

Measure G Annual Report for 2022 (2021-2022 Academic Year)

April 25, 2022

**Prepared by
Measure G Citizens' Oversight Committee
for the
Board of Trustees
Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District**

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I. Executive Summary

In an election in June of 2014, over two-thirds of Livermore voters approved the Measure G Parcel Tax, authorizing the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School (LVJUSD) to levy an annual parcel tax of \$138 on each parcel of taxable real property. The stated purpose of Measure G is to help the LVJUSD provide advanced courses in math, science, and engineering, help keep schools well-maintained, attract and retain highly qualified teachers, provide elementary school science and technology specialists, and keep classroom technology and instructional materials up-to-date.

As stipulated by Measure G, an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (the "Committee") has been convened annually to ensure that proceeds of the tax are spent wisely and only for the purposes named in Measure G. This current report is an assessment by the current Committee of the appropriateness of the Measure G expenditures for the FY2021-2022 academic year.

Measure G revenue for FY2021-2022 totaled \$4,006,968 which consisted of \$3,991,650 from 28,925 valid real estate parcels in Alameda County and \$15,318 from 111 valid parcels in Contra Costa County. Details of how this revenue was used by the LVJUSD are provided in Section V of this report, and highlights include:

- 10.00 FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) teachers at a cost of \$1,200,566 or approximately 30% of the available funds in FY2021-2022 were used to strengthen the solid foundation in STEM for LVJUSD students.
- To keep schools well maintained, \$200,000 or approximately 5% of the available funds were used to augment maintenance efforts throughout the LVJUSD.
- Retention of the LVJUSD's teachers is a high priority, and the LVJUSD also makes several external efforts to attract quality teachers throughout the school year such as participating in multiple virtual certificated job fairs at local colleges and universities to recruit new teaching talent. The LVJUSD has been able to attract a large pool of candidates through outreach hiring efforts such as Handshake, Ed-Join, Peach Jar, and LinkedIn. In addition, the LVJUSD has a high rate of teacher retention with a teacher retention rate overall of 98.8%.
- Approximately 43% of the funds (\$1,742,712) were allocated for Elementary School Science Specialists, and 7% (\$268,033) for Elementary Technology Specialists, representing a total of approximately 43% of the Parcel Tax Expenditure plan. This funded the equivalent of approximately 17 additional staff positions, specifically 15.64 FTE of Elementary School Science Specialists and 1.50 FTE of Technology Specialists.
- The Elementary Technology Specialists noted immediately above are known as the UNITE team, which stands for Utilizing New and Innovative Technology in Education. These technology specialists spend their time at elementary school sites educating teachers as well as students. The technology programs in-place in the elementary schools are on-going and have received benefit from multiple years for Measure G funding.

- A total of \$269,926, or approximately 7% of the available funds in FY2021-2022, was allocated to keep classroom technology and instructional materials up-to-date. The school sites provided the Committee with numerous examples of how the funds were used for this section of Measure G.
- Additional detail, from the prior year's audited financial statements, demonstrate the LVJUSD has accounted for the Parcel Tax revenue and is trending to expense in the same manner as the prior year audited financial statements.

The Committee reviewed the provided documents, including the Ballot Measure Submittal Form, the full text of Measure G, FY2021-2022 revenue and expenditures by Measure G, LVJUSD Staffing Reports, and the LVJUSD FY2021-2022 Funding Summary. The Committee concludes that all Measure G expenditures were appropriate towards the purposes of this measure and determined that these funds are helping augment STEM resources and overall school needs such as maintenance, in these important areas.

The Committee wishes to express its sincere thanks to the Staff of the LVJUSD who provided essential support for the Committee's work.

II. Introduction

On June 3, 2014, 72.41% of Livermore voters approved the Measure G Parcel Tax, authorizing the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) to levy an annual Parcel Tax of \$138 on each parcel of taxable real property. The stated purpose of Measure G is to help the LVJUSD provide advanced courses in math, science, and engineering, help keep schools well-maintained, attract and retain highly qualified teachers, provide elementary school science and technology specialists, and keep classroom technology and instructional materials up-to-date. At the time of voter approval, Measure G included the two charter schools operated by the Tri-Valley Learning Corporation in Livermore, Livermore Valley Charter School and Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory High School.

