

### PLEASE JOIN US

at an upcoming special meeting of the RVSD Board of Trustees. The Board will determine whether to place a parcel tax measure on the May 6 special election ballot to renew RVSD's existing parcel tax. **The meeting is open to the public and will include time for public comment.** 

Ross Valley School District 100 Shaw Drive San Anselmo, CA 94960

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### Your invite Sour invite

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Ross Valley School District is planning for the future of your neighborhood schools. Your feedback is valuable. **Please see the details on the back of this mailer.** 

## IN THE CLASSROOM

<image>

WHAT: RVSD Board of Trustees Meeting WHEN: January 29, 2025, at 7 PM WHERE: RVSD District Office









## Considering a Parcel Tax Measure to Support Student & Teacher Success

#### Dear Neighbor,

Ross Valley School District (RVSD) provides a well-rounded, exceptional education to students in Fairfax and San Anselmo. We foster the youngest learners in our transitional kindergarten program all the way through emerging leaders in 8th grade.

#### Ross Valley Schools Among the Lowest-Funded in Marin County

While RVSD schools regularly exceed educational standards, our funding is limited and expiring soon. Per-pupil funding at RVSD is among the lowest in Marin County – falling short of what other neighboring districts can offer.

#### High Cost of Living Prices Out Local Teachers

High-quality teachers are essential to a child's development and education. However, RVSD teachers are among the lowest-paid in Marin County. This lower pay makes it difficult for teachers to afford housing in our costly area, often resulting in long commutes or second jobs to support their families. Lower pay can mean we risk losing our teachers to neighboring districts that can offer more competitive pay.

#### Local Funding to Keep Great Teachers in the Classroom

Since the State only provides funding for the most basic education, local funding is required for the versatile, hands-on education RVSD offers. The Board of Trustees is therefore considering options for renewing our existing local funding through a ballot measure on the May 6 special election ballot.

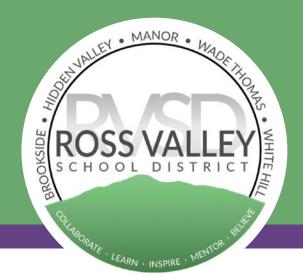
We'll be discussing our future funding options at our Board meeting on January 29. I invite you to join us as we plan for ways to maintain our high-quality instruction and retain exceptional teachers.

Yours in service,

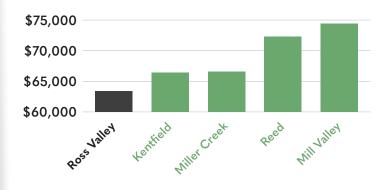
Tyler Graff

**Tyler Graff, Ed.D.** Superintendent, RVSD





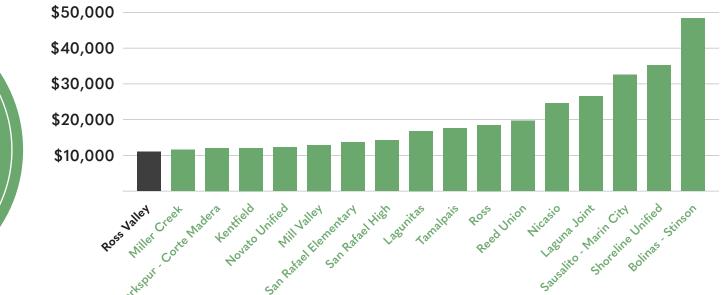
#### Starting Teacher Salary



#### Our Teacher Salaries Are Among the Lowest in Marin County

Lower salaries mean our teachers can be priced out of the area or may work two jobs to sustain their families. RVSD is currently exploring plans to help retain and attract high-quality teachers and keep our classroom sizes small.

Local Per-Pupil Funding for Marin County School Districts



RVSD's Local Per-Pupil Is Among the Lowest in Marin County

At our upcoming Board meeting we'll be discussing plans to support our core academic programs in STEM, English, writing, arts, and music.

#### Local Funding to Retain Teachers and Maintain Academic Excellence

The RVSD Board of Trustees is considering placing a 52 cent per building square foot measure on the May 6 special election ballot to renew RVSD's existing parcel tax. Funding from this measure could be used to:



Attract and retain qualified local teachers



Maintain small classroom sizes for all grade levels



Protect core academic programs in STEM, reading and writing, and arts and music education

Preserve school libraries and library services

#### Mandatory Fiscal Accountability and Local Control

If approved by voters, the potential measure would be subject to fiscal oversight as mandated by law:

All money would be controlled locally and could not be taken away by the State

 Independent citizens' oversight and mandatory annual audits would ensure funds are spent as intended by voters

✓ Senior citizen homeowners would be exempt

No money raised could be used for administrators' salaries or pensions

 Equitable distribution of local funding across our entire community, with large commercial property owners paying more