

Parcel Taxes in Other Bay Area Communities

The first California parcel tax for schools was passed in 1983, just a few years after Proposition 13 became law. Since then, approximately 340 school districts statewide have sought to raise additional revenues with parcel tax ballot measures.

Below is a sampling of Bay Area parcel tax measures currently in place. Note that most of the districts listed below are K-8 or K-6 elementary districts. They are not, therefore, directly comparable to the costlier K-12 Palo Alto district, but do offer some points of reference. Note that neighboring Menlo Park Elementary School District recently passed a \$498 parcel tax that carries an annual inflation adjustment and no expiration.

Silicon Valley

School District	Amount	Duration	Pass Rate	Year Passed
Woodside Elementary	\$ 196	8 years	78%	2001
Las Lomitas Elementary	\$ 196	6 years	74%	2001
Los Altos Elementary	\$ 597	4 years	71%	2002
Menlo Park Elementary	\$ 498*	No expiration	81% 77%	2003
Portola Valley Element.	\$ 290	10 years	73%	2004
Ravenswood City	\$ 98	5 years	75%	2004

**The Menlo Park parcel tax increases annually with inflation.*

Note: There are two pass rates listed for Menlo Park Elementary above and Piedmont Unified below because those school districts sought two different approvals from their voters in connection with their effort to pass their current parcel tax.

East Bay

School District	Amount	Duration	Pass Rate	Year Passed
Piedmont Unified	\$ 1,296 average	5 years	79% 76%	2001
Orinda Union Element.	\$ 385	6 years	75%	2003

Marin County

School District	Amount	Duration	Pass Rate	Year Passed
Ross Elementary	\$ 495**	8 years	85%	1999
Kentfield Elementary	\$ 550**	7 years	67%	2002
Mill Valley Elementary	\$ 387**	8 years	77%	2004

*** Ross, Kentfield and Mill Valley residents pay, on average, \$245 in additional parcel taxes each year to support their high schools.*

For a full overview of parcel taxes in the Bay Area, log into <http://www.ed-ata.k12.ca.us/election/ElectionReport.asp?tab=0&level=06&ReportNumber=512&County=43&fyr=0304&District=69641> and election results posted on voter websites such as www.smartvoter.org.