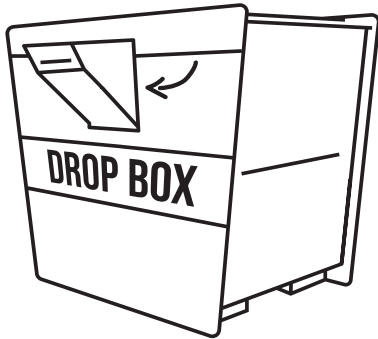


SPECIAL ELECTION - FEBRUARY 14, 2023

Official Local Voters' Pamphlet published by the Pierce County Auditor's Office.

DROP BOXES OPEN 24/7 JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 14.



Using a Drop Box?
(No stamp required)
Drop off ballot by 8 p.m.
February 14, 2023.

Mailing your ballot?
(No stamp required)
Must be postmarked
February 14, 2023.



Scan to view drop box locations or visit
PierceCountyWa.gov/334

NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE?

To register to vote, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- A legal resident of Washington State.
- At least 18 years old by Election Day.
- Not serving a sentence of total confinement for a felony.

Three ways to register:

- Online - VoteWA.gov
- By mail - Call us at (253) 798-VOTE and we will mail you a form.
- In person - Pierce County Election Center, 2501 S 35th St, Suite C, Tacoma, WA 98409







Registration Deadlines: Online/Mail - February 6. In person - February 14.

NEED HELP?

Pierce County Election Center
2501 S 35th St. Tacoma, WA 98409

Hours:

Open Monday - Friday
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Extended hours on Election Day
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM

 PierceCountyElections.org
 **253-798-VOTE (8683)**
 Elections@PierceCountyWa.gov
   **Pierce County Auditor**

VOTER SERVICES

- Register to vote.
- Update voter registration.
- Replacement ballots for lost, damaged, or mismatched ballots.
- Disability assistance - Large font, color contrast, and audible ballot options.
- Track your ballot or print a replacement ballot at VoteWA.gov.

Disability Assistance



Center for Independence
(253) 582-1253 (voice)
(800) 724-8172

Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center
(253) 475-0782 (voice)
(253) 474-1748 (TTY)
(253) 292-2209 (videophone)

Tacoma Area Coalition of
Individuals with Disabilities
(253) 565-9000 (voice)
711 (TTY)

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1 adopted Resolution No. 901-10-19-22 concerning a proposition for bonds to finance capital improvements. This proposition would authorize the District to refinance land and construct a new elementary school, a high school stadium, performing arts center, career technical education space and additional classrooms; make safety, security and accessibility improvements districtwide; and make capital improvements to the District's elementary schools, by issuing \$116,000,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 21 years; and to levy excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, as described in Resolution No. 901-10-19-22. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 1 would allow Steilacoom Historical School District to address facility needs by issuing bonds. If voters approve this proposition, the District will use the bond proceeds to construct a new elementary school, construct a new stadium, performing arts center and career education program space at Steilacoom High School, and expand classroom space at Pioneer Middle School and Steilacoom High School. The District will also make Districtwide safety and security improvements, improve program space and infrastructure at the District's elementary schools, and refinance a land acquisition for the new elementary school.

If voters approve this proposition, the District expects to receive approximately \$2,500,000 in state construction assistance funds to complete these projects. The \$116,000,000 of general obligation bonds would mature within 21 years, and be repaid from annual excess property tax levies. The excess levy rate is estimated to be approximately \$1.26 per \$1,000 of assessed property value or, for a home with an assessed value of \$500,000, approximately \$630 a year (\$52.50 per month). Homeowners who are 61 years or older or disabled, and who meet low-income requirements may qualify for a property tax exemption. For information regarding exemptions, call the Pierce County Assessor at (253) 798-6111.

Statement For

Citizens Spoke - The District Listened

These projects were recommended by a citizens' advisory committee - focused on real needs. This replaces expiring school bonds - approving this bond will not increase your tax rate.

Projects Address Compelling Needs

Bonds pay to construct a new elementary school - to address overcrowding in every elementary school. It also funds new classroom space across the district focused on preparing students for college and careers. It funds a needed stadium and performing arts space at the high school. It will also provide improvements to safety, security, heating/ventilation systems and address traffic issues across the district.

A Track Record of Good Stewardship

Good schools benefit everyone in the community. SHSD has a tremendous record of completing projects on time and on budget allowing us to meet the needs of a growing community and keep our tax rate among the lowest in Pierce County.

Vote Yes on February 14

Support Proposition 1 so we can continue to offer the best education for every student. Vote Yes!

Rebuttal Statement

This is the only request for replacement capital funds since 2005 - showing effective, conservative fiscal management. Bonds are a responsible way to pay for schools and facilities that are not managed by the state. Don't be fooled by inaccurate, misleading figures of opponents who don't live in our community. Nowhere near 60% of property taxes here go to schools. We are local homeowners and business leaders who care about Steilacoom's future. Vote yes for schools.

Committee Members: Starlene Enfield, Patrick Lewis
Concerned Citizens for Steilacoom School District
starjenfield@gmail.com, supportshsdstudents.com

Statement Against

Voters should say *no* to constant requests for expensive bonds to finance capital improvements until the state learns to manage their finances effectively. It appears the answer to all of the state's problems in Washington is more and higher taxes. As a recent homeowner in Washington state, I was gobsmacked at how much in property taxes my husband and I pay each year for our old mobile home built in 1982. He operates a forklift and I am recently retired after serving over 20 years in the military. We understand that we should contribute to supporting schools. But just like we need to budget and make wise decisions with our income, so should the state and district. Sixty percent of our property taxes now go to the school district. In 2020-2021, the district spent over \$15,500 per pupil. Citizens are being taxed out of their homes.

Rebuttal Statement

Is the bond measure on the ballot because the citizens actively agreed to it, or because too many citizens aren't aware of the long-term cost and therefore don't oppose it? This bond has a maturing obligation of 21 years. While good schools do benefit the community, it doesn't mean the schools must always be new and expensive. The state and the district should set the example for students by being responsible with taxpayer money.

Committee Members: Jeneen Breshears
info@BondNo.com