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First Playground Funded Through Measure BB Opens

It's no secret that kids love to play, especially when a playground's involved. Kindergarten students at Cerritos Elementary School now have a new playground to play on thanks to funding from Measure BB. Students, parents, teachers, staff, along with community and elected leaders gathered at Cerritos Elementary for a ceremonial ribbon-cutting event on Wednesday, February 5, 2020.

"To say that the kindergarten students love the new playground is an understatement," said Cerritos Elementary Principal Kevin Amburgey. "It's a great addition to the campus, and we're honored to have the first major Measure BB project here at Cerritos Elementary."

The new playground boasts swings, a playground apparatus featuring durable equipment and safe activities, as well as new rubberized surfacing. These improvements replace older apparatus and wood chip surfacing.

Board of Education members Tse and Law were joined by Cerritos Mayor Solanki and City Councilmembers Hu and Edwards, along with representatives from Congresswoman Sanchez, Senator Archuleta, Assemblymember Garcia, and the Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce in opening the new playground. Measure BB Citizens Oversight Committee Chair Simon Yao, as well as members Hannah Chen Colom and Bill Zylstra, were on hand to see the work funded through the bond.

"We are so proud to have the first playground funded by Measure BB in place," said Superintendent Dr. Mary Sieu. "This is the first of three playgrounds to be improved here on the Cerritos Elementary School campus, and we expect to have improved playgrounds at all 19 elementary schools by the end of 2020."

Measure BB is a \$258 million school facilities improvement bond that was passed by voters in 2018. Projects funded through Measure BB are tied to the Master Facilities Improvement Plan that was put together by the Facilities Improvement Committee over two years. The first wave of projects, deemed "quick-start" projects, are taking place at elementary schools. All elementary schools are now equipped with security cameras, and now all elementary campuses are receiving improved playgrounds. Soon, water bottle filling stations will be placed on elementary campuses as well.