

Franklin Pierce School District No. 402

BONDS FOR EXPANSION AND RENOVATION OF SCHOOL FACILITIES



Official Ballot Title:

The Board of Directors of Franklin Pierce School District No. 402 adopted Resolution No. 08-R-04, concerning a proposition to finance expansion and renovation of school facilities. This proposition would authorize the District to expand and renovate Ford, Keithley, Central Avenue, Christensen, Harvard, James Sales and Midland Schools and Franklin Pierce and Washington High Schools, renovate Brookdale, Collins, Gates and Elmhurst Schools, construct Hope Center and make safety, athletic, fine arts and support services improvements; issue no more than \$78,554,879 of general obligation bonds maturing within 20 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, as provided in Resolution No. 08-R-04.

Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement:

Proposition 1 would authorize Franklin Pierce School District to issue \$78,554,879 of general obligation bonds to expand and renovate Ford, Keithley, Central Avenue, Christensen, Harvard, James Sales and Midland Schools and Franklin Pierce and Washington High Schools. The bonds will also pay for renovating Brookdale, Collins, Gates and Elmhurst Schools, constructing Hope Center and making certain safety, athletic, fine arts and support services improvements.

The School Board found that there is an urgent need for expansion and renovation of school facilities due to increased enrollment demands, the existing condition of school facilities and the institution of new educational programs. Further, the Board found that safety, athletic, fine arts and support services improvements were necessary to enhance and improve the educational opportunities of its students.

The bonds will be repaid from annual property tax levies over a period of 20 years. The District anticipates a tax rate increase to repay the bonds of approximately 73¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value or \$146 per year for a \$200,000 home. Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. For more information, call the Pierce County Assessor 253.798.2169.

Statement For:

Additional classrooms are needed. Existing facilities need upgrading. The Franklin Pierce School District plans to add 15 classrooms to existing schools. Full-day kindergarten is to be phased in over the next five years, but our elementary schools lack classrooms for this expansion. Science rooms should be remodeled and upgraded. Both middle schools need auxiliary gyms.

Old and in some cases original HVAC units need to be replaced in ten of thirteen schools. Not only will these new units require substantially less maintenance, they will be much more efficient than those installed 20 to 30 years ago.

Intrusion alarms and other safety measures need to be incorporated into our buildings to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

It is vital that this bond pass. Without bond funds, the district will have to rely on General Fund dollars which will impact our educational program. **Support our students by Voting Yes!**

Committee Members Include: Janet Detering, 253-536-9667, kmwlt@aol.com and Tom Utterback

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

This space is available each election for citizens and/or committees opposing measures to publish a "Statement Against". For information, contact the Pierce County Auditor's Office at (253) 798-VOTE (8683).

"The above statements were written by the committees who are solely responsible for the contents therein".