

INFORMATION ABOUT PROPOSITION A
THE SAN FRANCISCO QUALITY TEACHER AND EDUCATION ACT OF 2008

OVERVIEW

Proposition A is a \$198 annual tax per parcel. The funds raised will be primarily for teacher recruitment, retention and training. All public schools in San Francisco, including charter schools, will receive funding.

Senior citizens are eligible for an exemption. Proposition A will pass if approved by two-thirds of voters on June 3, 2008.

LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS FOR OUR STUDENTS

The district has a long-term strategy to address the most important problems facing our schools and this proposition is a critical part of the solution. Studies show that well-trained teachers are the most important factor in determining student achievement, yet SFUSD is losing good teachers to districts that pay more.

Proposition A will provide the following solutions:

- Make salaries competitive with surrounding school districts to assure that San Francisco has the best and the brightest teachers
- Increase training and professional development opportunities for teachers to stay abreast of the latest teaching methods.
- Increase teacher support and accountability, including mentoring for new teachers and greater assurance that teachers who aren't meeting standards leave the classroom.
- Provide block grants to charter schools– funding that can be used to address high priorities needs within those schools.

SCHOOL FUNDING

Since Proposition 13 passed in 1978, California's per-pupil spending has slid to one of the lowest in the nation. In an effort to create adequate and stable funding for schools, school districts across the state have been passing parcel taxes, and other voter-approved funding measures, to generate crucial resources. Examples of other city's recent parcel tax measures include: Albany 2005 - \$250 per parcel; Lafayette 2007- \$313 per parcel; and Kentfield 2008 - \$774 per parcel.

OVERSIGHT

Regular independent audits and an independent oversight group will ensure that all proceeds from the parcel tax are spent in the manner approved by voters.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON SFUSD'S WEBSITE AT: <http://portal.sfusd.edu>