



West Linn-Wilsonville School District 3Jt

Explanatory Statement for 2014 Clackamas County Voter's Pamphlet

What

Your local school district has placed a construction bond on the 2014 ballot. With no increase to the current tax rate expected, the bond would provide funds to make safety upgrades, extend the life of existing schools, add instructional space at existing schools, build a new middle school to accommodate growth, and replace the aging Sunset Primary School.

How

West Linn-Wilsonville's Long-Range Planning Committee, led by citizen volunteers, reviewed enrollment forecasts and school facility conditions. The Committee prioritized recommendations based on facilities most in need of update and repair as well as the highest needs for new school buildings. Guided by the committee's 2014 recommendations, the West Linn-Wilsonville School District Board of Directors proposes the bond funds be used to:

- **Provide Safety Improvements:** Make health and life safety upgrades including fire sprinklers, security systems, electrical wiring, intercoms and entrance redesign to provide improved visibility of visitor access. Add safety improvements at all schools including security fencing, site lighting and playground safety improvements to enhance student security.
- **Maintain and Preserve Existing School Buildings:** District schools are used daily for instruction and community activities. Projects are proposed to repair or replace aging roofs, windows, paint, flooring, and mechanical/electrical systems. Projects will produce energy saving improvements to many of its schools and facilities.
- **Complete Classroom Additions, Renovations, and Technology Upgrades:** 80% of the Districts' classrooms are at least a decade old. The bond allows the community to add/renovate classrooms at existing schools, including projects to update technology and increasing instructional spaces for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, Music, and Drama.
- **Build New Schools:** Construct one new middle school on District-owned land in Wilsonville to meet current and anticipated enrollment. Replace the aging Sunset Primary School on its existing site.

Why

Nearly half the District's school buildings are more than 30-years old. Some were built more than 60 years ago, and the oldest was built in 1930. Though these buildings have been maintained, many are in need of major maintenance and repair to extend their life, make them safer, and more efficient to operate.

Student enrollment at West Linn-Wilsonville School District has more than doubled in the past 20-years and according to state and local projections enrollment will increase by nearly 1,000 students in the next five years. New schools and spaces will balance current and future enrollment and provide students and staff with safe and efficient learning environments. The bond measure proposes to fund classroom expansions at existing school buildings and make operational improvements at all existing schools.

How Much

Due to the retirement of existing bonds this bond measure is not expected to increase the current tax rate. This \$84.5 million bond is projected to be an average cost of \$0.87 per \$1,000 of assessed value annually, over the bond term. The anticipated amount is equal to approximately \$174 per year on a home with a \$200,000 taxable value.