



BOARD OF EDUCATION
 Greg Piotraschke, President
 Lloyd Worth, Vice President
 Ashley Conn, Director
 Tom Green, Director
 Mandy Thomas, Director
 Leon Thornton, Director
 Mary Vigil, Director

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**BOARD OF EDUCATION
 27J SCHOOLS**

**September 6, 2022
 7:00 p.m. Special Meeting
 Lois Lesser Board and Conference Room
 1850 Egbert Street
 Suite 120
 Brighton, CO 80601**

**This will be a virtual and in-person meeting.
 A livestream link will be available at www.sd27j.org**

BOARD OF EDUCATION MISSION STATEMENT

The Board of Education is committed to the School District’s overall success and improvement. The central focus of all meetings and discussions will be on establishing, monitoring, and supporting the District’s goals. We will actively engage all segments of our community in this ongoing focus and provide an instructional program to assure that our students meet or exceed the highest and most rigorous standards.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER President Piotraschke

All matters noticed on this agenda, in any category, may be considered for action as listed. Any item not so noticed may not be considered. Items listed on this agenda may be considered in any order, at the discretion of the chairperson.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE President Piotraschke

ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE (Policy Reference: 2.C) President Piotraschke

3. COMMITMENT TO GOVERNING STYLE President Piotraschke

The Board will govern lawfully, observing Policy Governance principles, with an emphasis on (a) outward vision rather than internal preoccupation, (b) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (c) strategic leadership more than administrative detail, (d) clear distinction of Board and chief executive roles, (e) collective rather than individual decisions, (f) future rather than past or present, and (g) governing proactively rather than reactively.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA President Piotraschke

Recommended motion: “Move to approve the special meeting agenda dated September 6, 2022 as presented.”

ROLL CALL FOR VOTE (Policy Reference: 2.C)

President Piotraschke

5. 2022 BALLOT QUESTION(S) FOR CONSIDERATION

President Piotraschke

The Board of Education will consider approval of Resolution Number One or additional resolutions 2022-2023 placing one or more mill levy override question(s) before the eligible electors of the District in the November 8, 2022 election. (Four separate resolutions are attached)

All Needs in One Question – Option A

The mill levy override would be increased by \$17.74 million beginning in the tax collection year 2023, and by whatever amounts as may be generated annually thereafter by the imposition of an additional mill levy not to exceed 8 mills thereafter. The funds generated from this mill levy override will be used for:

- Safety of Students, Staff and Community
- Compensation To Attract and Retain Effective and Experienced Staff To Serve and Support Students
- Career And Technical Education/Stem Center Staffing

Safety Question - Option B

The mill levy override would be increased by \$6.65 million beginning in tax collection year 2023, and by whatever amounts as may be generated annually thereafter by the imposition of an additional mill levy not to exceed 3 mills thereafter. The funds generated from this mill levy override will be used for:

- Safety Of Students, Staff And Community

Compensation Question – Option C

The mill levy override would be increased by \$8.31 million beginning in tax collection year 2023, and by whatever amounts as may be generated annually thereafter by the imposition of an additional mill levy not to exceed 3.75 mills thereafter. The funds generated from this mill levy override will be used for:

- Compensation To Attract and Retain Effective and Experienced Staff To Serve and Support Students

Career and Technical Education Question – Option D

The mill levy override would be increased by \$2.77 million beginning in tax collection year 2023, and by whatever amounts as may be generated annually thereafter by the imposition of an additional mill levy not to exceed 1.25 mills thereafter. The funds generated from this mill levy override will be used for:

- Career and Technical Education/Stem Center Staffing

The Board may approve Option A or any combination of options B, C, and/or D.

Recommended Motion: “Move to approve Resolution Number One or any additional resolution options 2022-2023 calling an election on November 8, 2022, to authorize additional local property tax revenues for the general fund of the District and the levy of ad valorem property taxes, and determine the ballot title and text of the questions to be submitted at such election.”

ROLL CALL FOR VOTE (Policy Reference: 2.C)

President Piotraschke

6. ADJOURNMENT

Date of Posting, September 1 2022

All Board of Education Members were given notice and acknowledged this special meeting at the August 23, 2022 Regular meeting.

