

# Argument in favor “Yes on Measure C”

Voting YES on Measure C will allow Sierra Sands Unified School District to fund necessary improvements to facilitate safer, more modern schools that will benefit our students and the community.

The aging infrastructure of Monroe Middle School continues to decline, and in its current state would be more expensive to repair than to replace. SSUSD has no funding mechanism to address this need, and the costs will only continue to grow.

Funds provided by the passage of Measure C will allow for the expansion and upgrade of the Murray Middle School campus to accommodate district 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and modernize Vieweg for 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Funding would also implement solar arrays at local schools to drive down the \$1 million in utility costs. The savings would be reinvested in other district facilities.

Approval of Measure C will make our schools safer, more technologically up-to-date and potentially more cost-effective to operate. Communities that successfully pass school bonds typically see an increase in the value of their properties. In addition, having improvements that benefit the quality of our educational system will help employers in our remote area better recruit and retain a capable and qualified workforce.

The funding priorities expressed by the district have been vetted and endorsed by the citizen participants of the Building Schools for Tomorrow Committee. Measure C will be used exclusively for capital investments, and cannot be used to augment the salaries of administrators or other SSUSD staff. To ensure proper expenditures of Measure C, Sierra Sands will form a Citizens Oversight Committee to report to the public.

If Measure C is approved, SSUSD will be eligible for state and federal grants and matching funds that can augment the benefit of a voter-approved bond.

Approval of Measure C is the first, and necessary, step toward our community Building Schools for Tomorrow.