TO: Parties Interested in Serving on the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee (PTOC)

FROM: Bobbie Plough, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

DATE: April 25, 2013

RE: Application for Serving on the Santa Clara Unified School District Parcel Tax Measure A Oversight Committee (PTOC)

Thank you for your interest in serving on the Santa Clara Unified School District Parcel Tax Oversight Committee (PTOC). Attached to this letter, you will find the following information that will help you decide whether to submit an application form to serve on the committee:

1. Parcel Tax, Board of Trustees Resolution #12-03 2011/2012, Establishing Measure A Oversight Committee.

Please read the enclosed information before completing the application form. If after reading all of the documents you remain interested in serving on the PTOC, please follow the directions below to complete and submit the application form that is attached to this letter.

Instructions for Completing Application Form:

1. Please complete all requested information.
2. Education Code section 15282(a) requires that committee membership shall include the following community residents:
   a. One member shall, at the time of appointment, be active in a business organization representing the business community of the District;
   b. One member shall, at the time of appointment, be active in a senior citizens organization, which may be a local, regional, statewide or national organization;
   c. One member shall, at the time of appointment, be active in a bona fide taxpayers organization, which may be a local, regional, statewide or national organization;
   d. One member shall, at the time of appointment, be the parent or guardian of at least one child currently enrolled in a school of the District.
   e. One member shall, at the time of the appointment, be either a parent or guardian of at least one child currently enrolled in a school of the District and be an active member in a District parent-teacher organization, such as Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), or school site council.
3. The PTOC shall consist of 5 members. Therefore, on the application form, please check all of the above categories for committee membership that you believe apply in your case.

"The mission of Santa Clara Unified School District is to prepare students of all ages and abilities to succeed in an ever-changing world."
4. In 75 words or less, please indicate why you are interested in serving on the PTOC.
5. The completed application must be received in the SCUSD District Office, 1889 Lawrence Road, Santa Clara by 4:00 pm on May 6, 2013.
6. Interested applicants may be asked to attend a brief interview during the week of May 13, 2013.
7. The Board will receive staff’s recommendations for appointment to the PTOC at the regular meeting of May 23, 2013.
8. Please note that preference for serving on the PTOC shall be given to residents of Santa Clara Unified and/or parents and guardians who have students in the Santa Clara Unified School District.

If you have any questions regarding the PTOC or the application process, please contact Dana Taylor, Interim Assistant Superintendent Business Services by phone (408) 423-2024 or email dtaylor@scusd.net or Terry Gill, Business Services (408) 423-2027 or email tgill@scusd.net.
DATE: January 26, 2012

TYPE OF AGENDA ITEM: ACTION

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Bobbie Plough, Ed.D., Superintendent

SUBJECT: Resolution #12-03, Parcel Tax Measure for the May 8, 2012 Mail-in Election Ballot

ADMINISTRATIVE SUMMARY:

Staff has worked with consultant Tom Clifford of Tramutola to determine the level of voter support, via a survey among likely voters, for a potential Parcel Tax that may appear on the May 8, 2012 Mail-in ballot.

The adoption of Resolution #12-03 would place the Parcel Tax Measure on the May ballot and would have to be filed with the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters by February 10, 2012. The Parcel Tax, if passed, would provide Santa Clara Unified School District some degree of increased financial stability to confront the economic perils that school districts are currently facing.

It is recommended that a Parcel Tax be levied in the amount of $84 per parcel for a period of five years. The Measure will include a senior citizen exemption for individuals 65 years and older who own property within the district’s boundaries. If successful in May, the parcel tax would generate approximately $2.3 million per year. Funds generated from the parcel tax shall be used to support academic excellence in math, science and literacy and attract and retain qualified and experienced employees. A Parcel Tax Oversight Committee shall be formed to monitor the use of the funds.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Board approve Resolution #12-03, Parcel Tax Measure on the May 8th ballot and approve the filing of this measure with the Registrar of Voters before the February 10th deadline.

