



PARCEL TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

1015 Seventh Street Novato CA 94945 | 415.897.4201

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2023 to
JUNE 30, 2024

PARCEL TAX FUNDS HIGHLIGHTS

- Attract and retain high quality teachers
- Avoid significant increases in class size
- Protect music, arts, and athletics programs
- Maintain school library staff and operating hours
- Lower school counselor ratios

2024-2025 PARCEL TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Mary Louise Brannigan
- Barbara Granicher
- Katey McAuley
- Tina McMillan
- Barbara Roddie
- Tenesa Vuillemenot
- Diane Gasson
Trustee, non-voting

NUSD Parcel Tax: To Preserve Quality Education in Novato Schools

About the Parcel Tax: Since 1992, voter-approved local funding has played a vital role in maintaining high-quality academic programs and retaining highly qualified teachers for our students. In 2023, voters renewed Measure A, a \$251 per parcel tax, which began July 1, 2023 and will remain in effect for eight (8) years. The measure includes exemptions for senior citizens, Supplemental Security Income recipients, and Social Security Disability Insurance beneficiaries. Notably, the \$251 rate has remained unchanged since 2009, and is the third-lowest parcel tax rate in Marin County (see page 3 for more info).



NUSD's Parcel Tax generates nearly \$4.1 million annually and is overseen by an independent committee to ensure funds are spent as intended. All Parcel Tax funds remain under local control, exclusively benefiting Novato schools. No money can be taken by the State, or used for administrative salaries.

This report provides a detailed overview of how Parcel Tax funds were utilized during the fiscal year from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.



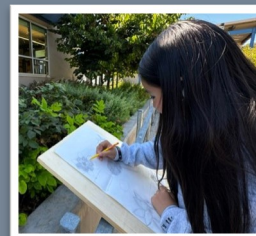
QUALITY EMPLOYEES, CLASS SIZE, & COUNSELORS

Attract and retain high quality employees. Avoid significant increases in class size. Maintain lower school counselor ratios.



ATHLETICS

Preserve athletic programs by funding coaches, equipment safety refurbishment and repair, and officials fees.



MUSIC & ARTS

Continue music and performing arts programs for 1st through 12th grades, providing a well-rounded education for Novato students.



LIBRARIES

Provide library support, including funding all site library techs, software, and library programs in Novato Unified School District.

NUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Julie Jacobson
President

Magali Limeta
Vice President / Clerk

Debbie Butler
Trustee

Diane Gasson
Trustee

Greg Mack
Trustee

Ross Millerick
Trustee

Abbey Picus
Trustee



2023 - 2024 Annual Report

A Letter from the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee

Thank you for your continued support of the parcel tax measure. The Parcel Tax Oversight Committee is committed to ensuring that parcel tax funds are spent as intended. We are proud to report that NUSD is allocating these funds in alignment with the ballot language, directly benefitting our students.

Our seven-member committee oversees the nearly \$4.1 million annual parcel tax budget and prepares an annual report for the NUSD Board of Trustees. Once the District's unaudited actuals are released, the committee reviews and approves the report to ensure transparency and accountability.

This year's annual report provides a detailed breakdown of how parcel tax dollars are being used to enrich student education. Additionally, we have included a comparison of Novato with other Marin County cities to highlight the importance of these funds to the students of Novato Unified School District.

Parcel Tax Oversight Committee meetings are conducted in compliance with The Brown Act. All meetings are open to the public and we encourage community members to attend. Information about past and upcoming meetings can be found at www.nusd.org/parcel-tax-oversight-committee.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the students of Novato.

Sincerely,

The 2024-2025 NUSD Parcel Tax Oversight Committee

Mary Louise Brannigan, Barbara Granicher, Katey McAuley, Tina McMillan, Barbara Roddie, and Tenesa Vuillemenot

NUSD STAFF PARCEL TAX OVERSIGHT

Dr. Tracy Smith
Superintendent

Joshua Braff
Chief Financial Officer

Ann Marie Paparelli
Executive Assistant to Chief Financial Officer

INTERESTED IN JOINING?

Email us at:
ParcelTax@nusd.org

Find us online at:
www.nusd.org/Parcel-Tax-Oversight-Committee

Follow NUSD on:



ATHLETICS

"Without the help of the parcel tax, we would not be able to provide the required needs for each sport as it helps cover the costs for the coaches and Athletic Director positions, replaces worn out equipment, recertifies required safety equipment, and provides everyday upkeep of the fields. All of these components are crucial for the safety and wellbeing of our student athletes."

-Michele Smith, Novato HS Athletic Director



Counseling

In 2023-2024, the Parcel Tax funded four full-time Counselors for Novato Unified School District. These dedicated professionals support students by teaching skills for appropriate decision making, fostering successful social interactions, and helping students evaluate options for future learning.

Counselors are readily available to students and parents through drop-ins, by appointment, and email. Students can meet with them before school, during breaks or lunch, and after school, ensuring accessible and convenient support.



Libraries

Library Media Specialists are essential in fostering literacy, teaching research skills, and providing resources that support academic success across all subjects.

Parcel Tax dollars are vital for funding 9.9 FTE (full-time equivalent) library positions, ensuring that students have access to well-staffed and fully functioning school libraries. By funding these positions, the District ensures equitable access to information and empowers students to become lifelong learners and analytical thinkers.



