

Argument Against Measure A

As a former part time adjunct professor in the Business Department at Chaffey College for 13 years teaching business courses, I helped students to advance their careers. I know the value of a good education. Taxpayers are still paying for the District's previous bond measure to modernize school facilities, energy upgrades and new technology. Now the District is proposing a new \$237 million bond to be paid over the next 20 years for essentially the same purposes.

The District's current operating budget revenue is a whopping \$173 MILLION! Properly managed budgeting sets aside funding for maintenance, repairs and replacement of heating, air conditioning, plumbing, roofs etc. Where is the accountability and oversight the School Board should be providing?

District student population has DECLINED 25% in the last 15 years. Why is the District asking for bond funding to expand school classrooms? It's not needed! The District actually allows a significant number of students from other cities to transfer into Upland schools to help make up for the decline in student population. It is expected to continue to decline.

Most technology becomes obsolete in a couple of years and is not the answer to better education. Giving Chromebooks to students was not a good outcome. A staggering 55% of Upland students are below grade level in mathematics and 45% below grade level in reading according to recent standardized testing! Additional bond money will not fix this problem!

The District needs to operate within its \$173 MILLION budgeted revenue! Upland's working families and seniors on a fixed income are struggling to make ends meet with the high cost of living. Home, car, prescription and medical insurance costs have skyrocketed in recent years. Food, gasoline, heating and air conditioning costs have also severely strained household budgets. Vote NO on A!