



Repairing Aging Schools and Ensuring Student Safety

Colusa Unified School District, serving about 1,450 students from transitional kindergarten to 12th grade, has enjoyed a long tradition of excellence where children thrive in a community focused, small school environment. The diversity of Colusa Unified and the community we serve is at the heart of our strength. Colusa Unified ensures students receive the support they need to succeed.

Repairing Aging Schools to Meet Today's Safety and Educational Standards

While Colusa Unified strives to meet the needs of our community and students, our local schools have not kept pace with today's safety and education standards. Most of our classrooms were built nearly a century ago and don't meet modern education and safety standards. Classrooms and science labs are outdated, and some contain hazardous materials including asbestos and lead pipes, while others need basic repairs and security upgrades. These needs are beyond what can be funded by our operating budget.



Deteriorating roof at Burchfield Primary School

Locally Controlled Funding for School Upgrades

To ensure all students have access to safe and modern educational facilities, the Colusa Unified Board of Trustees is considering a phased approach to address the top priorities for our schools. Phase 1 would include placing a \$13.8 million school facilities improvement bond measure on the November 5, 2024 ballot.

Funds from the potential measure could be used to complete Phase 1 priority projects:

- Remove hazardous materials like asbestos and lead pipes from older school sites
- Provide classroom and facilities with technology needed to support high quality instruction in math, science, engineering and technology
- Update or replace safety and/or security systems
- Improve access for students with disabilities
- Repair or replace deteriorating roofs, windows and old plumbing, sewer, heating, ventilation and electrical systems

A potential measure would be limited to 6¢ per \$100 of a property's assessed (not market) value as long as bonds are outstanding. **This would help our schools qualify for state matching funds that would otherwise go to other districts.**

Fiscal Accountability and Oversight Required

Any potential school facilities bond measure would include strict fiscal accountability protections to ensure responsible management of funds, including:

- All money raised would be controlled locally and could not be taken by the State
- A citizens' oversight committee and independent audits would be required
- No funds will be used for administrators' salaries or pensions

We Want to Hear from You!

As Colusa Unified considers a potential school bond measure and explores options to update local school facilities, we value your input. Please take our survey and share your priorities by scanning the QR code at the right with your smart device, or by visiting colusa.k12.ca.us/District-Info/Facilities-Bond---2024