G.2.1
SANTA CLARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION #12- 03

RESOLUTION ORDERING A SPECIAL TAX ELECTION, ESTABLISHING SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER AND REQUESTING CONSOLIDATION WITH OTHER ELECTIONS OCCURRING ON MAY 8, 2012

RESOLVED, by the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Santa Clara Unified School District (the “District”), as follows:

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and section 50079 of the California Government Code authorize a school district, upon approval of two-thirds of the electorate voting on the measure, to levy a qualified special tax for specified purposes;

WHEREAS, while the District works diligently to provide the best education for its students, the District faces new challenges due to lack of adequate statewide funding and local business property tax decline that has forced the District to make very difficult budget cuts in recent years; and

WHEREAS, without additional local revenue the District has no choice but to make additional deep cuts to programs and staff in the classroom which will negatively impact classroom instruction at every school in the District; and

WHEREAS, an adequately funded and well-developed public education program provides numerous benefits and advantages to all of the residents of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is necessary to authorize a special tax in order to support student achievement in District schools by maintaining quality educational programs, providing academic resources at all grade levels, maintaining reduced class sizes, and attracting and retaining qualified and experienced employees; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Elections Code section 4108, a school district may, by resolution of its governing board, conduct any election by all mailed ballots in accordance with the laws governing all mailed ballot elections.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Santa Clara Unified School District, as follows:
Section 1. **Recitals.** This Board hereby finds and determines that the foregoing recitals are true and correct.

Section 2. **Order of Election.** This Resolution shall stand as the order to the Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools to call an all mailed ballot election within the boundaries of the District on May 8, 2012, for approval of a special tax measure ("Measure") which will be presented to voters in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, containing the question of whether the District shall impose a special tax for the educational purposes stated therein. In addition, the full text of the Measure ("Full Ballot Text") shall appear in the ballot pamphlet in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. The authority for the specifications of this election order is contained in sections 5304 and 5322 of the California Education Code, and the authority for ordering the election is contained in and section 50075 et seq. of the California Government Code and Section 4 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution.

Section 3. **Senior Exemption from Special Tax.** An exemption from payment of the special tax may be granted on any parcel owned by one or more persons 65 years of age or over who occupies said parcel as a principal residence, upon application for exemption ("Senior Citizen Exemption"). The District shall annually provide to the County Treasurer-Tax Collector or other appropriate County tax official a list of parcels that the District has approved for a Senior Citizen Exemption.

Section 4. **Collection of the Tax.** The special tax shall be collected by the County Tax Collector of the County of Santa Clara ("County Tax Collector"), at the same time, in the same manner, and subject to the same penalties as *ad valorem* property taxes collected by the County Tax Collector. Unpaid special taxes shall bear interest at the same rate as the rate for unpaid *ad valorem* property taxes until paid.

The special tax shall be levied on all parcels of taxable real property in the District. *"Parcel of Taxable Real Property" shall be defined as any unit of real property in the District that receives a separate tax bill for *ad valorem* property taxes from the County Tax Collector’s Office. All property that is otherwise exempt from or upon which are levied no *ad valorem* property taxes in any year shall also be exempt from the special tax in such year. With respect to all general property tax matters within its jurisdiction, the County Tax Collector shall make all final determinations of tax exemption or relief for any reason, and that decision shall be final and binding. With respect to matters specific to the levy of the special tax, including the Senior Citizen Exemption, the decisions of a District administrative review panel shall be final and binding.*
Section 5. **Filing of Order of Election.** The Secretary of this Board is ordered to cause certificated copies of this Resolution and order to be delivered not later than February 10, 2012 to the Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools, the Registrar of Voters, and the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County.

Section 6. **Formal Notice.** The Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools is hereby requested to prepare and execute a Formal Notice of Parcel Tax Election and consolidation order in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit C (the "Formal Notice"), and to call the all mailed ballot election by causing the Formal Notice to be posted in accordance with section 5362 of the California Education Code no later than February 10, 2012, or to otherwise cause the notice to be published as permitted by law. The Secretary of this Board, on behalf of and as may be requested by the Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools, is authorized to cause all notices required by law in connection herewith to be published and posted, as the case may be.

Section 7. **Conduct of Election.**

(a) **Request to Registrar of Voters.** Pursuant to section 5303 of the California Education Code, the Registrar of Voters is requested to take all steps to hold the election in accordance with law and these specifications. The election shall be conducted by means of an all mailed ballot election pursuant to Elections Code section 4108 and related statutes, except that the election may be consolidated with another election as specified below, if such consolidation is feasible and appropriate.

