



RIVERVIEW GARDENS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2010

## **RGSD School Board Approves Prop R Project Manager**

The Riverview Gardens School District is moving forward with plans to begin Prop R Bond Issue projects. On March 16, the School Board voted to hire Ameresco Inc. as the district's project manager for renovation projects included in the \$15 million, no-tax increase bond issue that voters approved in November. The bond issue projects will address critical facilities' needs in the areas of health and safety, security and classroom upgrades.

As part of its commitment to transparency, the School Board created a committee of parents, School Board members and administrators to interview different performance contractors to manage the Prop R facilities projects. Ameresco scored the highest by most of the members after the first interview, and all the members present during the second interview scored them the highest. Ameresco offered the lowest bid and met the standards set by the committee.

The Board also authorized the bond underwriter, Stifel, Nicolaus & Co. to begin working with district administrators toward the sale of low-interest, qualified school construction bonds. The sale likely will occur in June when federal stimulus funds are available to reduce the cost of bonds for eligible public institutions. Gilmore & Bell, P.C. and White, Coleman & Associates will provide RGSD with legal counsel related to the bond sale.

Each of the district's 12 schools and Central Office will benefit from bond issue projects. Projects include: improving restrooms, meeting ADA requirements, replacing outdated electrical panels and dangerous outdoor walkways, improving security camera systems and securing the perimeter of some campuses. Bond issue funds also will allow the district to replace asbestos flooring, improve lighting, replace some HVAC systems and paint classrooms.

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