

# Do Not Give a Penny to Those Who Abuse Your Money!

If you think you will see better looking and more secure schools if you pay more taxes, you are wrong.

From 1999 to 2003, ABC School District spent \$135 million on a school modernization project. Part of the funding came from the \$59 million school bond approved by ABC School District voters in 1997.

As part of that project, ABC School District budgeted \$6,647,000 for modernization at Gahr High School, of which \$1,621,000 was slated for roofing replacement of all buildings on that campus, even though their estimated cost of that roofing job was \$835,742.06.

In 1999, ABC School District paid San Marino Roof Co. \$427,590 to replace the roofing on Buildings A-L, O, Q, WW. In 2002, they paid Southwest Group \$50,000 to patch up the roofing on the remaining buildings, including gym and the girls' restroom. Thus a total of \$477,590 was spent on the Gahr High roofing replacement project.

In 2004, ABC School District claims they spent \$10,613,530 on Gahr High modernization, which is 60% over budget. At that rate, they must have spent \$2,588,315.35 on Gahr High roofing replacement alone. Yet we know for a fact they only spent \$477,590 on that job. So there is a \$2,110,725.35 discrepancy. Where did the money go? This was only one of 9 projects on one of 31 ABCUSD campuses. How many other projects were as fraudulent as this one? How much money in total went missing like this? We probably will never know the real answers. What we do know is that there was a 10% payraise for every single employee in 2001 and a 10% cut on school site funding in 2002 throughout ABC School District.

The story doesn't end here. In 2005, San Marino Roof Co. was paid \$3,000 to repair leaks in the 1999 roofing, because the 20-year warranty on that roofing had been forfeited. In 2014, ABC School District declared that "All throughout the (Gahr High) campus, the roofing has outlived (its) useful life" and they requested over \$835,000 to tear down and replace the same roofing that was replaced 15 years before.

Should the campus be modernized, further assessments for code compliance related to accessibility improvements will be required. All throughout the campus, the roofing has outlived useful life; improvements to/replacement of finishes (interior/exterior) and lighting are desired.

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Typical ceiling leak with water catch

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Room 601 ceiling leak

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Ceramics room - ceiling conditions

What happened with the Gahr High roofing project tells us that:

- Just because we give the school district lots of money doesn't mean it will be spent on our children. ABCUSD doesn't have a good track record on that.
- We have no idea how our tax dollars are being used when elected officials neglect their duties to serve as our watchdogs, and collude with special interests.
- ABCUSD never owned up to what happened with the 1997 bond. There's no way we can trust them again because they have bankrupted their credibility.

So, therefore, do not give a penny to those who abuse your money. Just vote NO on Measure BB.