



SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

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NEWS RELEASE

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Proposition MM awarded Regional Golden Watchdog by San Diego County Taxpayers Association

SAN DIEGO – Proposition MM has received a Regional Golden Watchdog Award from the San Diego County Taxpayers Association (SDCTA). SDCTA gives “Watchdogs” to programs in San Diego County that exemplify efficient use of tax dollars. Proposition MM was also a finalist in the Grand Watchdog category, an honor given to only three programs throughout San Diego County.

Proposition MM, passed by 78 percent of San Diego voters in November 1998, is a bond measure that provides \$1.51 billion toward the modernization of 165 existing school sites and construction of 16 new and rebuilt schools. Proposition MM is the largest active public works program in the County of San Diego, and the second largest in California.

In its first two years of implementation of Proposition MM, the school district faced several unexpected delays due to the time required to acquire land, hold community meetings and ensure compliance with new state environmental regulations. Despite the slow start, Proposition MM maintenance and repair work is now ahead of schedule and aggressive plans are in place so that all schools will receive what was promised. In 2001, 58 sites had major repairs and upgrades, and contracts totaled \$225 million. The rapid pace of work is continuing in 2002, to total nearly \$280 million of work at more than 80 sites.

SDCTA received more than 150 award nominations for Watchdog and Fleece awards in various categories during this year’s competition. Recipients were announced at an awards banquet on Thursday, May 2.

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