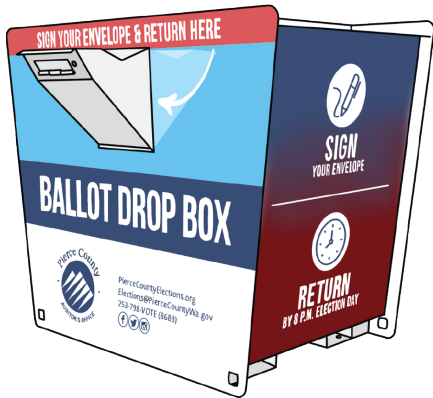


# SPECIAL ELECTION APRIL 25, 2023

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

**Drop Boxes Open 24/7 beginning April 7, 2023**



**Using a Drop Box?**  
(No stamp required)  
Drop off ballot by 8 p.m.  
**April 25, 2023.**

**Mailing your ballot?**  
(No stamp required)  
Must be postmarked on  
or before **April 25, 2023.**



Scan to view drop box locations or visit  
[PierceCountyWA.gov/334](https://www.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 to vote and obtain a ballot:**

- Online - [VoteWA.gov](https://VoteWA.gov)
- By mail - Call us at (253) 798-VOTE (8683) and we will mail you a form.
- In person - Pierce County Election Center

**Registration Deadlines**

- Online/Mail - April 17
- In person - April 25


# NEED HELP?

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

Open Monday - Friday  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

**Extended hours on Election Day**  
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM

 [PierceCountyElections.org](https://www.PierceCountyElections.org)

 **253-798-VOTE (8683)**

 [Elections@PierceCountyWA.gov](mailto:Elections@PierceCountyWA.gov)

   **Pierce County Auditor**

## VOTER SERVICES

- Register to vote.
- Update voter registration.
- Replacement ballots for lost, damaged, or mismarked ballots.
- Disability assistance - Large font, color contrast, and audible ballot options.
- Track your ballot or print a replacement ballot at [VoteWA.gov](https://VoteWA.gov).



## Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1 adopted Resolution No. 903-02-21-23 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. 903-02-21-23. 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 community needs. The bonds will pay: to build a new elementary school to address overcrowding in every elementary school; to build new classroom space across the district focused on preparing students for college and careers; to construct a larger stadium and performing arts space at the high school; to add a new classroom on Anderson Island; for improvements to safety, security, heating systems and address traffic issues at all schools.

### This Replaces Existing Bonds and Taxes - The Tax Rate Will Not Go Up

This replaces the current school bonds - approving this bond will not increase your tax rate. The tax rate is among the lowest in the county and will stay that way. These taxes can only be used for capital projects that improve our community.

### Vote Yes on April 25

Good schools benefit everyone in the community. Support Proposition 1 so we can continue to offer the best education for every student. Vote Yes!

## Rebuttal

We agree that our community must consider future generations and that supporting schools is critical! Funding for these construction projects will serve students and families in our community for years after these bonds are paid off. Don't believe misleading information from a person who doesn't live in our District or understand our needs. This bond proposal will not increase the tax rate! For real facts visit the district's website - then vote yes for kids!

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

## Statement Against

The Steilacoom School District's cost analysis does not represent the full commitment required of the taxpayers. Most families are paying more for food, fuel, utilities, household goods, school clothes and supplies, and most other day to day living expenses. We must be discerning with where and how we permit our income to be used. This bond has a principal cost of *\$116 million*, with *\$78 million* in interest, for a total of *\$194 million dollars*. We must consider the future generations before we approve such a significant financial burden. Supporting schools is a good thing, but there are many ways to do that. At a time when families are having to tighten their financial belts, it is only right to expect the same of our government and its agencies. More at Info@BondNo.com.

## Rebuttal

What's critical for residents right now is keeping themselves, their families, and their homes healthy; to endure the current economic uncertainty. Pierce County requires county residency to engage on the school bond measures, not school district residency. I own property in and live in Pierce County. As a resident, taxpayer, homemaker, churchgoer, consumer, and volunteer, I am aware of needs through observation and conversation. More information can be found at BondNo.com.

**Committee Members:** Jeneen Breshears  
info@BondNo.com