

Special Election - Proposition No. 1 General Obligation Bonds - \$220,000,000

See complete resolution text at
PierceCountyElections.org

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Peninsula School District No. 401 adopted Resolution No. 18-01 concerning a proposition to finance capital improvements. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will fund new construction, repairs and renovations, student safety and other upgrades to designated schools and facilities throughout the District, and will authorize the District to issue \$220,000,000 of general obligation bonds over multiple years, each series maturing within a maximum of 20 years, and to levy excess property taxes annually to repay such bonds, all as provided in Resolution No. 18-01. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 will authorize Peninsula School District No. 401 to borrow \$220,000,000 by issuing general obligation bonds. In accordance with Resolution No. 18-01 approving this proposition, the bonds will pay for safety and accessibility upgrades to fire protection and alarm systems, building security systems, and ADA accessibility for all schools; constructing and equipping a new elementary school; major modernization/rebuild of Artondale Elementary School and Peninsula High School 400 - 700 wings; modernization of Key Peninsula Middle School including science room upgrades; replacement and/or upgrade HVAC systems and controls at all schools; roof replacements at Kopachuck Middle School, Gig Harbor and Peninsula High Schools, and further improvements to classrooms and learning spaces in Discovery and Minter Creek Elementary Schools, Kopachuck Middle School and Gig Harbor High School.

Funds available from construction efficiencies and/or State Match reimbursements will be prioritized to modernize Transportation/Maintenance facilities and upgrade communication infrastructure. The bonds would be repaid out of annual property tax levies over a period not to exceed 20 years. The levy tax rate is estimated to be an increase of \$0.45 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

Statement For

Proposition 1 Replaces the School Bond Expiring in 2019, Providing Fire Code and Security Upgrades

Our schools are dangerously outdated. 11 of 15 buildings need new sprinklers and alarms, while some even lack enough water flow to meet current fire code. Peninsula and Gig Harbor high schools were built before the Columbine tragedy and need upgraded security features to protect against an active shooter.

State Mandates and Population Growth Have Led to Extreme Overcrowding

25% of elementary students are learning in unsecure portable classrooms. Limited space has resulted in the loss of science classrooms and computer labs. This bond constructs a new elementary school and adds classroom space to address overcrowding, training spaces, and enhance classroom learning.

Critical Infrastructure is Failing in Many Schools: Heating, Roofs, Sewer and Septic Systems

This bond makes critical repairs to failing infrastructure in decades-old schools. Energy-efficient HVAC systems will save taxpayers money. Aging roofs and failing sewer and septic systems will be replaced, while cancer-causing materials like lead paint and asbestos will be removed or capped.

Our Students Deserve Safe Classrooms – Join Us in Voting Yes on the Replacement Bond!

Endorsements: Local Firefighters, Teachers Association, Gig Harbor Chamber of Commerce, and more.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Voters already rejected the opposition's proposal in 2013. This school safety measure, which replaces the bond expiring next year, is the better deal. At a similar monthly cost to taxpayers, the bond ensures safety and security improvements while reducing chronic overcrowding. Only a capital bond can address critical repairs. Plus, even if it passes, the tax burden for local schools goes down. Deferring repairs even longer puts students at risk and costs taxpayers more.

Committee Members: Deborah Krishnadasan, David Olson, and Terry Lee, info@standup4schools.org, www.standup4schools.org, Stand Up for Peninsula Schools

Statement Against

The School Board has a history of neglect and poor facilities management.

Our School Board has deferred facilities maintenance for years. Taxpayers have approved Maintenance and Operations levies of almost \$200,000,000.00 only to discover that less than 15% was used to maintain and repair our schools. How can we trust them with an additional \$220,000,000.00 that requires 23 years to pay off and adds \$132,000,000.00 in interest totaling \$352,000,000.00!

M&O dollars can pay for maintenance and repairs, Capital Bonds cannot.

Capital bonds can build a school but can't be used for repairs and maintenance. Next year our existing M&O levy will provide almost \$20 Million dollars that can be dedicated to fixing schools because the State will fund teachers' salaries.

Think again!

Start by addressing the most urgent maintenance and safety issues by using a 4-year \$50,000,000.00 capital levy. A capital levy is interest free, requires 50% voter approval, no debt after 4 years and taxpayers can evaluate the board's performance before providing any additional funds. That's accountability!

There is a better way.

Vote No.

Rebuttal of Statement For

The Statement For uses scare tactics to intimidate voters. Buildings that don't pass fire codes couldn't be occupied. Overcrowding is a direct result of misappropriated funds. Older buildings can be maintained if that's a Board priority. Failing infrastructure should have been taken care of on a regular basis with the voter approved \$200 Million in M&O maintenance dollars. Now they want \$220 Million more plus \$132 Million in interest! Vote no.

Committee Members: Ken Manning, Randy Boss, and Dan White, responsibletaxes@gmail.com, Committee for Responsible Taxation of Citizens

Special Election - April 24, 2018

BALLOT DROP BOXES OPEN 24/7 APRIL 6 - APRIL 24

GIG HARBOR/KEY PENINSULA

Gig Harbor Fire Station
6711 Kimball Dr

Key Peninsula Fire Station #46
8911 Key Peninsula Hwy, KPN

Pt. Fosdick Safeway
4811 Pt. Fosdick Dr NW

Purdy Fire Station
5210 144th St NW

TACOMA

Pierce County Annex
2401 S 35th St

SOUTH PRAIRIE

South Prairie Fire Department
350 SR 162 E



Peninsula SD No. 401 and South Prairie are participating in the April 24, 2018 Election.

VOTING CENTERS OPEN APRIL 24, 7 AM - 8 PM

PIERCE COUNTY ELECTION CENTER

2501 S 35th St, Ste C, Tacoma

GIG HARBOR CIVIC CENTER

3510 Grandview St, Gig Harbor

Services available:

- Accessible voting using a touch screen marking tool — Large font, color contrast, and audible ballot options available.
- Replacement ballots — Lost, damaged, or miss-marked ballot replacements provided.
- Ballot drop off — In addition to our ballot drop boxes, all voting centers have a secure ballot deposit box available.
- Helpful election workers to assist you.
- Provisional ballots.

Using a Drop Box?
(No stamp required)
Drop off ballot by 8 PM
April 24, 2018.



Mailing your ballot?
(Stamp required)
Must be postmarked
by April 24, 2018.

We recommend mailing
no later than April 21, 2018
to ensure postmark.



QUESTIONS? NEED A REPLACEMENT BALLOT?

PierceCountyElections.org
pcelections@co.pierce.wa.us
(253) 798-VOTE (8683) or (800) 446-4979

NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

You must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- A legal resident of Washington.
- At least 18 years old by Election Day.
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections.

How to register:

- Online - PierceCountyElections.org
- In person - Pierce County Election Center.
- By mail - Call to request a form.

Registration deadline:

In person deadline (new Washington voters only) is April 16, 2018.



Official Local Voter's Pamphlet
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Auditor's Office