



ROCKLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Frequently Asked Questions About Local Classrooms and School Facilities

How are our Rocklin schools doing?

In Rocklin Unified School District (RUSD), our award-winning schools provide high-quality education to elementary, middle and high school students in our community. We are proud to be ranked in the top 10% in test scores in the state, and our 97% graduation rate helps prepare local kids for bright futures.

What challenges face our Rocklin schools?

Some RUSD classrooms are 40-60 years old, and our first high school is 25 years old. Even newer schools are in need of basic safety repairs and upgrades. Broken plumbing, leaky roofs, decaying walls and aging electrical, air conditioning, heating and ventilation systems must be addressed to maintain a safe academic environment for local students and teachers.

In order to succeed in the 21st-century economy, Rocklin students need to graduate with skills in science, technology, engineering and math. Current classrooms and labs are outdated and need upgrades in order to ensure all students have access to the resources required to be successful at community colleges, universities and in their careers.

As attendance in our school district continues to grow, our schools also need to be able to continue providing personalized instruction that promotes student success. Over the next decade, we expect enrollment growth of up to 2400 students in Rocklin schools and we need to increase classroom space to maintain manageable class sizes.

What is the state of classrooms in Rocklin schools?

Most of our local elementary, middle and high schools currently rely on aging, outdated portable classrooms to provide learning environments for our students. These portables degrade much faster than permanent classrooms and eventually need to be completely replaced. Our Rocklin schools need additional permanent classrooms in order to ensure our students can learn in safe and up-to-date academic settings.

How does RUSD plan on addressing these challenges?

To maintain safe and modern schools, the RUSD School Board is considering placing a \$198 million school facility improvement bond measure on an upcoming ballot. This potential school funding measure would provide locally controlled funding that would address issues associated with aging facilities, growing attendance and outdated classrooms and labs.

What projects would the school facility improvement measure address?

If approved by voters, the measure would:

- Repair existing classrooms and replace aging portables with permanent classrooms
- Remove mold, asbestos, lead and other hazardous materials from schools
- Replace deteriorating sewer and gas lines
- Repair leaky roofs, decaying walls and aging plumbing and bathrooms
- Update facilities for career and technical education to prepare students for high-demand jobs in science, technology, engineering, arts and math
- Keep schools safe
- Upgrade school security and fire safety



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Can't the State fund school facility improvements?

Unfortunately, we cannot rely on the State to fund these necessary repairs and upgrades in local schools. In order to maintain high-quality educational facilities and ensure our schools get the updates our students need, local funding is required.

How do we know funds from the school facility improvement measure would be spent wisely?

Strict fiscal accountability would be required for the potential measure:

- All funds from a local school facility improvement measure would stay in Rocklin to benefit local students and could not be taken by the State
- A Citizens' Oversight Committee and independent annual financial audits would be required
- No money could be used for administrators' salaries or pensions

How much would the measure cost?

Decisions are still being made about the size and cost of the school facility improvement measure, however costs could not exceed \$60 per \$100,000 in assessed value (not market value) per year.

Would all funds benefit our RUSD schools?

Yes. All funds would be locally controlled and would benefit RUSD elementary, middle and high schools. No funding could be taken away by the State or used for other purposes.

Rocklin Unified School District is currently building a new elementary school, so why is a potential bond measure necessary?

The construction of the new RUSD elementary school is being funded by developer fees from recent development in that area of the district. This source of funding can only be used to address growth in that area and cannot be used to repair or update aging facilities in other schools.

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

Rocklin Unified School District has very few options when it comes to funding the necessary maintenance and improvements that our schools need. We can't rely on the State to complete these repairs and redirecting funds in the current budget would take resources out of our classrooms and away from our students.

The potential school facility improvement measure would provide local funding to maintain and update classrooms and school buildings to ensure we can provide a safe and modern learning environment for our students.

What level of support would the measure need to pass?

The measure would need to be supported by 55% of those who vote on it in order to pass.

How can I provide feedback or learn more about our Rocklin schools?

To provide feedback on plans to upgrade and repair Rocklin's aging schools, please visit www.tinyurl.com/RocklinUSDSurvey. To learn more, visit www.rocklinusd.org.