Measure G thus ensured that Livermore schools would continue to receive a stable, reliable, local source of funding. Overall, the LVJUSD serves over 13,300 students in transitional kindergarten through 12th grade at nine elementary campuses, two K-8 schools, three middle schools, two comprehensive high schools, and two alternative schools. Specifically, the Measure G funds would be used to:

- Provide advanced courses in math, science, and engineering,
- Keep schools well maintained,
- Attract and retain highly qualified teachers,
- Provide elementary school science and technology specialists,
- Keep classroom technology and instructional materials up-to-date and,
- To the extent that funds are available, to maintain academic programs, including the purchase of instructional equipment, materials, and supplies.

This Parcel Tax commenced on July 1, 2015 and remains in effect for seven fiscal years, with exemptions from the Parcel Tax for citizens over the age of 65 if such citizens applied for an exemption. As part of Measure G, an independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee (“Committee”) is convened annually to ensure that proceeds of the tax are spent wisely and only for the purposes named in Measure G.

This report covers the seventh fiscal year (FY2021-2022) of the Parcel Tax and details the Committee’s assessment of how the funds were dispersed and used in this fiscal year.

III. Committee Membership, History and Process

The Committee was appointed by the Board of Trustees of the LVJUSD and was convened on February 10, 2022 with the following members:

Brooke Feidy	Lorraine Purcell
Bruce Cumming	Maria Reenelyn Torres
David Struebing*	Steve Drouin*
Latika Khare	Ziad Hitti

*At the February 10 meeting, the Committee elected David Struebing as Chair and Steve Drouin as Secretary.

The Committee’s first meeting was held on February 10th via WebEx due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Subsequent meetings held on March 10th and April 20th were both held in the Board Conference Room at the District Office. For 2022, one of the members (Purcell) was serving the second year of their two-year term, one member (Struebing) continued in his second two-year term, and six members (Feidy, Cumming, Khare, Torres, Drouin, Hitti) joined the Committee in the first year of their term.

Meetings were held to provide all members with an opportunity to review and discuss the information and documents upon which this report is based. Meetings were conducted in accordance with the Brown Act and were open to the public. LVJUSD Staff provided reports, answered questions, and assisted the Committee as requested. Specifically, Committee members were greatly assisted in the performance of their duties by LVJUSD Staff Susan Kinder (Assistant Superintendent of Business Services), Teresa Fiscus (Director of Fiscal Services), Chris Connor (Director of Elementary Education), and Jason Krolikowski (Director of Secondary Education).

In the interim periods between the Committee’s meetings, a set of questions was developed that was distributed in March to the LVJUSD and its schools, with specific questions that would assist the Committee in preparing this report. Answers were received in a timely fashion, and the “writing assignments” for particular sections were assigned to Committee members. In April, the report sections were collated into a draft document by the Committee Chair, with subsequent distribution to the members for any additional input and suggestions. This final report revision was issued in late April.

IV. FY2021-2022 Measure G Revenue, Parcels, Exemptions and Fees

Financial consultants Francisco & Associates provided information on the Measure G revenue for FY2021-2022, totaling \$4,006,968 which consisted of \$3,991,650 from 28,925 valid real estate parcels in Alameda County and \$15,318 from 111 valid parcels in Contra Costa County. Not included in the total funds are \$244,260 which was not collected for Measure G due to the senior exemption provision (65 or older) of this Parcel Tax. This exemption amount corresponded to a total of 1,770 parcels consisting of 1,694 previous and 66 new applications in Alameda County, and 10 previous and 0 new applications in Contra Costa County.

Thus, the LVJUSD was allocated \$4,006,968 of Measure G proceeds in FY2021-2022, with no Measure G carryover funding from the prior fiscal year of FY2020-2021. From this total, the LVJUSD pays an annual assessment fee to Alameda and Contra Costa Counties that is used to offset the costs of collecting and tracking the Measure G funds through the property tax system, and in FY2021-2022, this assessment fee and Francisco & Associates' consultant fees were \$80,000 (the same as in FY2020-2021). This fee represents approximately 2% of the overall Measure G revenue.