(b) **Voter Pamphlet.** The Registrar of Voters is hereby requested to reprint the Full Ballot Text in its entirety in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit B in the voter information pamphlet to be distributed to voters pursuant to section 13307 of the California Elections Code. In the event the Full Ballot Text will not be reprinted in the voter information pamphlet in its entirety, the Registrar of Voters is hereby requested to print, immediately below the impartial analysis of the Measure, in no less than 10-point boldface type, a legend substantially as follows:

"The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure__. If you desire a copy of the measure, please call the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters at (408-299-8683) and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you."
Section 8. **Appropriations Limit.** The Board shall provide in each year for an increase in the District’s appropriations limit as shall be necessary to ensure that the proceeds of the special tax may be spent for its authorized purposes.

Section 9. **Ballot Arguments.** The President of this Board, or any member or members of this Board as the President shall designate, is hereby authorized, but not directed, to prepare and file with the Registrar of Voters a ballot argument in favor of the Measure contained in Exhibit A hereto, within the time established by the Registrar of Voters, which shall be considered the official ballot argument of this Board as sponsor of the Measure.

Section 10. **Official Actions.** The District Superintendent, President of the Board, or their designees are hereby authorized to execute any other document and to perform all acts necessary to place the Measure on the ballot, including making alterations to the Measure and Full Ballot Text stated in Exhibits A and B hereto to comply with requirements of law and election officials or which are, in the judgment of the Superintendent, in the best interests of the District.

Section 11. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 26 day of January, 2012, at a meeting of the Board of Education by the following vote:**

AYES: 7 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 0

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board of Education
EXHIBIT A

Summary of Measure

The Measure shall be summarized in the following form, and the Registrar of Voters is requested to cause this summary of the Measure to appear on the ballot:

"To maintain the quality of our local schools and core academic programs in math and science, keep libraries open, attract and retain the best qualified teachers and staff, and to provide up-to-date textbooks and classroom technology, shall the Santa Clara Unified School District levy an annual assessment of $84 a year per parcel for five years only, with exemptions for seniors, and all money staying in our community to benefit local schools?"
EXHIBIT B

FULL BALLOT TEXT

The full text of the ballot measure shall read as follows:

"To maintain the quality of our local schools and core academic programs in math and science, keep libraries open, attract and retain the best qualified teachers and staff, and to provide up-to-date textbooks and classroom technology, shall the Santa Clara Unified School District levy an annual assessment of $84 a year per parcel for five years only, with exemptions for seniors, and all money staying in our community to benefit local schools?"

Amount and Basis of Tax

The parcel tax shall be $84 per Parcel of Taxable Real Property beginning in fiscal year 2012-2013 for a period of five years. The District shall provide the Santa Clara County Tax Collector a report indicating the parcel number and amount of tax for each Parcel of Taxable Real Property.

“Parcel of Taxable Real Property” is defined as any unit of real property in the District that receives a separate tax bill for ad valorem property taxes from the County Treasurer-Tax Collector’s Office. All property that is otherwise exempt from or upon which no ad valorem property taxes are levied in any year shall also be exempt from the special tax in such year.

Multiple parcels which are contiguous, under common ownership, and that constitute one economic unit, meaning that they have the same primary purpose as the principal parcel and are not separate and distinct properties that may be independently developed or sold, shall comprise a single Parcel of Taxable Real Property for purposes of the parcel tax.

An exemption may be granted on any parcel owned by one or more persons aged 65 years or older who occupies said parcel as a principal residence, upon application for exemption.

Claims / Exemption Procedures

With respect to all general property tax matters within its jurisdiction, the Santa Clara County Tax Assessor or other appropriate County tax official shall make all final determinations of tax exemption or relief for any reason, and that decision shall be final and binding. With respect to matters specific to the levy of the special tax, including the Senior Citizen Exemption,
the decisions of the District shall be final and binding. The procedures described herein, and any additional procedures established by the Board shall be the exclusive claims procedure for claimants seeking an exemption, refund, reduction, or re-computation of the special tax. Whether any particular claim is to be resolved by the District or by the County shall be determined by the District, in coordination with the County as necessary.

