



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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### **LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS TO HOLD SPECIAL ELECTION**

**LOS LUNAS, NM** - Los Lunas Schools is holding a 3 Mill Levy Special Election in 2024 to help fund technology in the district. Los Lunas Schools recently approved a resolution for the special election following the loss of the crucial 3 Mill Levy in November 2023 when voters had the opportunity to approve the 3 Mill Levy, which came with no tax increase.

#### **What is the 3 Mill Levy?**

The 3 Mill Levy dedicates a small percentage of property taxes for the district to maintain and stay up to date with technology.

#### **How 3 Mill is used today?**

- District school buildings require new cabling and network equipment at least once every 15-20 years for 15+ district sites. *(Although the district utilizes E-Rate funding for these projects, the district still must put up 80-90% of the overall cost, which runs into millions of dollars in overall. Each project can be several hundreds of thousands of dollars for the total cost.)*
- Servers, Wi-Fi equipment, and network equipment must be refreshed periodically, typically at least every 5-8 years.
- Primary source of funding for student & staff iPads and MacBooks (~10,000 devices) with an estimated 5-yr lifecycle for iPads and 1,800 MacBooks are purchased for high school students every 2 years. MacBooks and iPads also provided for all teachers and most staff.
- Staff PCs, audio/visual components from projectors, large displays, and support for Interactive Flat Panels.
- District Server Infrastructure (40-50 servers)
- WiFi Infrastructure – Controller and access points must be refreshed every 5-7 years.
- All network components such as routers, servers, Wi-Fi Infrastructure, district firewall.

- Annual warranties for core network components in the event of a hardware failure.

### **Subscriptions paid from 3 Mill?**

- Online Data Backup for core server disaster recovery
- Anti-virus, anti-spam, and cyber security platform for decreasing phishing, cyber threats, and increasing staff awareness and safety
- JAMF mobile device management for all (~10,000) Apple devices
- iiQ Ticketing system for tracking tech work orders, device asset and fees tracking
- Funding support for PowerSchool to help maintain student & staff information system
- Cloud-based, certificate-based WiFi device authentication for improved Wi-Fi network security
- Destiny hosted library application
- E-Rate consultants to ensure E-Rate funding is properly managed and that the district is receiving maximum available funding
- Student and staff account provisioning to optimize our ability to manage student and staff accounts, technology equipment, and services
- Cloud-based printing services

### **Risks without 3 Mill?**

#### *Already impacted:*

- T-Mobile student hotspot program terminated, December 2023 due to our desire to eliminate any excess spending
- Delayed multiple network cabling and electronics upgrades
- Cutbacks on any non-critical IT equipment expenses

#### *Long-term potential risks:*

- Longer device lifecycles for staff & students, resulting in staff and students having to use old or outdated devices
- Potential increases for 1-1 device fees annually to students & families
- Potential increases for student device repair fees
- Inability to maintain current and robust network, WiFi, devices, and systems technologies as these components may not be refreshed as frequently as needed

### **Will my taxes increase?**

No! Your taxes will NOT increase. The 3 Mill Levy maintains current taxes.

### **How do I vote?**

The 3 Mill Levy Special Election is mail-in only. **All you have to do is postmark your ballot by August 13, 2024.**

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