

Future Bond and Special Mill Discussion

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May 7, 2025



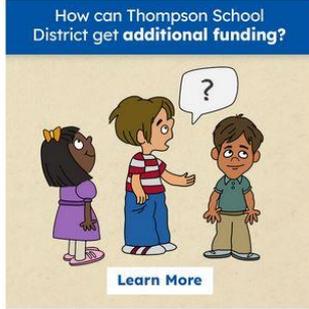
#WeAreThompson

Agenda

- Community Outreach
- Process
- Polling Results
- Discussion and Details on a Bond Option
- Board Discussion

Community Outreach

- Working with **Mile High Public Affairs** and their partners
- Utilizing survey data to build capacity throughout the community through video, social media and website banner placement
- Will be working with community partners and groups to provide information and answer questions
- Sample social media slides:

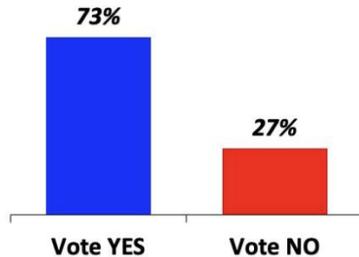
Slide 1:	Slide 2:	Slide 3:	Slide 4:
<p data-bbox="388 663 635 699">Property tax increases haven't helped Thompson Schools</p>  <p data-bbox="465 926 556 940">Learn More</p>	<p data-bbox="720 663 975 699">How can Thompson School District get additional funding?</p>  <p data-bbox="807 926 898 940">Learn More</p>	<p data-bbox="1045 663 1329 699">Voter approved measures such as Bond and Mill Levy Overrides</p>  <p data-bbox="1141 926 1232 940">Learn More</p>	 <p data-bbox="1387 784 1657 865">Learn more about how Thompson Schools are funded today!</p> <p data-bbox="1474 926 1570 940">Learn More</p>

Poll Results

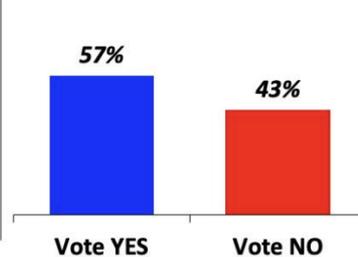
Ballot Votes.

- The "no tax increase" \$100 Million Bond passes overwhelmingly with 73% YES support. It has solid majority support among Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.
- \$220 Million Bond gets 57% YES, 43% NO. Most supportive are Democrats, women (including those 65+), newest residents, and Independent women. NO vote is dominant among Republicans, men 65+, and longest-term residents of over 30 years. Parents of TSD students are 60% YES but those with grandkids in TSD schools are 59% NO.
- \$350 Million Bond is REJECTED with just 42% YES vs. 58% NO. This appears to be an overreach.
- \$13 Million Mill Levy has a modest majority of 53% YES, 47% NO.

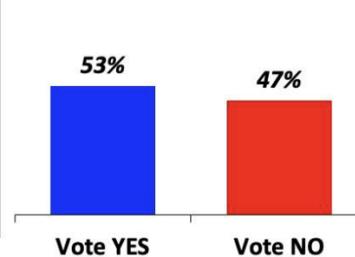
\$100M Bond: No Tax*



\$220 Million Bond+



\$13M Mill Levy**



Poll Results Continued

Political Mood.

- **Voters are overwhelmingly positive (83%) toward "local area quality of life."** The more TSD can connect to and be a reason for this good life, the greater feelings of support for the area's public schools will be.
- **But, ratings of both the ECONOMY (60% negative) and PROPERTY TAXES (62% too high) are net negative** creating friction that works against supporting tax increase ballots.
- **Thompson School District is rated 56% positive, 41% negative for "providing quality education" and a more modest 50% positive, 47% negative for "being fiscally responsible and managing taxpayer dollars wisely."** These soft positive attribute ratings support the District's efforts to pass its ballots.
- **Most importantly, in a conceptual question (without dollar amounts or tax increase levels specified), a 64% majority say they would "Definitely Support" (30%) or "Probably Support" (34%) TSD ballot issues this November that raise taxes to meet maintenance, safety, classroom and growth-related needs. Just over one third (36%) are a hard NO.**

Poll Results Continued

Message Test.

