



November 2, 2021
School Bond Election

**VOTER INFORMATION
PAMPHLET**

Board of Education of Weber School District, Utah Special Bond Election

On August 4, 2021, the Board of Education of Weber School District voted to place a \$279 million general obligation bond proposition on the November 2nd ballot. The Board's decision follows recommendation and input from the public engaged in the process through community meetings, in-house surveys, focus groups, an independent scientific survey, and community outreach efforts on social media.

- Weber School District continues to grow at an accelerated pace, and is expected to add an additional 1,500 students over the next four years.
- Bonding is a cost-effective method for a district to build new schools.
- The Board has kept commitments from the 2006, 2012, and 2017 bonds. There continues to be accountability and transparency.
- The Board has stewardship to address the needs of Weber School District, and they will continue to proactively plan for the future.

HOW CAN YOU VOTE?

Ballots will be mailed out October 12, 2021. Your return ballot must be post marked by November 1, 2021.

You can also vote or drop off your ballot at an approved voting center on or before November 2, 2021. Polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. For a complete list of polling locations, please visit:

www.vote.utah.gov
www.weberelections.gov

The election officer will post on the website the location of each polling place for each voting precinct, each early voting polling place, and each Election Day voting center, along with any polling location changes. For more information on polling locations, contact the Weber County Elections Office at **(801) 399-8034**.

WHAT IS A BOND?

Bond funds are used for the construction of new buildings, renovations, and the refurbishing of existing facilities. General obligation bonds carry the lowest possible interest rates and are the least costly form of financing available to school districts. Authorization from the voting public is required before the District may issue a bond. The bond funds cannot be used for employee salaries.

**BELOW IS AN EXAMPLE
OF THE LANGUAGE
THAT WILL APPEAR ON THE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
AS REQUIRED
BY UTAH STATE LAW**

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT, UTAH
SPECIAL BOND ELECTION
November 2, 2021

Shall the Board of Education of Weber School District, Utah, be authorized to issue general obligation bonds ("Bonds") in an amount not to exceed \$279,000,000 and to mature in no more than twenty-one (21) years from the date or dates of issuance of such Bonds for the purpose of raising money for constructing buildings, acquiring land and furnishings and remodeling and updating existing school property under the charge of the Board, and, to the extent necessary, for providing moneys for the refunding, at or prior to the maturity thereof, of general obligation bonds of the Board authorized hereunder or heretofore issued and now outstanding?

PROPERTY TAX COST OF BONDS

If the Bonds are issued as planned, without regard to the taxes currently levied for outstanding bonds that will reduce over time, an annual property tax to pay debt service on the Bonds will be required over a period of 20 years in the estimated average amount of \$146.00 on a \$395,000 primary residence, and in the estimated average amount of \$265.45 on a business property having the same value.

Since there are other outstanding bonds, an otherwise scheduled tax decrease may not occur if these Bonds are issued.

However, such outstanding bonds reduce over time such that the average property tax due to the issuance of the proposed Bonds is expected to have a zero net increase (\$0.00) from the current annual property tax levels after the Bonds are issued on both primary residences and businesses or secondary residences in the District.

The foregoing is only an estimate and is not a limit on the amount of taxes that the governing body may be required to levy in order to pay debt service on the Bonds. The governing body is obligated to levy taxes to the extent provided by law in order to pay the Bonds.

To vote in favor of the above bond issue, select the box immediately adjacent to the words "FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS." To vote against the bond issue, select the box immediately adjacent to the words "AGAINST THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS."

FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS

AGAINST THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS

WHY DO WE NEED THIS BOND?

- Growth has pushed student enrollment past maximum capacity at many of our schools.
- Continued growth is projected to add even more students to already overcrowded facilities.
- Outdated, aging buildings need to be replaced.

WHAT ARE THE PROJECTS ON THE 2021 BOND?

In order of priority:

- New high school in Taylor (\$157 million)
- New junior high school in West Haven (\$51 million)
- New elementary school in West Haven (\$34 million)
- Rebuild of Roosevelt Elementary in Washington Terrace (\$37 million)

WHAT IS THE IMPACT TO TAXPAYERS?

If approved, there is expected to be **NO INCREASE** to the property tax rate. If the District does not issue any additional bonds, property tax rates could decrease overtime; however, the District would be unable to meet the needs of rapidly growing enrollment and aging facilities.

If approved by voters, it is anticipated that bond funds will be distributed in four issuances over a four-year time period.

HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE NO TAX RATE INCREASE?

- Accelerated growth in our assessed values due to new residents and businesses.
- Historically low interest rates.
- Aggressive pay-off of previous bonds.
- Issuing new bonds as old bonds are paying off, keeps our debt-ratio low and reduces the impact on taxpayers.
- Our exceptional Aa2 rating keeps borrowing rates low.

HOW WILL THE DISTRICT PAY FOR FUTURE OPERATING COSTS OF THE THREE NEW SCHOOLS?

Money from the bond will only be used for authorized purposes. If the bond passes, it will be necessary for the Board to make a modest adjustment to the Local Board Levy. This increase will go to fund the ongoing expenses associated with the three new schools. These expenses include heating and lighting in the new buildings, as well as paying for a head secretary, custodian, media specialist, principal and other non-teacher personnel required to staff an elementary school. There will be no increase in costs associated the rebuild of Roosevelt Elementary.



BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

To learn more about the bond and voting go to: www.wsd.net/bonds