Music & Arts

Parcel Tax dollars play a critical role in funding music and arts educators, ensuring students receive a well-rounded education that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and self-expression. These programs provide opportunities for students to explore their talents, build confidence, and develop skills that extend beyond the classroom.

With Parcel tax dollars funding 5.3 FTE (full-time equivalent) music and arts positions, we are able to invest in the enrichment of young minds, and the cultivation of future innovators and leaders.

District (Grade Levels Served)	2023-2024 Parcel Tax Amount	Annual Inflation Increase
Bolinas-Stinson (TK-8)	\$ 318.00	None
Kentfield (TK-8)	\$ 1,736.58	3%
Lagunitas (TK-8)	\$ 733.00	6.5%
Larkspur-Corte Madera (K-8)	\$ 955.60	5%
Mill Valley (TK-8)	\$ 1,313.28	5%
Miller Creek (K-8)	\$ 544.88	3%
Nicasio (K-8)	\$ 726.42	3%
Novato (TK-12)	\$ 251.00	None
Reed (K-8)	\$ 662.62	3%
Ross (K-8)	\$ 1,209.90	3%
Ross Valley (K-8)	\$ 679.28	3%
San Rafael Elementary (TK-8)	\$ 342.68	3%
San Rafael High (9-12)	\$ 246.14	3%
Shoreline (TK-12)	\$ 212.00	None
Tamalpais (9-12)	\$ 513.16	3%

Comparing NUSD's Parcel Tax to Other Marin County School Districts

Each year, the Marin County Office of Education publishes a bulletin summarizing Parcel Tax data for every school district in Marin County. The information included, shown to the left, offers a snapshot of how these districts compare. NUSD has the third-lowest rate overall, and the second-lowest for a TK-12 District in the county.

By analyzing trends and comparing Novato Unified School District to other local districts, the District and community can better understand potential opportunities to increase funding for program improvements when the Parcel Tax is placed on the ballot again.

Spotlight on Your Parcel Tax Dollars



Current Parcel Tax
\$251

The Parcel Tax rate has not increased since 2009.

**Number of Paid
Parcels in 2022-23**
16,325

**Number of Paid
Parcels in 2023-24**
16,364

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**Full-Time Employees
Funded in 2023-24**
29.7

**Number of Athletic
Coaches Funded in 2023-24**
89

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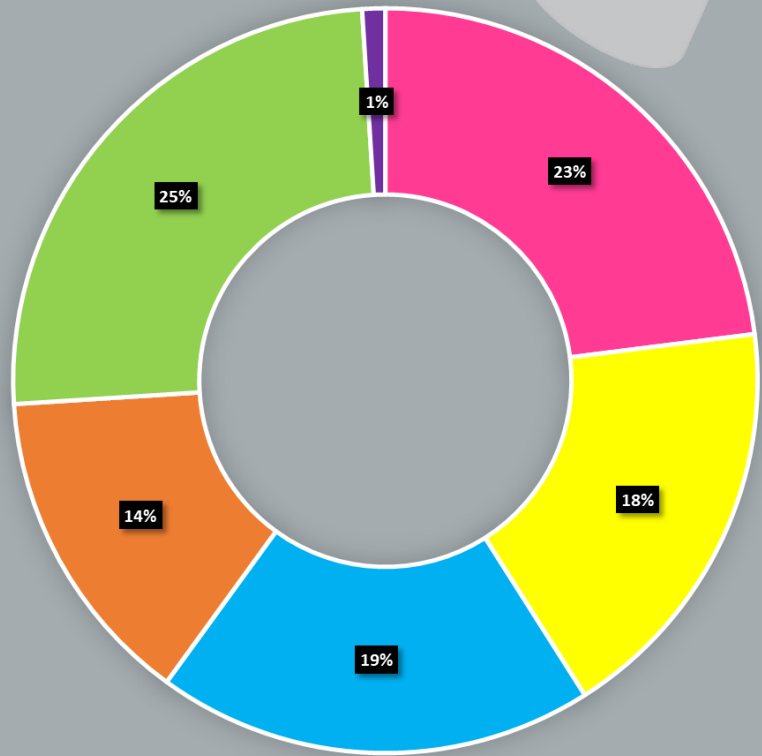
**2022-23 Parcel Tax
Revenues**
\$4,097,695

**2023-24 Parcel Tax
Revenues**
\$4,107,614

—

**2022-23 Parcel Tax
Expenditures**
\$4,097,695

**2023-24 Parcel Tax
Expenditures**
\$4,107,614



- **\$958,773 (23%)**
Attract/Retain Teachers and Class Size
- **\$597,222 (14%)**
Maintain Counseling Ratios
- **\$722,534 (18%)**
Performing Arts and Music Programs
- **\$1,015,511 (25%)**
Libraries
- **\$762,112 (19%)**
Athletics
- **\$51,462 (1%)**
Site Allocations and Fees

While the Parcel Tax provides the District with \$4.1 million annually, **it only covers 7% of the total cost of these essential programs**, leaving a significant gap that must be filled by other funding sources.

To keep these programs running and growing, additional community support will likely be needed in the future.