MEASURE “L”

To improve the quality of education with funding that cannot be taken by the State; repair/replace leaky roofs; upgrade deteriorating plumbing and sewer systems; update inadequate electrical systems; replace outdated heating and air-conditioning systems; and modernize, construct and/or renovate classrooms, restrooms and school facilities; shall the Mariposa County Unified School District issue $24,000,000 of bonds at legal interest rates, have annual audits, an independent citizens’ oversight committee and have NO money used for administrative salaries?
EXHIBIT A

BALLOT MEASURE
FULL TEXT OF MEASURE

This proposition may be known and referred to as the Mariposa County Unified School District General Obligation Bond of 2016, or Measure ____.

BOND AUTHORIZATION

By approval of this proposition by at least 55% of the registered voters voting on the proposition, the Mariposa County Unified School District (the “District”) shall be authorized to issue and sell bonds of up to $24.0 million in aggregate principal amount to provide financing for the specific school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List below, and in order to qualify to receive State matching grant funds, subject to all of the accountability safeguards specified below.

ACCOUNTABILITY SAFEGUARDS

The provisions in this section are specifically included in this proposition in order that the District’s voters and taxpayers may be assured that their money will be spent wisely to address specific facilities needs of the District, all in compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the State Constitution, and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000 (codified at Education Code Sections 15264 and following).

Evaluation of Needs. The Board of Trustees hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List.

Limitation on Use of Bond Proceeds. The State of California does not have the power to take locally approved school district bond funds for any State purposes. The Constitution allows proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition to be used only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities listed in this proposition, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses. Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District staff only when performing work on or necessary and incidental to the bond projects.

Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee. The Board of Trustees shall establish an independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee (pursuant to Education Code Section 15278 and following), to ensure bond proceeds are spent only for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. The committee shall be established within 60 days of the date on which the Board of Trustees enters the election results on its minutes.
Annual Performance Audits. The Board of Trustees shall conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List.

Annual Financial Audits. The Board of Trustees shall conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the bond proceeds (which shall be separate from the District’s regular annual financial audit) until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List.

Special Bond Proceeds Account; Annual Report to Board. Upon approval of this proposition and the sale of any bonds approved, the Board of Trustees shall take actions necessary pursuant to Government Code Section 53410 and following to establish an account in which proceeds of the sale of bonds will be deposited. As long as any proceeds of the bonds remain unexpended, the Superintendent or the Chief Business Official of the District (or such other employee as may perform substantially similar duties) shall cause a report to be filed with the Board no later than December 31 of each year, commencing December 31 of the year in which bonds are first issued, stating (1) the amount of bond proceeds received and expended in that year, and (2) the status of any project funded or to be funded from bond proceeds. The report may relate to the calendar year, fiscal year, or other appropriate annual period as such officer shall determine, and may be incorporated into the annual budget, audit, or other appropriate routine report to the Board.

FURTHER SPECIFICATIONS

Specific Purposes. All of the purposes enumerated in this proposition shall be united and voted upon as one single proposition, pursuant to Education Code Section 15100, and shall constitute the specific purposes of the bonds, and proceeds of the bonds shall be spent only for such purposes, pursuant to Government Code Section 53410.

Joint Use. The District may enter into agreements with the County of Mariposa, or other public agencies or nonprofit organizations for joint use of school facilities financed with the proceeds of the bonds in accordance with Education Code Section 17077.42 (or any successor provision). The District may seek State grant funds for eligible joint-use projects as permitted by law, and this proposition hereby specifies and acknowledges that bond funds will or may be used to fund all or a portion of the local share for any eligible joint-use projects identified in the Bond Project List or as otherwise permitted by California State regulations, as the Board of Trustees shall determine.

Rate of Interest. The bonds shall bear interest at a rate per annum not exceeding the statutory maximum, payable at the time or times permitted by law.

Term of Bonds. The number of years the whole or any part of the bonds are to run shall not exceed the legal limit, though this shall not preclude bonds from being sold which mature prior to the legal limit.

