



GRAVENSTEIN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Members of the Gravenstein Community:

We are all very disappointed that Measure A, the renewal of our existing parcel tax, did not pass. **This is NOT the time to lower our heads and give up, however.** This is the time to dig in and find other means to provide the education our children deserve. **The Gravenstein Union School District is committed to continuing our Music and Band, Spanish Language instruction, Art, Library, and Computer/Technology programs.**

This is an appeal to parents who have children in our district and people who live in our district. **Please donate \$36 to replace the money that would have been provided from every household if Measure A had passed.** It doesn't matter if you are Democrat or Republican or neither—this is about providing the best education possible for our children. I think we have proven that we will be accountable to our community by maintaining the highest test scores in our area for the last six years and by our on-going commitment to balanced budgets with no deficit spending.

Most districts are announcing bad news right now. They are making cuts to student programs and laying off teachers. **I am proud to announce that we plan to do neither!** We have made many cuts as well—away from the classroom. We have eliminated our district secretary/account clerk position, and our business manager works only four days a week. In addition to being district superintendent, I am also principal of Gravenstein School, Special Education Director, Instructional Materials Director, and Transportation and RESIG Insurance Board Member representing the district. The principal at Hillcrest Middle School is also the Director of our REACH Creative Arts Magnet Program at both schools. And members of our school board provide professional and other services free of charge to help our district.

When we hire teachers, I always ask myself, "Is this a teacher I would want for my own children or grandchildren?" Our district uses that same yardstick for the programs we provide. I am proud to say that if my grandchildren lived here, I would want them at our schools—and as a grandparent, I would be fighting to maintain the wonderful package of programs we provide.

Our economy (and our property values) are only as strong as the schools and skills of those who work and live here. Please help preserve the outstanding schools in your neighborhood that Realtors brag about to potential homeowners. With your help, we can have accountability and **local** control over the education of our children.

The best schools in our state—ones that deliver a full and solid education for their children—generate their own local revenue through local parcel taxes or other measures. We now need to go to those other measures.

Thank you for any amount you can afford. **Please make your checks out to "GUSD."**

Superintendent