

MAINTAINING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION IN SANTA MONICA SCHOOLS

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) is proud to provide high-quality, world-class education to students across our 15 schools. Our local schools have been named among the top in California and the Nation. Santa Monica High School graduates have a graduation rate of more than 95%, with most graduates moving on to college and skilled trades.

Repairs and Upgrades for Continued Success

Santa Monica schools have served the community well for decades; however, many schools are approaching 70 years old. Thanks to voter-approved funding, improvements and repairs have been made at schools throughout the District. While much has been accomplished, much remains left to be done to ensure all students have safe and modern classrooms, labs and school facilities.

The District is currently exploring options to address needed repairs and upgrades at Santa Monica* schools. While no decisions have been made, one option under consideration is placing a school facilities improvement bond measure for Santa Monica Schools on the November 2024 ballot.

*Santa Monica is the portion of SMMUSD known and established as "School Facilities Improvement District No. 1 (Santa Monica Schools)" (SFID No. 1).





Locally Controlled Funding for School Upgrades

SMMUSD is evaluating placing a school facilities improvement bond measure on the November 2024 ballot for improvements to Santa Monica* schools.

Funding from a potential measure could be used to:

- Upgrade aging school facilities including replacing leaky roofs, electrical systems and plumbing
- Replace aging heating and cooling systems to provide clean air in classrooms
- Modernize classrooms and labs to support high-quality instruction
- Update school libraries
- Improve safety and security systems including fire alarm systems, sprinklers and fencing
- Continue replacing 30-year-old deteriorating portable classrooms with safe, modern classrooms

The proposed bonds if approved will be repaid by ad valorem property taxes levied in the boundaries of SFID No. 1 - Santa Monica.

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Mandatory Fiscal Accountability

A school facilities improvement bond measure must include strict fiscal accountability protections, including:

- A specified criteria for all projects that can be funded and a list of proposed projects planned for the measure
- A Citizens' Oversight Committee and independent audits to help ensure funds are spent as promised
- All funds must remain under local control to support Santa Monica schools only
- No funds could be taken away by the state or used for other purposes
- Public disclosure of all spending would be required





Please Take Our Survey

Complete the attached survey to share your priorities for local Santa Monica schools. You may also take the survey online by scanning the QR code to the right or by visiting <u>bit.ly/SMBondSurvey.</u>

