

Redwood City Parcel Tax Talking Points



Why This Matters for Our Community

Redwood City schools are facing over \$6 million in budget cuts due to expiring funding and long-standing underfunding.

We are already seeing:

- Larger class sizes and combined grade classes, with 28–31 students in many classrooms
- Cuts to STEM, Art, and Music
- Fewer counselors, reading specialists, paraeducators, nurses, and librarians
- Teachers stretched thin

What the Parcel Tax Would Do

If approved by voters:

- Raises about \$12.2 million per year for Redwood City schools
- Lasts 8 years
- Costs 17.5¢ per building square foot, with a cap per property

The funds will be used to:

- Attract and retain qualified teachers, support staff, and counselors
- Maintain manageable class sizes
- Protect science, technology, engineering, math, arts, and music
- Support strong reading and writing programs
- Provide stability in our schools

This funding stays local and cannot be taken by the State or federal government.

Exemptions for Seniors and Low-Income Residents

- Seniors 65+ can apply for exemption
- Residents receiving SSI or qualifying disability benefits can apply for exemption
- It is a one-time application

We understand many families are feeling economic pressure. This measure includes protections for seniors and low-income residents. Only property owners pay the tax, and the cost changes with the size of the dwelling: small apartments pay a small tax, large houses pay a larger tax.

Strong Accountability

This measure includes strict protections:

- No money can be spent on administrator salaries or pensions
- Independent citizens' oversight committee
- Annual audits and public reporting
- All funds stay in Redwood City schools

Equity Is Built Into the Measure

This measure is designed so every school benefits, and higher-needs schools receive additional support.

- 50% of funds go directly to school sites
- 50% support teacher salaries and districtwide programs

Each school receives:

- A \$50,000 base amount
- Additional funding based on:
 - Total enrollment
 - The number of English learners, low-income students, and foster youth

Estimated Annual Funding by School

RCSD Public Schools

School	Estimated Annual Allocation
Adelante Selby	~ \$530,000
Clifford	~ \$490,000
Roy Cloud	~ \$380,000
Henry Ford	~ \$407,000
Garfield	~ \$298,000
Kennedy	~ \$685,000
MIT	~ \$430,000
North Star	~ \$300,000
Roosevelt	~ \$330,000
Taft	~ \$355,000
Orion	~ \$350,000
Hoover	~ \$676,000

Charter Schools

School	Estimated Annual Allocation
Connect	~ \$135,000
KIPP	~ \$515,000
Rocketship	~ \$222,000

You Do NOT Have to Be a Citizen to Help

Only registered voters can vote, but everyone in the community can help protect our schools.

If you are not a U.S. citizen, you can still:

- Talk with neighbors and family members about why schools matter
- Share information in community groups or WhatsApp chats
- Volunteer to canvas or phone bank
- Help distribute flyers
- Encourage eligible voters you know to vote

More details at <https://www.strongschools4rwc.org/> - donate and support our initiative.