Ballot Argument in Favor of Measure A - Citizen's Measure to Fund MBUSD Schools

VOTE YES ON A to maintain and protect high-quality education in Manhattan Beach.

Manhattan Beach schools have suffered from decades of inadequate state funding. We are, in fact, among the lowest funded school districts in all of California.

To maintain and protect high-quality education for our students, we need a stable source of locally controlled funding that the State cannot take away.

That is why Manhattan Beach citizens petitioned to place this community-led initiative on the ballot as the clear solution to **PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR OUR CLASSROOMS.**

VOTING YES ON A directs vital resources to our classrooms to:

- Protect quality academic programs including math, science, reading, writing, social studies, language, technology, engineering, music, arts and physical education
- Maintain manageable class sizes
- Attract and retain high-quality teachers
- Prepare students for top colleges and 21st century jobs

VOTING YES ON A gives citizens local control over our schools by requiring:

- Every penny to stay in local classrooms and out of the hands of Sacramento
- Mandatory Independent Citizens Oversight Committee
- Annual audit and public disclosure of all spending
- Transparency and accountability around district spending of all funds

VOTING YES ON A safeguards against financial hardship for community members by including:

- Exemptions for Seniors 65+ and low-income residents

VOTING YES ON A <u>protects our schools and property values</u> – a wise investment benefitting the whole community regardless of whether you have school-age children:

- Strong Schools = Strong Community = Safe Neighborhoods = Strong Property Values

Manhattan Beach prioritizes high-quality education and stands behind our students, teachers and schools. Please join parents, educators and well-respected community leaders – **VOTE YES ON A** for Manhattan Beach schools.

Together, we can ensure strong education, safe schools and a secure future for Manhattan Beach children and our entire community.

<u>Please list authors in this order:</u>

- 1. Richard Montgomery, Manhattan Beach City Councilmember, Former Mayor and 32-year Resident
- 2. **Ida VanderPoorte**, Former Manhattan Beach USD School Board Member, MBUSD Budget Advisory Committee Member and 39-year Resident
- 3. Dave Fratello, Manhattan Beach Realtor and 23-year Resident
- 4. **Michael Greenberg**, Co-Founder and President of Skechers, Founder Skechers Foundation and 34-year Resident
- 5. **Ro Schreiner**, 51-year Manhattan Beach USD Teacher, Manhattan Beach Library Commissioner and 39-year Resident