



# PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**  
December 17, 2002

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Director of Communications

## **Applications Available for School Bond's Citizens' Oversight Committee**

The Poway Unified School District Board of Education is seeking highly qualified, interested individuals to serve on a "Blue Ribbon" committee of community leaders that will serve as the independent Citizens' Oversight Committee ("COC") for the implementation of Proposition U.

Interested persons are requested to complete the application form located on the PUSD Web site or request an application by calling Laurel Weber, Assistant to Deputy Superintendent John Collins, at the District Office at 858-679-2622. Completed applications must be received by the Superintendent's Office, Poway Unified School District, 13626 Twin Peaks Road, Poway, CA 92064 or faxed to 858-679-2642 no later than Friday, January 17, 2003, at 4:30 p.m.

The California Education Code requires that the Citizens' Oversight Committee have at least one member representing each of the first five categories.

- Business representative
- Senior citizen
- Member of taxpayer organization
- Parent of a Poway Unified School District student
- Parent active in the Poway Unified School District PTA
- At-large/community member

In addition to these State requirements, the Poway Unified School District Board of Education has also made a commitment to ensure that a majority of the members of this

committee have knowledge and experience in the fields of construction, architecture design, public financing, contract law, and/or building program management.

### **About Proposition U:**

Proposition U is a \$198 million bond measure passed on November 5, 2002 that authorizes funding to make needed repairs and upgrades to the 24 schools within the School Facilities Improvement District. Proposition U allows Poway Unified School District (PUSD) to make the following improvements at the school sites:

- Make essential safety improvements
- Upgrade inadequate plumbing, sewer, electrical and building systems
- Renovate old, outdated classrooms and labs
- Add additional classrooms and restrooms to relieve overcrowding
- Expand and upgrade core facilities such as libraries, science labs, and health offices as needed.

California State law requires that a Citizens' Oversight Committee be appointed by the Board of Education within sixty days of their certification of the election results. The purposes of the Committee are:

- To actively monitor all Proposition U projects and expenditures.
- To provide proper oversight, controls, and accountability to ensure that Proposition U funds are used as they were intended.
- To make regular reports to the community at large on the progress of Proposition U projects.

### **Duties of the Committee:**

Members of the Citizens' Oversight Committee will meet on a regular basis to provide input regarding overall program, focus on value added, equity, budget and financing, scope, management and construction schedules. Responsibilities may include the following:

- Ensure Proposition U funds are spent only on projects listed in the Proposition U project list and that no funds are used for any teacher or administrative salaries or general school operating expenses.
- Advise District staff on specific projects, as well as the over-all SFID plans.
- Follow and monitor Proposition U projects.
- Receive and review copies of the annual performance and financial audits of Proposition U.
- Inspect school facilities and grounds to ensure compliance with Proposition U.
- Review deferred maintenance plans.
- Provide information to the public on the progress of Proposition U projects.