BOND PROJECT LIST

The Bond Project List below describes the specific projects the Mariposa County Unified School District proposes to finance with proceeds of the bonds. Listed projects will be completed as needed at a particular school site according to Board-established priorities, and the order in which such projects appear on the Bond Project List is not an indication of priority

Exhibit A - 2
for funding or completion. The final cost of each project will be determined as plans are finalized, construction bids are awarded, and projects are completed. Certain construction funds expected from non-bond sources, including State grant funds for eligible projects, have not yet been secured. Until all project costs and funding sources are known, the Board of Trustees cannot determine the amount of bond proceeds available to be spent on each project, nor guarantee that the bonds will provide sufficient funds to allow completion of all listed projects. Completion of some projects may be subject to further government approvals or appropriation by State officials and boards, to local environmental review, and to input from the public. For these reasons, inclusion of a project on the Bond Project List is not a guarantee that the project will be funded or completed.

Unless otherwise noted, the projects in the Bond Project List are authorized to be completed at each or any of the District’s sites, as shall be approved by the Board of Trustees:

- Repair or replace leaky roofs
- Upgrade deteriorating plumbing and sewer systems
- Update inadequate electrical systems
- Replace outdated heating, ventilation and cooling systems
- Make health, safety and handicapped accessibility improvements
- Improve student access to computers and modern technology
- Improve energy-efficiency throughout the District
- Modernize, construct and/or renovate classrooms, restrooms and school facilities
- Renovate playfields for school and community use
- Replace existing wiring systems to meet current electrical and accessibility codes and increased capacity
- Federal and State-mandated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility upgrades including site access, parking, staff and student restrooms, relocation of some existing electrical devices, drinking fountains, playground equipment, etc.
- Improve/construct/upgrade P.E. fields and facilities for school and community use
- Increase student safety by improving drop-off and pick-up areas
- Upgrade school site parking, utilities and grounds
- Federal and State-mandated Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) safety upgrades including playground equipment replacement
- Abate and remove hazardous materials identified prior to or during construction
- Repair, replace and/or upgrade paved surfaces, turf, and other grounds to eliminate safety hazards and improve outside instructional areas

The listed projects will be completed as needed. Each project is assumed to include its share of furniture, equipment, architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, program/project management, staff training expenses and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. In addition to the listed projects stated above, the list also includes the acquisition of a variety of instructional, maintenance and operational
equipment, including the reduction or retirement of outstanding lease obligations and interim funding incurred to advance fund projects from the list; installation of signage and fencing; payment of the costs of preparation of all facility planning, facility studies, assessment reviews, facility master plan preparation and updates, environmental studies (including environmental investigation, remediation and monitoring), design and construction documentation, and temporary housing of dislocated District activities caused by construction projects. In addition to the projects listed above, the repair and renovation of each of the existing school facilities may include, but not be limited to, some or all of the following: renovation of student and staff restrooms; repair and replacement of heating and ventilation systems; upgrade of facilities for energy efficiencies; repair and replacement of worn-out and leaky roofs, windows, walls, doors and drinking fountains; installation wiring and electrical systems to safely accommodate computers, technology and other electrical devices and needs; upgrades or construction of support facilities, including administrative, physical education/athletic facilities and performing arts buildings and maintenance yards; repair and replacement of fire alarms, emergency communications and security systems; resurfacing or replacing of hard courts, pools, turf and irrigation systems and campus landscaping and play fields; expand parking; install interior and exterior painting and floor covering; demolition; and construction of various forms of storage and support spaces, upgrade classrooms, bleachers, kitchens, repair, upgrade and install interior and exterior lighting systems; replace outdated security fences and security systems. The upgrading of technology infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, computers, LCD projectors, portable interface devices, servers, switches, routers, modules, sound projection systems, laser printers, digital white boards, document projectors, upgrade voice-over-IP, call manager and network security/firewall, wireless technology systems and other miscellaneous equipment and software. The allocation of bond proceeds will be affected by the District's receipt of State matching funds and the final costs of each project. In the absence of State matching funds, which the District will aggressively pursue to reduce the District's share of the costs of the projects, the District will not be able to complete some of the projects listed above. The budget for each project is an estimate and may be affected by factors beyond the District's control. Some projects throughout the District, such as gyms, fields and performing arts facilities, may be undertaken as joint use projects in cooperation with other local public or non-profit agencies. The final cost of each project will be determined as plans and construction documents are finalized, construction bids are received, construction contracts are awarded and projects are completed. Based on the final costs of each project, certain of the projects described above may be delayed or may not be completed. Demolition of existing facilities and reconstruction of facilities scheduled for repair and upgrade may occur, if the Board determines that such an approach would be more cost-effective in creating more enhanced and operationally efficient campuses. Necessary site preparation/restoration may occur in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable classrooms, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, utility lines, trees and landscaping, relocating fire access roads, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of way to the property. Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District staff when performing work on or necessary and incidental to bond projects and the costs of issuing the bonds. Bond proceeds shall only be expended for the specific purposes identified herein. The District shall create an account into which proceeds of the bonds shall be deposited and comply with the reporting requirements of Government Code § 53410.