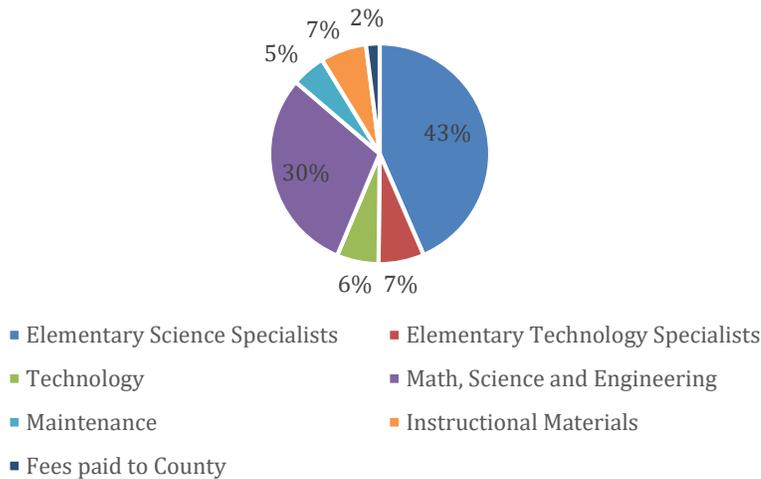
V. LVJUSD Programs Funded by Measure G

Based on the total of \$4,006,968 in Measure G revenue as detailed in the previous Section IV of this report, the breakdown of the FY2021-2022 expenditures is listed in the following table. Immediately following are specific details on how the funds were spent, with the six sections listed in the order that they appeared in the stated Measure G goals.

Expenditures

Category	Amount	Percent
Elementary Science Specialists (teachers)	\$1,742,712	43%
Elementary Technology Specialists (teachers)	\$268,033	7%
Technology	\$245,731	6%
Math, Science and Engineering (teachers)	\$1,200,566	30%
Maintenance	\$200,000	5%
Instructional Materials	\$269,926	7%
Fees paid to County	\$80,000	2%
Total	\$4,006,968	100%

21/22 Parcel Tax Expenditures



Based on the information provided to the Committee by the Staff, the Committee is satisfied that the Measure G funds received by the LVJUSD in FY2021-2022 were expended, or if expended as budgeted*, will be spent in accordance with Measure G. Examples of how Measure G funds have been, or will be, spent are detailed below and are categorized according to the stated purposes of Measure G.

*At the time of writing this report the percentage of completed and encumbered orders is 99.3%.

Provide Advanced Courses in Math, Science and Engineering

Analyzed by Committee Member Maria Reenelyn Torres

Proceeds from this Parcel Tax are authorized to be used to provide advanced courses in math, science, and engineering. These funds were utilized at all grade levels to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education.

Throughout the elementary school level, Parcel Tax funds are used to support STEM education, focusing on math, science, and engineering. The funding provides for Science Specialists (teachers) at all sites, which ensures our students have a solid foundation in STEM and are prepared for advanced courses in high school.

At the secondary school level, Parcel Tax funds are used to provide teachers and purchase technology that supports needs in advanced math, science, and engineering courses. Examples of advanced courses: AP Statistics; AP Calculus; IB Mathematics SL/HL; AP Biology; IB Biology SL/HL; AP Chemistry; IB Chemistry SL/HL; AP Physics; IB Physics SL/HL; AP Environmental Science; Principles of Engineering; Civil Engineering & Architecture; AP Computer Science; AP Computer Science Principles; Advanced Interdisciplinary Science for Sustainable Agriculture; PLTW Honors Civil Engineering and Architecture; PLTW Honors Introduction to Engineering and Design; PLTW Honors Principles of Engineering.

Keep Schools Well Maintained

Analyzed by Committee Member Lorraine Purcell

Proceeds from this Parcel Tax are authorized to be used for work related to the maintenance activities to keep school facilities in good working order. This fiscal year, \$200,000 was budgeted for the following:

- District-wide fire alarm inspections including inspection and servicing of fire alarm panels and appurtenant devices;
- Fire sprinkler maintenance including the repair of sprinkler heads, supply lines, valves, and appurtenant devices related the fire sprinkler suppression system;
- Wheelchair lifts and elevator lift inspections and repairs to keep them in compliance with updated safety regulations;
- Boiler inspections and repairs, if needed, for the sites that use them as heating systems or as part of pool systems;
- Security alarm system repairs to maintain security at all our District locations;
- Payment of any fees related to maintaining our Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registration number with the State of California for the handling of EPA-registered materials for use in the Science Classrooms and at the Maintenance and Grounds Departments.

Attract and Retain Highly Qualified Teachers

Analyzed by Committee Member Steven Drouin

LVJUSD made sound efforts to attract and retain highly qualified teachers. Recruitment efforts included a variety of online platforms to reach out to new teachers including: Ed-Join, Indeed, Peach Jar, LinkedIn, and Handshake. Additionally, the District participated in multiple virtual certificated job fairs at local colleges and universities to recruit new teaching talent. As a result of their efforts, 57 teachers were hired and 16 temporary teachers were rehired in probationary status. Regarding retention, effective August 2021, 48 teachers had retired, resigned, or were released, eight of which were math and/or science teachers. The loss of eight STEM teachers reflects a retention rate of over 98.8 percent for the District, which currently has 692 teachers.

