

3

YES! on schools
YES! on prop 79

Honorary Co-Chairpersons
Honorable George Deukmejian,
Governor of California
Bill Honig, State Superintendent of
Public Instruction

August, 1988

Campaign Officers
Mamie Starr
Coalition for Adequate School
Housing
Richard Lyon
California Building Industry
Association
Dave Ackerman
California Chamber of Commerce
Jim Donnelly
California Taxpayers Association

Dear Council Member:

I am writing to ask for your Council's public endorsement of Proposition 79, the School Facilities Bond act of 1988, and your personal endorsement as well.

Bond Measure Authors
Senator Marian Bergeson
Assemblyman Jack O'Connell

A yes vote for Proposition 79 is vital to the future educational excellence in California. In many school districts, there simply is not enough space to house all the students and the problem is predicted to get worse.

Campaign Managers/Consultants
Russo, Watts + Rollins, Inc.

Estimates from the State Department of Finance indicate that California will need an additional 800 new schools, or over 21,000 new classrooms by 1993 alone. This problem must be solved and solved quickly! It is essential that we act now!

Campaign Coordinator
Andreas-Dawson
(916) 448-426

The Prop. 79 campaign has created a statewide coalition of education, business, agriculture and civic leaders who are actively pursuing every avenue to ensure that we win. They share our recognition of the fact that quality facilities will help the state reach its goal of excellence in education.

Steering Committee
Associated General Contractors
Association of California School
Administrators
California Association of County
Superintendents of Schools
California Association of School
Business Officials
California Business Properties
Association
California Movement for Educational
Reform
California School Boards Association
California State PTA
California Teachers Association
The Irvine Company
League of California Cities
League of Women Voters of California

Your Council's public endorsement will be an important boost for our efforts. In fact, the Council's public endorsement is a critical part of our effort to win a Yes vote on Prop. 79.

Enclosed for your review is a fact sheet outlining the key points of Prop. 79 and why its passage is necessary to increase the quality of our children's education. Also enclosed is a draft resolution you may wish to consider as well as an endorsement card.

Thank you for your help and support. I look forward to hearing of your action.

Sincerely,

Mamie Starr

Mamie Starr
Chairperson
Yes on 79

KEY FACTS

SCHOOL FACILITY NEEDS IN CALIFORNIA

Statistics according to the State Department of Finance:

** Over 1 million new pupils will enroll in California public schools over the next six years swelling K-12 enrollments to 5.5 million students.

** An average increase of 140,000 students each year is expected to swell the public school facilities;

** In counties projected to have more than 100,000 students by 1996, the following are expected to experience the highest student population increases (comparing 1987 K-12 enrollment to 1996 projected K-12 enrollment)

Riverside County	72%
San Bernardino County	60%
San Joaquin County	57%
Sacramento County	42%
Kern County	42%
San Diego County	38%
Fresno County	36%

** California will need an additional 800 new schools or over 21,000 new classrooms by 1993.

** California currently has 1024 school districts comprising:

- * 7,125 school sites (campuses);
- * 50,000 buildings with 160,000 classrooms;
- * 425 million square feet of space on over 100,000 acres.

** 55% of California's public school facilities were constructed between 1949 and 1964:

- * More than 1/3 are now 30 years of age or older.

** Insufficient funds for new construction, maintenance, rehabilitation, and reconstruction, coupled with the increasing aging of our facilities, have caused the school facilities needs to grow geometrically.

- * Many schools contain asbestos materials which are hazardous to the health of students and staff. These materials should be eliminated.

** Funding shortfall:

- * There are current funding requests of \$6.5 billion for new construction, deferred maintenance, modernization, and reconstruction;
- * There are \$1.1 billion in new construction and modernization projects that are ready to commence immediately but are prohibited from starting because of a lack of funding;
- * The \$800 million in State General Obligation Bonds authorized by the voters in June will be fully apportioned by the end of the year.

** California requires school districts to squeeze more students into each school than the citizens of nearly all other states.

- * California's space standards per student for schools are among the lowest in the nation.
- * Among the 10 states with state standards, California provides 38% less space per student.
- * California allows on average 59 square feet per student in elementary schools and 85 square feet per student in secondary schools.

Proposition 79 - Sample Resolution
The School Facilities Bond Act of 1988

WHEREAS, the need for school construction is 5 billion dollars by the year 1990,

WHEREAS, passage of Proposition 13 required school districts to rely on the state to finance construction projects,

WHEREAS, the school age population is growing faster than the ability to supply school buildings,

WHEREAS, school districts are forced to use gymnasiums, cafeterias, stages, and other teaching spaces for classrooms,

WHEREAS, California Schools provide less square footage per student than most other states,

WHEREAS, the California student population is expected to grow by 450,000 in the next 5 years,

WHEREAS, more than one-third of California's existing schools are over 30 years old,

WHEREAS, Proposition 79 will help provide new schools in growing areas and badly needed repairs to older schools,

SO BE IT RESOLVED, _____ supports the passage of Proposition 79.

Date