eligible for an exemption