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Oakland Unified School District

Report on Measure E Parcel Tax
for the Year Ended on June 30, 2009

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I. Introduction and Background

Measure E was favorably voted in as a parcel tax for the Oakland Unified School District (“District”) (OUSD) on March 2, 2004. With the passing of Measure E, the District continued to receive local parcel tax revenue for specific areas of intervention for the education of its students, and continue the legacy of Measure B.

Per the ballot language, Measure E was passed to “attract and retain qualified credentialed teachers, to maintain elective courses for students needing to qualify for college admission, to purchase textbooks and materials, to maintain libraries, music and arts programs, to maintain reduced class sizes, to continue after school academic programs.”¹

Measure E was time stamped with an approximately five year authority. The final year of Measure E was the fiscal year, ending on June 30, 2009. Measure G succeeded Measure E and serves a similar purpose and is a permanent parcel tax approved by District voters.

II. Purpose of Report

With Resolution 0910-0116, the Measure G Committee was charged with the authority and duty to close out the Measure E reporting. With this report, the Committee fulfills this requirement.

This report captures the final year of Measure E funding and expenditures. The purpose of the report is to inform the public of OUSD’s financial history and fulfill our commitment to transparency.

The primary objective of this report is to present the use of funds. There will be minimal discussion of the programmatic impact of this funding due to the financial scope of the report and the number of years that have passed since the use of funds.

1. <http://www.smartvoter.org/2004/03/02/ca/alm/meas/E/>

III. Financial Summary

Total Budget: \$19.1 M
 School Expenditures = \$ 11 M (57%)
 Central Office / District Wide Expenditures = \$ 8. 1 M (43%)

2008-09 Measure E - Total Expenditures				
Program Desc.	Schools	District Wide	Central	Grand Total
To attract and retain quality teachers				
XXXX* - TEACHER PD	2,626,553		3,067,995	5,694,548
1208 - SSO-SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICER			399,831	399,831
1599 - TCHR HEALTH BENEFITS	2,461,649	2,800		2,464,449
3875 - PUPIL DISCIPLINARY HEARING PANEL**			444,520	444,520
9060 - HR RECRUITMENT**			709,958	709,958
To maintain reduced class sizes				
1112 - CLASS SIZE REDUCTION	3,183,955			3,183,955
To maintain libraries, music, and arts programs				
1118 - ART	374,363		94,344	468,707
1135 - MUSIC			1,621,064	1,621,064
1552 - SCHOOL LIBRARIES**	1,430,439		196,177	1,626,616
1564 - ORATORICAL FEST/PERFORMANCES			46,370	46,370
1596 - OAKLAND FINE ARTS SUMMER SCHOOL	60,458		-	60,458
To maintain elective courses for students needing to qualify for college				
1145 - COLLEGE READINESS**			221,395	221,395
1597 - COUNSELING		112,419		112,419
1598 - MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES	841,496		21,811	863,307
To purchase textbooks and materials				
1594 - TEXTBOOKS			687,422	687,422
To continue after school academic programs				
1623 - AFTER-SCHOOL SECURITY			129,489	129,489
Other				
9000 - OTH PROGRAMS / LOCAL GOALS		345,780		345,780
1158 - RBB TRANSITION	17,584			17,584
Grand Total	10,996,496	461,000	7,640,375	19,097,871

* XXXX includes Programs 1159, 1167, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1184, 1627, 4877.
 ** These programs are explained in greater programmatic detail in Section IV.

Total Budget: \$19.1 M
 Personnel Expenditures: \$13.9 M (73%)
 Non-Personnel Expenditures: \$ 5.2 (27%)

Site Type	Personnel: Salary & Benefits	Non- Personnel: Supplies, Facilities, Etc...	Total
Schools	9,943,744	1,052,752	10,996,496
District Wide	112,419	348,580	461,000
Central	3,878,052	3,762,323	7,640,375
Grand Total	13,934,215	5,163,656	19,097,871

IV. Programmatic Details for Select Areas

Pupil Disciplinary Hearing Panel (DHP): The DHP Case Management Program provides an array of support services through case management to help students who have been identified as at risk or involved in the expulsion process. Case management services assist students in becoming more responsible, reflective, and engaged in their academic and social/emotional development, thereby enabling the district to attract and retain credentialed and qualified teachers.

