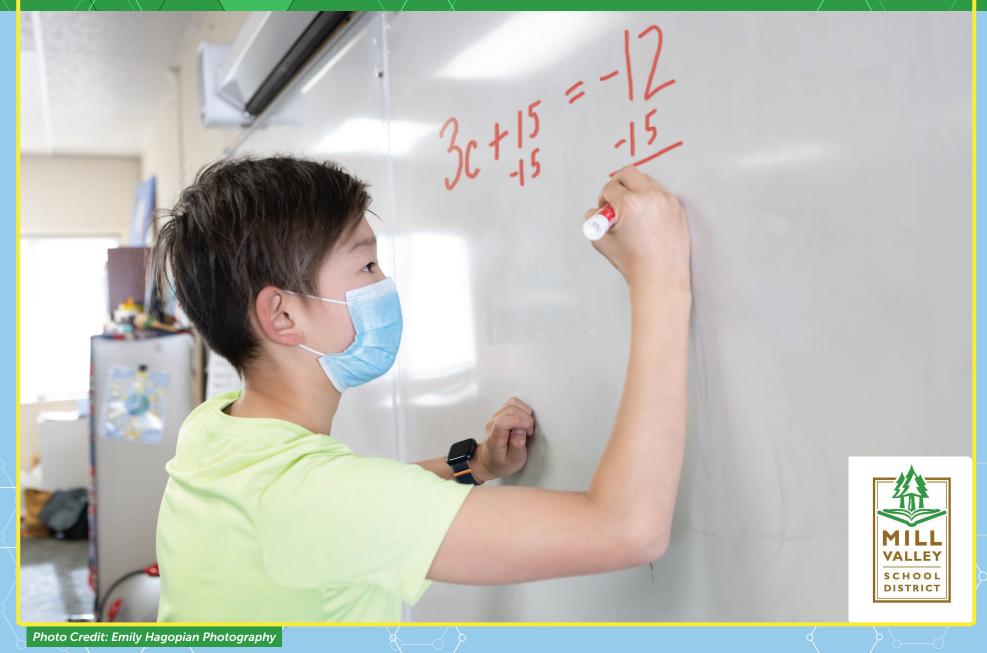
# AN UPDATE FROM MILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT A FORMULA FOR SUCCESS



## MILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT A FORMULA FOR SUCCESS



The Mill Valley School District knows the formula for student success. Our strong community support, highly qualified teachers and staff and rigorous and rich academic programs lead to high student achievement year after year.

**Student Success Is a Top Priority** 



Old Mill Elementary School.

MVSD provides exemplary educational programs for students in local elementary and middle schools. Devoted teachers and staff are committed to developing well-rounded, globally-minded students and preparing them for high school, college and beyond. Outstanding schools that nurture successful students improve the quality of life in our community and protect the property value of our homes.

### **Repairing Aging Schools for High-Quality Education**

Over the past two years, Mill Valley schools have adapted to challenging circumstances in order to continue providing our students with a quality education. Another challenge we must meet is upgrading our aging facilities to meet modern academic, ADA and safety standards. Most Mill Valley schools are between 40 and 100 years old, and our classrooms, labs and school facilities need to be updated to meet current academic and safety standards.

In particular, Mill Valley Middle School, which serves all students as they advance from elementary to middle school, was built in 1972 and its aging infrastructure is not designed for 21st century teaching and learning. Significant upgrades are needed to modernize science, technology, engineering and math classrooms and labs and to enable collaboration and project-based learning. Outdated electrical, plumbing, heating and ventilation systems need to be replaced, and upgrades are needed to improve accessibility, energy efficiency and earthquake and fire safety.

### **Dedicated Local Funding for School Improvements**

In order to keep pace with academic standards and keep local students safe, the Mill Valley School District Board of Trustees is considering placing a local school improvement bond measure on the June 2022 ballot that could generate up to \$194 million to repair and improve local schools. This measure would cost about \$26 per \$100,000 of a property's assessed value (not market value) per year. If approved by local voters, this measure would:

- Repair and replace leaky roofs and windows and outdated electrical and plumbing systems
- Expand and upgrade science, technology, engineering and math classrooms, labs and learning technology to meet current instructional standards
- Improve accessibility for students with disabilities
- Add solar panels and improve energy efficiency throughout the District
- Replace outdated heating and ventilation systems to improve air filtration and indoor air quality



#### **Mandatory Fiscal Accountability**

A local school improvement bond measure requires mandatory fiscal accountability, including:

- All funds raised by the measure would stay local to support Mill Valley students and could not be taken by the State
- A project list detailing how the funds would be used
- Funds can only be used for facilities, not for salaries or benefits
- An independent citizens' oversight committee and independent annual audits to ensure funds are spent as promised



MILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

411 Sycamore Avenue Mill Valley, CA 94941

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## How are schools in Mill Valley School District (MVSD) performing?

Mill Valley schools have adapted to changing and challenging circumstances the past two years in order to continue providing a quality education to local students. Our success is rooted in our dedicated teachers, staff and parents' commitment to nurturing children socially, emotionally and academically. Our outstanding schools continue to improve the quality of life in our community and protect the property value of our homes.

### What is the current state of our classrooms, labs and school facilities?

We're proud of the high quality of education in Mill Valley schools, but most of the schools in the district are between 40 and 100 years old and need repairs and upgrades to meet modern academic, ADA and safety standards. Currently, the outdated classrooms and facilities, particularly at the middle school, are costly and inefficient to operate. Modernization of the facilities is needed to meet current earthquake and fire safety standards, ensure the safety of our students, meet current educational standards and support science, technology, engineering and math education.

## Does the State provide funding for school improvements?

No, the State does not provide dedicated funding for school facility improvements. Our district maintenance team works hard to take care of our aging classrooms and school facilities by keeping up with repairs and maintenance. Unfortunately, significant upgrades and improvements needed at our aging schools are beyond what can be accomplished by our maintenance team and funded by our regular maintenance budget. The very limited state funding which might be available for facility upgrades generally requires local matching funds, usually provided by a local school improvement measure.

## What are the options for repairing and upgrading aging local school facilities?

MVSD has carefully assessed the needs at each school site and worked with school specific architects to begin to prioritize improvements that will provide students with the modern learning environments they need to prepare them for success in future academic and career endeavors. In order to keep pace with academic standards and keep local students safe, the MVSD Board of Trustees is considering placing a local school improvement bond measure on the June 2022 ballot. Input will continue to be gathered from both the school community and the Mill Valley community in general as potential projects are analyzed and prioritized.

#### How much would a potential measure cost?

While no final decisions have been made, a potential measure would generate approximately \$194 million to upgrade local schools and would cost about \$26 per \$100,000 of a property's assessed value (not market value) per year.

#### **YOU'RE INVITED**

We want to hear from you! Please join us via zoom at our upcoming board meeting where Mill Valley School District Board of Trustees will be considering placing a school improvement bond measure on the June 2022 ballot. Details about how to join the zoom meeting can be found by scapping this OP code

**Date:** February 10, 2022 **[ime:** 4:30 PM



For more information, visit www.mvschools.org/bondmeasure. To share your opinions or ask questions, please contact Beth Fogel at bfogel@mvschools.org.

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