Provide Elementary School Science and Technology Specialists (Teachers)

Analyzed by Committee Member Brooke Feidy

The LVJUSD received \$2,010,745, approximately 50.17% of the available funds in FY2021-2022, to employ Elementary School Science and Technology Specialists. The District assigned 15.64 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) teachers for Elementary Science Specialists at a cost of \$1,742,712 and 1.5 FTE teachers for Technology Specialists at a cost of \$268,033. Schools that receive funds for Elementary Science Specialists are listed in the table below:

The School sites provided the Committee examples of how their students benefit from having access to these Specialists.

Altamont Creek

Science Specialists harness the power of STEAM by utilizing the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Project Lead The Way (PLTW) to engage students in hands-on activities that empower them to solve real world challenges.

Arroyo Seco

Science Specialists provide students with hands-on science lessons that teach collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving skills. Technology specialists provide resources and training to build staff capacity.

Croce Elementary

Students in 1st – 5th grade participate in science lessons twice per week. Science Specialists provide lessons that incorporate PLTW and STEAM activities and encourage collaboration, critical thinking and inquiry.

Emma C. Smith Elementary

Science Specialists provide students access to hands-on science lab instruction. Students work with PLTW materials and lessons and utilize the NGSS.

Jackson Avenue Elementary

Science Specialists teach NGSS through a variety of hands-on learning tools. Students are exposed to an array of thematic units covering earth, physical and life sciences. Students are highly engaged and active participants in learning about the world around them.

Joe Michell K-8

Science Specialists teach the PTLW Launch Program, engaging students in hands-on activities that empower them to solve real world challenges. These lessons help to inspire and encourage interest in STEM activities.

Junction Avenue K-8

Science Specialists provide students with a sound foundation of elementary science education and equitable access to science education. Specialists create interactive experiences to teach students to use real data and apply activities to real life.

Lawrence Elementary

Students participate in hands-on science exploration with Science Specialists utilizing PLTW lessons, online field trips, access to community scientists, and overseeing the Green Team at Lawrence.

Marylin Avenue Elementary

Specialists provide students with hands-on science labs twice a week. Through scientific methods, students develop skills such as logical reasoning, analysis and argument development.

Rancho Elementary

Science Specialists get their students excited about science! Specialists instill the ability to think logically and solve problems. Students find science inspiring and interesting.

Sunset Elementary

Specialists encourage students to have a love of science by teaching creative lessons that teach the Next Generation Science Standards. Students conduct experiments, and even had a chance to collect data on the metamorphosis of a meal worm.

Keep Classroom Technology and Instructional Materials Up-To-Date

Analyzed by Committee Member Bruce Cumming

The LVJUSD received \$245,731 or approximately 6.13% of the available funds in FY2021-2022 to keep classroom technology and instructional materials up-to-date. The School sites provided the committee with numerous examples of how the funds were used for this section of Measure G.

Altamont Creek

Measure G funds were used to upgrade the current document cameras to HDMI capacity to match the output capabilities of our HDMI projectors in their classroom. This upgrade has provided crisp and sharp projections for all students.

Arroyo Seco

Measure G funds were invested in licensing for educational programs and interventions to help support our varied learners. They purchased technology equipment such as Chromebooks, iPads, wireless mice/keyboards and document cameras to enhance instruction for their students.

Croce Elementary

Measure G funds were used to provide compatible printers in a couple of classrooms, upgrade document cameras to HDMI capacity, purchase wireless mice and headphones for our youngest learners, and allow for Bluetooth compatibility to our library's projector.

Emma C. Smith Elementary

Measure G Funds were used to purchase things such as updated computers for student research in the library, printers for their Special Education team along with a radio system for communication and student support. Document cameras in classrooms were also updated to a newer model. Headphones and mice for primary students use with Chromebooks were also purchased.

Jackson Avenue Elementary

Measure G Funds were used to upgrade their document cameras to HDMI capacity to match the output capabilities of the HDMI projectors in their classrooms.

Joe Michell (K-8)

Measure G funds were used to upgrade their RISO machine which is used to make copies for instructional lessons. Funds were also used to purchase additional laptops and computer programs used to create student IB Portfolios and teacher IB Units of Inquiry.

Junction Avenue (K-8)

Measure G funds were used to purchase Chromebooks, laptops and software (subscriptions/licenses) to help support student learning, and technology adapters for classrooms.

