News Advisory  
For Immediate Release  
November 9, 2016

MEASURE M AND OUR PATH FORWARD

Dear CUSD Community,

This morning, as we do every school day, our Board of Trustees, Superintendent, teachers, administrators and staff greeted the day focused on the success of the 52,000 young people we serve. Our students are first and foremost the focal point of our work and our mission to prepare students to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

CUSD remains focused on serving our students through best practices in teaching and learning, college/career readiness, social/emotional well-being, health/safety and fostering 21st century learning environments. Our commitment to offering academic excellence is at an all-time high, but the state of our aging facilities are hindering our ability to meet the high expectations of CUSD students and their families. With over 4 million square feet of building space and inadequate funding we face serious facility challenges from leaky roofs, HVAC, plumbing and electrical issues, security and fire safety, insufficient classroom and bathroom spaces for overcrowded schools, classroom technology upgrades, access for special needs students and much more.

In order to address these critical facility needs and to support learning environments that best prepare our students for a competitive world, a majority of the Board of Trustees, including myself, voted to place Measure M on the ballot. This measure, like many in California, allowed voters to choose how they would like to invest in the education of their communities' children. Yesterday, the voters spoke and made it clear that they were not ready to make this investment at this time.

While we are disappointed that a majority of voters in our school district did not support the school facilities bond, all seem to agree that we have a need for new facilities, modernizations and upgrades. We will continue to work with all of our stakeholders and leaders to determine a path forward to solve a problem that is only going to get worse.

While these conversations continue, we are also forming additional layers of community oversight including the School Facilities and Finance Committee and the Community Facilities District Oversight Committee. Applications are being accepted through November 30, 2016 and can be found on our website at www.capousd.org.

As our schools continue to age and we continue to be constrained by state funding formulas and inequity, our commitment to children will not change. Your partnership and support is critical to the work we do for 52,000 young people each and every school day.
We value the participation of the communities we serve and look forward to ongoing conversations about school classrooms, campuses and funding. We respect your vote and look forward to continued engagement with you in the challenges we face as a community. Together, we will find the answers to meet these challenges while we continue to have an unwavering commitment to every student's success.

Sincerely,
Amy Hanacek
President of the Board