



Garden Grove Unified School District School Facilities Update

Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD) is proud of its long-standing record of academic excellence. The district is a leader across the nation in college and career readiness with a greater percentage of students meeting rigorous college entrance requirements than others in the state or county. Teachers and staff at GGUSD's 67 elementary, intermediate, and high schools prepare students for lifelong success in 21st-century careers.

While our students excel, our aging schools require critical repairs and upgrades. GGUSD is currently evaluating options for funding school improvements, including placing a school facility improvement bond measure on the November 2016 ballot.



Aging and Outdated School Facilities

Many of our schools are between 40 and 95 years old, and have aging classrooms with outdated computer and science labs that need to be upgraded for safety and to support quality academic instruction. Despite ongoing maintenance, schools of this age require roof replacements, heating and cooling infrastructure upgrades, and seismic safety improvements. Approximately half of GGUSD classrooms do not have air conditioning, and classroom temperatures frequently reach over 90 degrees during periods of excessively hot weather.

Measure A: Delivering on Promises

In 2010, 63.8% of voters approved Measure A to fund the first phase of urgent classroom repairs and updates our schools needed at that time. GGUSD used \$250 million in Measure A funds to leverage approximately \$300 million in state and \$30 million in federal matching funds to upgrade schools at no additional cost to local taxpayers.

Funds were used to make urgent safety and infrastructure improvements at some schools, including repairing or replacing plumbing and electrical systems, upgrading computer network systems, installing fire alarm and communications systems, and making our school campuses more accessible for students, staff, and visitors with disabilities.

Each year since 2010, the GGUSD independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee has verified that all Measure A funds have been spent as promised (visit www.ggusd.us/boc). While Measure A provided much-needed funds to begin important safety repairs, it was always known that the facility needs at GGUSD's aging schools would exceed the funding available from Measure A and additional funding would be needed for the next phase of work.



The Next Phase of Upgrades

Many repairs and upgrades still need to be addressed at GGUSD schools. Heating and cooling infrastructure upgrades, including installing air conditioning, are needed at many of our older schools. The district's stadiums and athletic facilities, which were built in 1958-1959 and have never been upgraded, are in need of improvements. School buildings must be upgraded to meet current seismic safety standards, and outdated roofs and building electrical systems need to be replaced at many of our older schools. In order to prepare students for college success and good jobs in competitive fields like health sciences, engineering, and technology; classrooms, science labs, and computer systems need to be updated to support 21st-century instruction.

GGUSD is currently evaluating options for funding the next phase of improvements to our local schools. One option is to place a facility bond measure on the November 2016 ballot to provide locally controlled funding for school improvements.

We Want Your Input

As GGUSD develops a plan for the next phase of improvements to our local schools, we want to hear from you. To share your opinions and priorities, please take our survey at www.ggusd.us/survey. Please email GGUSDBoard@ggusd.us if you have additional facilities-related questions.



Garden Grove Unified School District

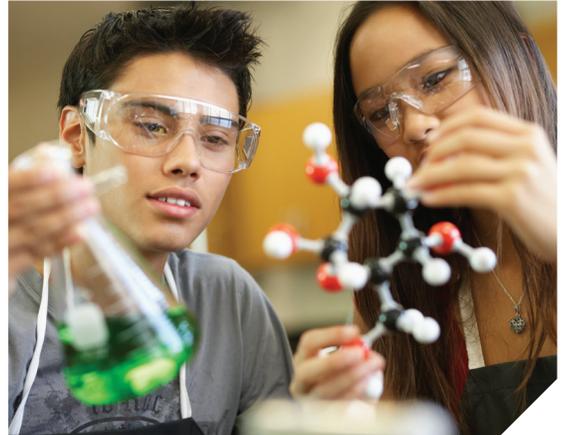
About Our District

Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD) is the third largest school district in Orange County and is committed to preparing all of its nearly 46,000 students to be successful and responsible citizens who contribute and thrive in a diverse society. Students benefit from a rigorous and supportive academic experience that motivates them to meet high expectations.

Well-Rounded Education in GGUSD Schools

Preschool Through Kindergarten Options: The district offers preschool, full-day transitional kindergarten, and full-day kindergarten to give early learners a successful start to their education.

Rigorous Curriculum: GGUSD teachers equip students with the academic skills to achieve mastery of rigorous standards in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies. Unlike other local school districts, Algebra and Geometry are offered to students in seventh and eighth grade. High school students select from a variety of Advanced Placement courses to get a head start on their college education. To give graduates the skills they need for highly paid jobs, GGUSD offers career technical education programs in engineering, design, technology, and other subjects.



Full Continuum of Special Services: Students with special needs receive a full continuum of educational services from preschool to age 22 with the district's adult transition program. Additionally, GGUSD offers a Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program for elementary and secondary students to meet the academic and socio-emotional needs of high-achieving students.

21st-Century Instruction: GGUSD has made a significant investment in instructional technology, providing wireless access and computers for regular use in the classroom.

Commitment to Arts: Students benefit from comprehensive visual and performing arts programs, including courses in vocal and instrumental music, visual arts, dance, and theatre.

After-School Interventions and Enrichments: Students are offered added support outside of the regular school day. GGUSD schools enjoy partnerships with the Boys and Girls Clubs and United Way to offer after-school programs focused on closing the achievement gap and improving language development, literacy, and math skills.

GGUSD Schools Are Among the Best

GGUSD is a leader across the nation in college and career readiness, as evidenced by the fact that all seven GGUSD comprehensive high schools are listed among the state and nation's elite in rankings by *U.S. News & World Report*. Students' academic successes begin early in GGUSD; on statewide exams, GGUSD students performed significantly higher than the state average and, as a district, GGUSD had the highest test scores over ten years of any large urban district in the state on standardized tests. Students leave GGUSD prepared for bright futures; a greater percentage of GGUSD students meet rigorous college entrance requirements than others in the state or county and GGUSD also beat the county and state graduation rates. With all our successes, however, we know that academics is just one element of a successful education, and we work to nurture the whole child. Our Strategic Plan survey revealed that 90% of students and staff agree that GGUSD adults have high expectations and foster a supportive school environment and 95% expressed pride in the school district. The key to our success is treating all students as if they were our own children and providing them all the academic and personal skills for lifelong success.

We Want Your Input

As GGUSD develops a plan for the next phase of improvements to our local schools, we want to hear from you. To share your opinions and priorities, please take our survey at www.ggusd.us/survey. Please email GGUSDBoard@ggusd.us if you have additional facilities-related questions.