

Auburn Union School District 2022 School Facilities Improvement Project

EARLY FACT SHEET

AUBURN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT (AUSD) SCHOOLS SERVE AN ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY NEED. As the local provider of Transitional Kindergarten (TK)-8 public education, we believe all students deserve to learn in quality classrooms and school facilities. We have <u>two key priorities</u>: first, to ensure <u>academic success for every student</u> attending one of our schools; and second, to make sure that our <u>school facilities and school grounds</u> are safe, secure, modern and equipped to provide the best educational environment possible.

SAFE, MODERN SCHOOL FACILITIES ARE <u>ESSENTIAL</u> **TO MAINTAINING THE QUALITY OF OUR LOCAL TK-8 SCHOOLS.** We are extremely proud of our 5 schools – 3 Elementary Schools, 1 Middle School, and 1 Community Charter School serving nearly 2,000 students in the classroom each day. ALL children deserve to learn in quality classrooms and school facilities. There's a direct relationship between quality school facilities and student achievement. Studies show that children and teachers perform best in safe, modern classrooms and schools with up-to-date technology.

OUR FACILITIES ASSESSMENT WORK IS CONTINUOUS. Our school district values facilities master planning – we updated our AUSD Master Plan in 2017. AUSD has conducted a full assessment of our school facilities needs—including our grades TK-8 classroom structures, equipment, educational technology, and student support facilities at every site. Auburn schools are aging, and the state of our classrooms, facilities and technology is adversely impacting teaching and learning. Some of AUSD's buildings date as far back as the 1940's and are in need of basic repairs such as fixing leaky roofs and pipes; removing asbestos and lead paint, and updating ventilation systems. These vitally important repairs will make our neighborhood schools clean and safe for learning. To fund identified needs we are exploring all available options, including our own existing budget, state and Federal funding, private grants and other sources of support. We are also considering asking our community to support a school bond. **While NO decisions have been made yet,** this study process is a priority for us this school year.

CRITICAL PROJECTS IDENTIFIED INCLUDE:

- Providing students with a well-rounded education in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math
- Retaining and attracting quality teachers
- Ensuring school drinking water remains safe
- Repairing leaky roofs, gas lines, aging water lines, plumbing and restrooms.
- Improving access to education in science, math, and engineering
- Removing asbestos and lead paint
- Upgrading deteriorating schools, classrooms, and classroom technology
- Improving accessibility for disabled students

ANY POTENTIAL BOND APPROVED BY VOTERS WILL <u>REQUIRE</u> TAXPAYER PROTECTIONS. All funds raised would stay local to support Auburn school facility improvements. These funds <u>cannot</u> be taken by the State or spent on administrators' salaries. An Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee is required to ensure funds are spent properly.

EDUCATING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMY. Up-to-date classrooms, education technology, and technology infrastructure will help ensure that ALL AUSD students are prepared to succeed in high school, college and careers that will drive our future global economy.

INVESTING IN QUALITY SCHOOLS IS A SMART INVESTMENT. Quality schools protect property values. Home resale values will benefit as our neighborhood schools are improved. With limited help from the State and our school facility and technology needs growing everyday, we need to work together as a community to protect our local quality of education.

COMMUNITY INPUT IS WELCOME. Auburn Union School District welcomes input from community stakeholders in our study process. We are working hard to educate our community on exactly what is at stake to ensure quality TK-8 schools for the future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please visit our website at: www.auburn.k12.ca.us or contact Superintendent Amber Lee-Alva via email: aleealva@auburn.k12.ca.us or by phone: (530) 885-7242.