

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PIUTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, UTAH
SPECIAL BOND ELECTION
NOVEMBER 21, 2023

ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST THE BOND PROPOSITION

FOR:	AGAINST:
<p>The Piute County School District Board of Education is asking voters to approve the issuance of \$2,864,000 in General Obligation Bonds at the election on November 21, 2023.</p> <p>Piute County School District has a unique opportunity for school construction funding that has not been available for several decades and may not be available again for some time. In the 2022 legislative session the legislature created the Small School Capital Projects Fund and appropriated \$50,000,000 to that fund. This money was intended to help small school districts manage the rapidly increasing cost of school construction. More than 60% of that funding went to Wayne County School District for the consolidation of their middle school and high school. In the 2023 legislative session the legislature again appropriated \$50,000,000 to this grant program. Piute County School District is competing with other small school districts across the state for this funding. Passing this bond would allow Piute County School District to meet the local tax effort requirements of the grant through general obligation bonds. To qualify for grant funding without this general obligation bond would require a significantly higher local tax increase as described in the original mailer from the school district in August.</p> <p>The school district is aware of the value of small elementary schools and the traditions of small communities. The benefits of a consolidated elementary school include a grade specific teacher for every student, increased access to educational services, and greater efficiency in instructional services. A new consolidated elementary school would include a proper library, a Special Education classroom, and other facilities more accommodating to 21st century learning. A new consolidated school would also significantly improve operational and fiscal efficiencies in food, maintenance, and administrative services.</p> <p>The school board has carefully considered the needs and concerns of our community. Through a collaborative review and approval process the school board voted unanimously to approve this bond initiative. With voter approval the bond will pay for a new consolidated K-6 elementary school in Junction.</p> <p>Since 2019, construction costs have inflated by 47%. The school district cannot save money quickly enough to pay cash for projects given current inflation. The school district believes financing the consolidated elementary will produce the lowest costs and cause the lowest tax impact to residents long-term. After this project, the district does not currently anticipate additional debt needs for school construction for the next 20 or more years.</p> <p>Piute County School District thanks all the residents and stakeholders that have contributed to this proposal with valuable and timely feedback. The school district is focused on our constitutional role to assist and to be accountable to parents and families who bear the primary responsibility for educating their children. We ask for your help in taking advantage of this unique opportunity, by voting in favor of this General Obligation Bond on November 21, 2023.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">No argument against the bond proposition was submitted by an eligible voter.</p>

Since no argument against the bond proposition was submitted, there are no rebuttal arguments.

The Board of Education of Piute County School District, Utah, will hold a public meeting during the Board meeting that begins at 6:00 p.m., on October 24, 2023, at the Piute High School auditorium located at 550 North 100 West, Junction, Utah, for the presentation of the arguments in favor of and against the ballot proposition.