



## **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT MEASURE J**

*As of 8/17/10*

### **What is Measure J?**

The Emery USD Board of Education unanimously placed Measure J on the November 2010 ballot to address urgent needs in Emeryville schools. Measure J includes stringent fiscal accountability guarantees, such as Independent Citizen's Oversight to ensure funds are spent on the projects and priorities described below. NO money would be spent on administrators' salaries, pensions or benefits. ALL funds will be spent for Emeryville schools, and cannot be taken away by Sacramento.

### **What are the needs Measure J is designed to address?**

Simply put, our existing school sites are inadequate and lack the science and computer labs, libraries and technology to keep children competitive in this economy -- and they don't meet today's seismic safety standards. We must provide students with the safe, effective learning environments they need.

### **What are the Measure J projects?**

After years of District planning and soliciting input from the community, Measure J will address the following priorities to upgrade our schools, including:

- Building seismically safe schools
- Improving energy-efficiency & lowering utility costs, putting more money into the classroom
- Bringing classroom technology up to date
- Providing facilities for youth after-school recreational and learning programs
- Updating school science labs
- Establishing a job training center for students and the community

### **How does Measure J help students?**

In the last few years, our students' academic performance has improved more than any other School District in Alameda County, a testament to what is possible when the community supports its schools. Making necessary improvements and upgrades such as those proposed by Measure J, allows us to continue this academic achievement while providing a range of essential services at the same location where schools are housed.

### **Why place Measure J on the ballot now?**

Our schools simply must be rebuilt to meet current seismic safety needs, and there is no better time than now to do so, when construction costs are at an all-time low. Waiting will only make it more expensive. Investing in our Emeryville schools will help attract more local families and attract and retain good teachers.