The Bond Project List shall be considered a part of this ballot proposition, and shall be reproduced in any official document required to contain the full statement of the bond proposition.
Measure L, a proposition known as the Mariposa County Unified School District General Obligation Bond of 2016, has been placed on the ballot at the request of the Mariposa County Unified School District (the “District”). If this proposition is approved by at least 55% of the registered voters voting on the proposition, the District will be authorized to issue and sell general obligation bonds in the maximum principal amount of $24 million to provide financing for the specific school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List contained in the proposition, and to provide matching funds in order to qualify to receive State grants. The bond proceeds may not be used for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses, except to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District staff only when performing necessary and incidental work on the bond projects.

The bonds shall bear interest at a rate per annum not exceeding the statutory maximum and the term of the bonds shall not exceed the legal limit. The District estimates that the highest tax rate that would be required to fund the bond issue is $.04900 per $100 ($49.00 per $100,000) of assessed valuation. The District estimates that the total debt service, including the principal and interest, that would be required to be repaid if all the bonds are issued and sold will be approximately $52,000,000.

If Measure L is approved, the District will be required to establish an independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee to ensure bond proceeds are spent only for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. In addition, the District will be required to conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. The District will also be required to conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the bond proceeds until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List.

Dated: July 26, 2016

[Signature]

Steven W. Dahlem
County Counsel
Argument in Favor of Measure L
Mariposa County Unified School District

Our schools are the most important assets in our community and should be our number one priority. From higher achieving students, to greater neighborhood safety, quality schools make a difference. While our teachers and staff do a great job in educating our children, many classrooms and school facilities in the Mariposa County Unified School District are outdated and inadequate to provide students with the facilities they need to succeed. This is why our students need your YES vote on Measure L!

Although our schools have been well maintained over the years, aging classrooms and facilities must be upgraded since many do not meet 21st century standards. Measure L would allow the District to improve our local schools and the quality of education provided to local children. By investing in our schools, we can meet today’s safety, technological, and educational standards and improve our community.

If passed, Measure L will provide funding to make critical facility improvements at Mariposa schools by:

- Repairing or replacing leaky roofs
- Upgrading and repairing outdated and deteriorating electrical and plumbing systems
- Replacing outdated heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems
- Replacing or repairing inadequate facilities, including obsolete portable classroom buildings
- Improving student access to modern technology to support college and career readiness

Measure L makes financial sense and protects taxpayers.

- All funds must be spent locally and cannot be taken by the state.
- By law, spending must be reviewed and annually audited by an independent citizens’ oversight committee.
- Funds can only be spent to improve Mariposa County schools, not for teacher or administrator salaries.

Measure L upgrades and renovates old and inadequate classrooms, improves the education of local children, and maintains the quality of our community with funding that cannot be taken by the state. That’s something we can all support. Please join us and VOTE YES ON MEASURE L!

“The undersigned proponents or authors of the direct argument in favor of ballot Measure L at the Presidential General election for the Mariposa County Unified School District to be held on November 8, 2016 hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.”

________________________ (Signature) 8/9/2016 (Date)

________________________ (Printed Name/Title)
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_________________________  (Signature)  8-9-16  (Date)

_________________________  (Printed Name/Title)

Jill Ballinger, Local Business Owner
River Rock Inn
Argument in Favor of Measure L
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+ Educator → MCUSD
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8-01-16 ________________________________  (Signature)  
(Date)

STEVE ALLISON, CEO of Allison Sierra, Inc. (Printed Name/Title)
Argument in Favor of Measure L

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(Signature) 8/8/16 (Date)

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