Lawrence Elementary

Funds were used to upgrade their document cameras to add HDMI capability to match the output capabilities of their HDMI projectors in the classroom. Additionally funds were used to update staff technology, purchase online assessment progress monitoring platforms, and purchase online licenses for enrichment and differentiated instruction.

Marylin Avenue Elementary

Measure G funds were used to upgrade their school's technology with new HDMI and high speed ethernet cables and adaptors. In addition, they purchased technology support items to maintain their school-wide printing system for their teachers and students.

Rancho Elementary

Measure G funds were used to purchase 35 additional student Chromebooks to be used in Resource and Science classrooms.

Sunset Elementary

Measure G funds were used to purchase document cameras, laptops, Digi Robots, speaker systems, laser and 3D printers, iPads and online tech programs

Christensen Middle School

Measure G Funds were used to update teacher laptops, purchase document cameras, and purchase technology support items such as microphones which are used in all classrooms.

East Avenue Middle School

Measure G funds have been primarily used to repair and replace teacher computers as well as replace library computers for students.

Mendenhall Middle School

Measure G Funds have been used to update teacher laptops.

Del Valle High School

Measure G Funds were used to refresh teacher laptops, student Chromebooks, monitors, printers, printer supplies and computer adaptors.

Granada High School

Measure G funds were used to purchase teacher laptops, a student computer lab in Video Production, a site license for Turnitin.com, Chromebooks for students, and premium subscriptions to PearDeck.

Livermore High School

Funds were used to purchase hard drives for teacher computers, 12 iMacs dispersed between 3 of our CTE classrooms, 4 computer monitors, miscellaneous computer accessories for classrooms, online math curriculum ("Curriculum that Matters", "DeltaMath Solutions," and "Edpuzzle"). We also purchased a site license for Turnitin.com, a program to ensure original work from students. Additionally, we purchased a new lens for our large projector that is shared school wide.

Vineyard Alternative

Measure G funds were used for additional data drops for better Internet access.

To the Extent Funds are Available, to Maintain Academic Programs, Including the Purchase of Instructional Equipment, Materials and Supplies

Analyzed by Committee Member Latika Khare

Based on the information provided by the principals in using funds appropriately for the Measure G program, schools have been participating and performing well in the STEM program offered to them.

Programs such as Project Lead the way (PLTW), STEAM & Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) give students the opportunity to solve real problems inside the classroom and in school labs.

Students & teachers have been given the opportunity to interact with Science and technology specialists which encourages them to build a strong foundation for critical thinking, problem-solving, and working while collaborating with others. Under Measure G, teachers have been given the opportunity to undergo the Teach the Teacher program, so that students are trained with the latest developments happening in the STEM field, which instills enthusiasm for science and how to work & utilizes data by providing equal opportunity to students.

Students have been given the opportunity to participate in the green initiatives through online field trips and discussions.

Measure G funds that have been allocated to respective schools have utilized them for purchasing software subscriptions and licenses for educational programs, and interventions to help support our varied learner upgrades.

Chromebooks, laptops, iPads, wireless mice/keyboards, radio systems, Headphones, HDMI & Blue tooth compatibility document cameras and projectors, RISO copier machine, ethernet cable and adaptors, digi robot, laser and 3D printer.

VI. Conclusions

Overall, the Committee concludes that the use of Measure G revenue for the LVJUSD in FY2021-2022 did indeed advance the Measure's stated purpose to provide advanced courses in math, science, and engineering, help keep schools well-maintained, attract and retain highly qualified teachers, provide elementary school science and technology specialists (teachers), and keep classroom technology and instructional materials up-to-date. The benefits of Measure G funds have been documented across all the schools within the LVJUSD, the expenses are within budget, appropriate for the Measure's intent, and have demonstrated a commitment to keeping Livermore schools up-to-date and well maintained.

Finally, the Committee members wish to offer their sincere appreciation for informative, timely, and accurate efforts provided by LVJUSD Staff Susan Kinder (Assistant Superintendent of Business Services), Teresa Fiscus (Director of Fiscal Services), Chris Connor (Director of Elementary Education), and Jason Krolikowski (Director of Secondary Education).

VII. Respectfully Submitted

(Original signed version is on file at the District Office.)

David Struebing, Committee Chair

Steven Drouin, Secretary

Bruce Cumming, Committee Member

Brooke Feidy, Committee Member

Ziad Hitti, Committee Member

Latika Khare, Committee Member

Lorraine Purcell, Committee Member

Maria Reenelyn Torres, Committee Member