- The NEEDS CASE is best summed up by the following **3 top scoring messages** that each score around 40% for being a "very persuasive reason" to vote YES and a total over 70% as at least "somewhat persuasive."
 - *Numerous repair or replacement projects for schools in the District have been delayed for several years due to budget limitations, leading to issues such as leaking roofs, outdated electrical wiring and failing heating systems. It makes sense to pass the Bond and fix problems now before further damage is done to our school building requiring more expensive repairs later.*
 - *Some schools in the District have heating or cooling systems that are extremely outdated, to the point where repairs are no longer possible due to discontinued replacement parts by manufacturers. These old, aging systems must be replaced to keep schools functioning but the only way to pay for these critical upgrades is to pass the Bond.*
 - *It is common sense to replace failing school building heating systems - some of which are over 50 years old - with new systems with modern temperature control and energy efficiency that saves operating money.*
- Messages more directly connected to the Mill Levy score just slightly below these top physical needs ones. "Competitive teacher pay" is 68% total persuasive (37% "very") and expanding "career technical training" scores 75% total persuasive -- highest of any -- with 37% finding this "very persuasive".

Poll Results Continued

Methodology

- Sample Size: n=428 completed interviews.
- Eligibility: Likely November 2025 Voters Residing in Thompson School District.
- Interview Method: n=349 Online through cell-text invite + n=79 live caller phone interviews.
- Interview Dates: March 20-25, 2025.
- Margin of Error: 4.8%.

Recommended Option

Option - No Tax Increase

Recommended planning amount is ~\$100,000,000 ****** (assumes an ~7.5% Access Valuation increase)

2025 Election Capacity	
<i>AV Growth Assumptions</i>	<i>Projected Borrowing Capacity</i>
No Growth	\$69.7 million
10% Growth	\$108.3 million
20% Growth	\$140 million

(*average assessed valuation over 8 years is 10%)

****Current step down is in November of 2025,
last chance for no tax increase initiative is
November 2025**

~\$100,000,000 Initiative Plan



\$38M Critical
Maintenance
Needs



\$12,000,000 for
Safety/Security
Vestibule
Upgrades

** Finish Secured Vestibules



\$44,000,000 for
Growth
Mitigation

** BES/IvyES Expansions –
No TMS expansion



\$6,000,000
Educational
Improvement

** Some ADA Enhancement &
some program space

What's NOT Included:

- *No CTE expansion**
- *No AC Enhancements (IVY/BEL will get AC)**
- *Only ~1/2 of critical maintenance needs**
- * No capacity mitigation at Turner Middle**

\$100,000,000

Bond Initiative

No Tax Impact Bond Initiative Plan

	~\$100,000,000 BOND INITIATIVE					Total
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
TOTAL						\$ 100,000,000
*GROWTH	22,000,000	22,000,000	-		-	44,000,000
SAFETY/SECURITY	-	8,000,000	3,000,000	1,000,000	-	12,000,000
MAINTENANCE	5,000,000	5,000,000	15,000,000	10,000,000	3,000,000	38,000,000
BUILDING ENHANCEMENT	1,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,000,000	-	6,000,000
			-		-	-
End. Fund Balance	\$ 28,000,000	\$ 37,000,000	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 12,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 100,000,000

* Addition/Renovation at IVY/BEL - Not TMS

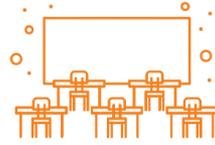
- Helps with only critical needs until 2029 - TMS addition, East side of district growth, Maintenance, and CTE are all critical needs

Moving Forward

- Gain an understanding if recommendation of No Tax Impact is acceptable to start working on for November Initiative

If so, start/process work for November 2025 Initiative -

Overall Thompson School District Needs 2025-2032



Overall
Classroom/Educational
Needs (includes AC)

\$250,500,000



Overall Maintenance
Needs 2025-2032

\$301,000,000



Overall Demographic
Needs 2025-2032

\$80,000,000



Overall Safety Needs
2025-2032

\$14,500,000

Thank you and Questions