Board Meeting of: September 6, 2022

Subject: 2022 Mill Levy Override Consideration

Status of Item: Action

Time Needed: 30 Minutes

PERTINENT FACTS MILL LEVY OVERRIDE:

- Colorado Revised Statute requires that any political subdivision that intends to conduct an election must certify to the county clerk the content of such ballot question no later than 60 days prior to the election.
- 27J Schools has provided a significant return on tax payer investment with the resources available for our students through the Colorado School Finance Act and our one successful mill levy override election, which passed 22 years ago in the year 2000, and generates \$750,000 annually.
- Reasons to Believe in 27J Schools:
 - Since 2012:
 - 27J Schools Overall Graduation Rate has increased 16.65% from 71.55% (2012) to 88.2% (2021)
 - 27J Schools Hispanic Graduation Rate has increased 24.1% from 62.6% (2012) to 86.7% (2021) – Highest among Denver Metro School Districts
 - Highest Overall Graduation Rate among Adams County Metro School Districts for three consecutive years:
 - 84.1% (2019)
 - 86.2% (2020)
 - 88.2% (2021)
 - Exceeded the Colorado State Average Graduation Rate for four consecutive years:
 - 2018 – 27J Schools (81.5%) State (80.7%)
 - 2019 – 27J Schools (84.1%) State (81.1%)
 - 2020 – 27J Schools (86.2%) State (81.9%)
 - 2021 – 27J Schools (88.2%) State (81.7%)
- Current Funding Status:
 - 27J Schools remains the lowest funded Denver Metro school district in terms of per pupil funding and per pupil mill levy override revenues.
 - 27J Schools’ one and only successful mill levy override election occurred in the year 2000 in the amount of \$750,000. This equates currently to less than \$40 per student in additional annual revenue to educate the students in the District above and beyond the revenue from the State of Colorado via the School Finance Act.
 - The other fourteen Denver Metro School Districts received the following mill levy override revenue for the 2021-2022 School Year due to their past successful mill levy override elections:
 - Denver - \$236,455,589
 - Jefferson County - \$148,274,823
 - Cherry Creek - \$129,907,008
 - Aurora - \$103,005,229
 - Douglas County - \$73,687,310
 - Boulder - \$67,336,362
 - Adams 12 - \$64,221,695
 - St. Vrain - \$56,755,906

- Littleton - \$28,742,828
 - Westminster - \$26,263,442
 - Mapleton - \$7,884,568
 - Englewood - \$6,156,032
 - Sheridan - \$3,868,027
 - Adams 14 - \$4,889,863
- The Average Mill Levy Override revenue for the fourteen other Denver Metro School Districts = \$2,100 per student.
- The Average Mill Levy Override revenue for the other four Adams County Denver Metro School Districts = \$1,757 per student.
 - This amount has more than doubled since 2017 (\$775 per student)
- District staff has conducted significant due diligence in determining:
 - The impact of any proposed increase mill levy override property tax on residential and non-residential property tax owners; and
 - The school community’s desired uses for additional mill levy override revenues
- The Board of Education has previously received additional information for consideration of this matter including:
 - Polling results from Magellan Strategies indicating 48% support (+/- 3.18%) of an 8 mill levy override tax increase; and
 - A report and recommendation from the 27J Schools Blue Ribbon Commission that acknowledged and recognized the need for additional mill levy override funding, but recommended waiting until the 2024 Presidential Election to put forth a question on the ballot due to the polling results and challenging/uncertain economic times
- The Superintendent, in compliance with Board Policy 3.D and 3.F, is recommending options to the Board of Education for a possible ballot issue/s authorizing the raising and expenditure of additional mill levy override revenues to the eligible electors of the District in the November 8, 2022 election.

Board Policy or C.R.S. regarding this item:

C.R.S. 22-54-108 (1) - Authorization of additional local revenues.

C.R.S. 1-5-203 (3) - Certification of ballot.

Board Policy 3.D – Financial Conditions and Activities

Board Policy 3.F – Financial Planning and Budgeting

Originator: Chris Fiedler, Superintendent