



November 1, 2012

Dear San Francisco Unified School District Community,

**If you haven't done so already and you are able to, I urge you to vote on or before Tuesday, November 6.** There are many propositions on the ballot that will have a significant impact on our community. Two specific propositions, Proposition 30 and Proposition 38, are directed at school funding. I continue to receive questions as to what these two measures provide and what will occur if they pass or fail to pass. Below is a brief summary of each proposition.

### **Proposition 30**

This proposition is called "The Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act of 2012." Referred to as Governor Brown's Initiative, the proposition would keep schools funded at the same level as 2011-12. This proposition has the following provisions:

- Increases personal income tax on annual earnings over \$250,000 for seven years.
- Increases sales tax by ¼ cent for four years.
- Allocates temporary tax revenues 89% to K-12 schools and 11% to community colleges.

### **Proposition 38**

This proposition is called "Our Children, Our Future: Local Schools and Early Education Investment Act." If enacted it will:

- Increase personal income tax rates on annual earnings using a sliding scale.
- During the first four years, allocates 60% of revenues to K-12 schools, 30% to repaying state debt, and 10% to early childhood programs. Thereafter, allocates 85% of revenue to K-12 schools.
- Provides K-12 funds on school-specific, per-pupil basis, subject to local control, audits, and public input.

Both propositions need a majority to pass. If both measures pass, the proposition receiving the most votes will go into effect. If Prop 30 passes the state will fund schools at the same levels as in 2011-2012 (and baseline K-12 resources would remain underfunded by 22% or about \$1,500 per student). The District will have to maintain cuts in the current year's budget, including furloughs for employees for up to two days, and the school year will still be shortened by one half-day.

If neither measure passes, SFUSD will lose approximately \$440 more per student (about \$23 million total) in the middle of this school year and presumably in subsequent years. SFUSD will have to institute as many as 5 additional forced school closure days during the current school year and up to 10 school closure days for the 2013-14 school year.

In addition to a shortened school year SFUSD will have to limit or eliminate more services. This will likely mean a delayed implementation of a new rigorous curriculum in math, science, and technology among other subjects as well as fewer support services for students most at risk of dropping out of school. Teachers and other employees will lose their jobs.

These are just some of the main provisions and implications of each measure. Please get the facts and please vote. **Every vote really does count.**

Sincerely,

Richard A. Carranza, Superintendent of Schools