

KEEP Campaign Parcel Tax Questions

What about the Parcel Tax?

The District has had the same \$150 parcel tax for the past 14 years. Historically the parcel tax revenues were sufficient to pay for student programs in technology, arts, nurse, library services, developmental PE and maintenance and operations. However, over time program costs have increased while the parcel tax revenues have remained \$150 since 1991. In addition, significant income has been lost due to declining enrollment in the past five years.

Can't we get more money from the State?

It's no secret that California schools are under funded, ranking near the bottom in the nation. The Loma Prieta per student rate is the fifth lowest in the state. The District cannot get this per-pupil funding rate changed. There have been lawsuits throughout California by other low-funded districts and the courts have held that as long as the per-pupil rates are within 10% of each other, it is legal to fund districts so differently.

Do we really need a parcel tax and the KEEP Campaign?

YES! Many of our neighboring districts also supplement their state funding with local parcel taxes and annual district-wide fundraising campaigns. Without additional income from parcel tax dollars and a successful KEEP campaign we will be required to reduce and/or eliminate our current student enrichment programs.

Are Seniors exempt from the parcel tax?

Yes, Senior citizens 65 and older may apply for an exemption at the School District Office.

Where does the money from the Parcel Tax go?

Parcel tax income is being used this year to partially pay for:

- Smaller Class Size
- Nurse
- Developmental PE
- Instructional Supplies
- Middle School Electives
- Technology Support
- Maintenance & Operations
- Yard Duty Supervision

Can the money from the parcel Tax be used to pay teachers higher salaries?

No, the Parcel Tax ballot language prohibits any parcel tax revenues to be used for salary or benefit enhancements for any employees in the district.