Programs within DHP focus on addressing safety and climate as well as educational needs.

Specific programs in the area of safety and climate include:

- Facilitating group counseling sessions including Restorative Justice Circles and social skills development
- Providing and training others in methods of conflict mediation and resolution
- Developing alternatives to suspension
- Providing teacher consolation

Specific programs in the area of educational needs include:

- Working with students individually to assess strengths and needs and to set academic and behavior goals
- Conducting home visits and engaging families in school activities
- Providing supportive one on one counseling

HR Recruitment: HR Recruitment is provided through an external third-party, specifically The New Teacher Project (TNTP). The focus for HR recruitment with Measure E dollars is bringing in quality and credentialed teachers to our district's most under-served populations. The funding covers the costs of recruiting, selecting, cultivating, and training the teachers, as well as staff and supply costs.

Additionally, TNTP also successfully attracts and brings in people of color and men to teach in OUSD classrooms at significantly higher rates than the other school districts across the country. TNTP also thrives and produces results in delivering special education, math, and science teachers at higher rates than OUSD has been able to achieve previously without this partnership and investment.

School Libraries: School Libraries are largely supported through Measure E funding. Specifically, the funding supports several staff positions throughout the district and allows libraries to offer engaging programs and comprehensive support. In terms of staff, Measure E covers a district librarian, a program assistant, and librarians and clerks at school sites. For programs and support, the funding allows for databases to be available and running, assess library needs and respond accordingly, stay open during pre and post school hours, and hold constructive staff meetings to create new ideas and implement improvements.

College Readiness: With Measure E funding, the College Readiness Office (CRO) is able to execute two programs including hosting the College Summit as well as engaging with the University of California, Berkeley, Center for Education Partnerships.

The College Summit provides parents, students, community members and site staff with useful information concerning preparation for college. Specific areas of focus include: UC/CSU A-G requirements, SAT preparation, college applications, financial aid, and habits of mind that a college student must have to be successful.

The University of California Center for Education Partnership provided similar supports and information to parents and students as the College Summit. Additionally though, it impacted OUSD's HS academic offering to ensure more students could meet the UC/CSU A-G requirements.

V. Committee Findings

Inadequate Reporting: California Government Code § 50075.3 requires the chief fiscal officer of the school district to submit an annual report on to its governing body annually.¹ This report was submitted to the Oakland Unified School District's Governing Board at least 5 years past that requirement which is a clear and unacceptable violation of the law.

Questionable Use of Funds: Measure E states that there will be “no money used for administrative costs”. Given the late nature of this report, it is difficult to adequately investigate the use of funds. The report indicates that \$8.1 million (43%) was spent on the Central Office level. Most of this spending directly supports the purposes outlined in Measure E, specifically items: AFTER-SCHOOL SECURITY, ART, COLLEGE READINESS, HR RECRUITMENT, MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES, MUSIC, ORATORICAL FEST, TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TEXTBOOKS.

However, School Security Officers and Pupil Disciplinary Hearing Panel spending is a questionable use of funds if the goal is to “attract and retain quality credentialed teachers”. School safety is an absolute necessity, not just a desirable quality. Safety for students, teachers and all other staff should be fully accounted for outside of special spending.

It is also worth noting that Measure E calls for funds to be spent in order to “maintain elective courses for students needing to qualify for college admission”. In order for electives to meet the University of California's A-G course requirements for admission, these electives must be available in high school and not middle school.² A list of OUSD courses which meet A-G requirements is available online.³

¹ <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=gov&group=50001-51000&file=50075-50077.5>

² <http://www.ucop.edu/agguide/a-g-requirements/>

³ <https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist#/list/district/390>