The California legislature passed Assembly Bill 1908, the “Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000,” with these stated intentions:

- Vigorous efforts will be undertaken to ensure that school districts spend the proceeds of bond measures, including those passed under criteria of Proposition 39, in strict conformity to law.
- Taxpayers will directly participate in the oversight of bond expenditures.
- Members of the oversight committees appointed for these purposes will promptly alert the public to any waste or improper spending of money borrowed through bond sales.
- Unauthorized expenditures of school construction bond revenues will be vigorously investigated, prosecuted, and restrained by the courts.
- Monitor progress of Bond projects.
- Receive and review copies of the annual performance and financial audits of Bond projects as required by California State law (Proposition 39).
- Provide information to the public on the progress of Bond projects and expenditures of Bond funds.

The district Board must appoint an independent citizens’ bond oversight committee after the board enters the election results in its minutes. The committee must include at least seven members to serve for a term of two years and for no more than two consecutive terms. The committee must include at least one “active” representative of the following groups:
- A business organization, located within the district, representing the business community
- A senior citizens’ organization
- A bona fide taxpayers’ organization
- A school district: parents or guardians of children enrolled in the district who are also active in a parent-teacher organization, such as the Parent Teacher Association or school site council.

The committee has several responsibilities listed in state law meant to ensure the district spends bond proceeds only on projects listed in the ballot statement and avoids spending bond proceeds on ineligible projects. State law also assigns these committees to review “efforts by the school district to maximize bond revenues by implementing cost-saving measures.” The committee actively reviews expenditures to ensure that bond dollars are spent only for projects authorized by the California Constitution and the official ballot language of Measure S. The committee must issue regular reports, at least annually, on the results of its activities.

Projects Taking Place and Completed

In 2016, there were several large bond projects started. These projects included, heating, ventilating, air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades at nine (9) sites, and included several gyms, and auditoriums.

There were numerous projects that took place to upgrade the low voltage systems at several sites, which included the energy management systems, fire alarm, and clock and PA systems. Additional projects undertaken and completed were fencing and asphalt replacement at several sites and LED lighting retrofits at nine (9) sites. Also, the portable replacement continued with the installation of new modular classrooms at Washington ES, Emerson ES, and Roosevelt ES, which were completed in 2016.

In 2016-2017 the Technology Refresh Plan continued at Luther Burbank MS, David Star Jordan MS, and John Muir MS. These sites now have all the computers designated for teacher and student use, the library computers as well as the office computers which have been replaced with new ones. The 21st Century Classroom installation was completed at Burbank HS, Muir MS, Harte ES, Adult School, Emerson ES, Roosevelt ES, and Washington ES, modular classrooms. Also, the Network was upgraded at Burbank HS, Muir MS, Luther MS, Burroughs HS and Adult School.
2016 School Year Projects Started
Horace Mann Children’s Center and Special Education Preschool Modernization

An extensive modernization of Mann started, this work included fire sprinklers, fire alarm, public address, energy management system (EMS), HVAC, lighting, ADA, flooring, resilient flooring, casework, restroom remodel, and painting. The technology effort will consist of adding network infrastructure, site computers, and the 21st Century Classroom modernization features.

2016 School Year Completed Projects
Removal and Replacement of Portable/Modular Classrooms

The District removed all of the old portable classroom buildings at Washington ES and Roosevelt ES. New modular buildings were installed and constructed in record time. The new modular classrooms at Roosevelt ES and Emerson ES were available for use by fall of 2016 and the new modular classrooms at Washington ES shortly thereafter. The new classrooms include many upgrades compared to the old classrooms. These upgrades include built-in teaching walls, better quality and more efficient LED lighting, and improved heating and cooling systems. In addition, each classroom has an ADA compliant sink and upgraded resilient flooring. Plus, these classrooms have been modernized with 21st Century teaching technology and improved wireless equipment. Furthermore, the new classroom buildings are furnished with a new code compliant fire alarm system. Lastly, a energy management system (EMS) has been incorporated into all the new classroom buildings.

Play Structure

A new playground structure was completed at the Jefferson ES playground. This included construction of a metal framework shade structure with a fabric cover and installation of a synthetic cushioned play surface. Also, new asphalt and striping was installed at Muir MS, Providencia ES, and Jefferson ES lower playground.

Photos provided by District staff
2016 Completed Projects

Solar Structures
The installation of solar equipment was completed at nine (9) sites. The solar panels installed at Emerson ES, Harte ES, Jefferson ES, Washington ES, and Luther MS were installed on the playgrounds and provided the added benefit of shade in the play area. The solar panels installed at Jordan MS and Burbank Adult School were installed in the parking lots and also had the advantage of furnishing shade to park under. The last two (2) sites, Muir MS and the District Service Center, had their solar panels mounted on the roof.

Information Technology Projects
The District installed network cabling and wireless access points at Burbank HS, Burroughs HS, Muir MS, Luther MS, and Adult School. In addition, a new Data Center was constructed at the District Service Center. This includes a dedicated room for the new District IT racks which house new servers, switches, routers, and fire wall. Also included in the Data Center is an uninterruptable power system and a standby generator for power failure situations.

2016 Projects Completed with Deferred Maintenance Funds

Exterior Painting
The exterior of two (2) school facilities, Washington ES and Jefferson ES were painted using deferred maintenance dollars.

General Obligation Bond and Facility Project Costs ($110 Million GO Bond)
To Date as of March 30th, 2017

- Bond Borrowings
  Issue No. A $41.0 Million
  Issue No. B $35.0 Million
  Issue No. C $34.0 Million

- Bond and Other Expenditures
  GO Bond Project Costs $42.2 Million
  Deferred Maintenance Project Costs $2.4 Million
  Special Reserve Funds Project Costs $3.1 Million
  Developer Fees Project Costs $5.55 Million
  Total Bond and Other Expenditures $48.25 Million
Bond Facts

On March 15th, 2017 the District sold the 2017 Series Issue bonds in the amount of $34 million. This is the last and final sale of bonds under the $110 million Measure "S" election of 2013. Due to the expected rising interest rates in 2017, the District chose to enter the bond market early in the year. The Series C bonds will have an average interest rate of 3.59% with an average life of 12.3 years. The final maturity is 2032, or 15 years. Most important is the fact that the District will be able to maintain a maximum tax rate of $55.18 on all of its outstanding school bonds as promised. This is achieved by the District's strong property values and its high credit rating of "Aa2/AA-". The proceeds of the 2017 Series C bonds will be used to continue with the improvement projects within the District.

LA County Bond Tax Rates (Unified Schools)

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2017 Planned Projects

- Modular Replacement at Bret Harte ES, Thomas Jefferson ES, and Robert Stevenson ES
- Exterior painting at Luther Burbank MS and John Muir MS
- Building Shade Structures at Jefferson ES, Monterey HS, and Magnolia Park School
- Clock / Speaker upgrades at Disney ES, Muir MS, Burbank HS, and Monterey HS
- Installation of Ball Walls at Roosevelt ES and Emerson ES
- Renovation of Playgrounds at Roosevelt ES, Stevenson ES, and Emerson ES

For more information regarding Measure S please visit the district website at: http://www.burbankusd.org/District/Department/9472-Measure-S