**Appropriations Limit**

Pursuant to California Constitution article XIII B and applicable laws, the appropriations limit for the District will be adjusted periodically by the aggregate sum collected by levy of this special tax.

**Accountability Measures**

The proceeds of the special tax shall be applied only to the specific purposes identified above. The proceeds of the special tax shall be deposited into a fund, which shall be kept separate and apart from other funds of the District. No later than January 1 of each year while the tax is in effect, the District shall prepare and file with the Board a report detailing the amount of funds collected and expended, and the status of any project authorized to be funded by this measure.

In addition, an advisory committee of citizens shall be appointed or designated by the Board to review that the special tax proceeds are spent for their authorized purposes, and to report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds.

**Severability**

The Board hereby declares, and the voters by approving this measure concur, that every section and part of this measure has independent value, and the Board and the voters would have adopted each provision hereof regardless of every other provision hereof. Upon approval of this measure by the voters, should any part of the measure or taxing formula be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, all remaining parts of the measure or taxing formula hereof shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent allowed by law.
EXHIBIT C
FORMAL NOTICE OF SPECIAL TAX ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified electors of the Santa Clara Unified School District of Santa Clara County, California, that in accordance with the provisions of the Education Code and the Government Code of the State of California, an all mailed ballot election will be held on May 8, 2012, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the District the Measure summarized as follows:

"To maintain the quality of our local schools and core academic programs in math and science, keep libraries open, attract and retain the best qualified teachers and staff, and to provide up-to-date textbooks and classroom technology, shall the Santa Clara Unified School District levy an annual assessment of $84 a year per parcel for five years only, with exemptions for seniors, and all money staying in our community to benefit local schools?"

By execution of this formal Notice of Election the County Superintendent of Schools of Santa Clara County orders consolidation of the election with such other all mailed ballot elections as may be held on the same day in the same territory or in territory that is in part the same.

The County Superintendent of Schools of Santa Clara County, by this Notice of Election, has called the all mailed ballot election pursuant to a Resolution and Order of the Board of Education of the Santa Clara Unified School District adopted January 26, 2012, in accordance with the provisions of Education Code Sections 5302, 5325 and 5361.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day, January 31, 2012

Charles Weis, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools
Santa Clara County, California
SANTA CLARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE A
Parcel Tax Oversight Committee (PTOC)
Membership Application Form

1. Name: ________________________________

2. Address: ________________________________

3. E-Mail Address: ________________________________

4. Home Phone: ________________________________

5. Cell Phone (including area code): ________________________________

6. Parent of a student attending Santa Clara USD? YES ______ NO ______

7. School(s) your child(ren) attend? ________________________________

8. Category under which you are applying (check all categories that apply):

☐ Active in a business organization representing the business community of the District.
Name of business organization you are active in:
________________________________________

☐ Active in a senior citizens’ organization, which may be a local, regional, statewide or national organization.
Name of senior citizens’ organization you are active in:
________________________________________

☐ Active in a bona fide taxpayer’s organization, which may be a local, regional, statewide or national organization.
Name of bona fide taxpayers organization you are active in:
________________________________________

☐ A parent or guardian of at least one child currently enrolled in a school of the District.
Name of your child and school he/she is enrolled in:
________________________________________
☐ Both a parent or guardian of at least one child currently enrolled in a school of the district and be an active member in a district parent-teacher organization, such as Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), or School Site Council.

Name of your child and school he/she is enrolled in:

________________________________________________________________________

Name of the district parent-teacher organization you are active in:

________________________________________________________________________

☐ Member of the community-at-large

9. Please indicate below why you are interested in serving on the Santa Clara USD Parcel Tax Measure A Oversight Committee.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Completed application must be submitted as outlined and mailed and/or delivered to SCUSD District Office no later than 4:00 pm, Monday, May 13, 2013.

Mail or deliver to: Parcel Tax Oversight Committee
c/o Dana Taylor, Interim Assistant Superintendent Business Services
Santa Clara Unified School District
1889 Lawrence Road
PO Box 397
Santa Clara, CA 95052