

Teton School District 401 Plant Facility Levy renewal vote: May 17, 2016

What is the Plant Facility Levy?

The state of Idaho doesn't fund school facilities (*except for Lottery funds*), that falls on local tax payers through bonds (*for new schools*), and levy's to maintain and upgrade schools. It must be renewed every 5 years. Here is a summary of how the plant facility funds are used in our district:

Completed Projects from 'PF' funds:

Purchased new school buses (state only funds half the amount of a new bus each year), paved the road & pathway between middle school & THS, expanded front parking lot at THS, upgraded heating systems from coal to propane at Victor, Tetonía & Rendezvous schools, replaced windows at Tetonía elementary, purchased modular classroom at Rendezvous, remodeled old stage and locker rooms to Driggs Elementary to create classroom and learning areas.

Future Project needs from 'PF funds:

Roof repair at Driggs, Tetonía, Victor & THS schools, pave bus areas at Driggs, Rendezvous, Tetonía, upgrade heating at Driggs Elem., Teton High, install fuel-storage tanks at bus shop.



What will this cost the taxpayer?

This is not a new levy. It was started in 1985, and has been at the \$400,000/year amount since 2006. It is proposed to increase 5% per year, or \$20,000, to adjust for construction cost increases.

Proposed levy renewal: \$420,000 per year for 5 years.

Projected Tax impact on \$100,000 of net taxable property value:

Currently: \$27.97 per year (\$2.33/month)

Proposed: \$29.36 per year (\$2.45/month)

(assuming 0% growth in the taxable market value in Teton County).

If we have 5% growth in the taxable market value, the proposed impact would be: \$27.97 per year, same as the expiring levy, then slightly decrease each year.

School District contacts: 208-228-5923

Superintendent: Monte Woolstenhulme

Business Manager: Carl Church

School Board members:

- Delwyn Jensen: boardzone4@d401.k12.id.us
- Chris Isaacson: boardzone2@d401.k12.id.us
- Shelley Streit: boardzone1@d401.k12.id.us
- Ben Kearsley: boardzone3@d401.k12.id.us
- Nan Pugh: boardzone5@d401.k12.id.us

Why do we need to renew the Plant Facility Levy?

Increasing Enrollment: our school district increases by an average of 28 new students (1 full classroom) per school year. As 3 of the 4 elementary schools are at or above capacity, we use these funds to:

- Purchase modular classrooms (installed at Rendezvous, January, 2016)
- Remodel school spaces for classroom and instructional space (old stage and old locker rooms at Driggs Elementary)
- Remodel school facilities for district support staff (old brick building at 1st East & Ross Ave, is now an IT building, it was constructed in 1929)
- Upgrade outdated systems (coal to propane boilers in Victor, Tetonía & Rendezvous are done)

Lack of State funding for facilities: the only state funding we receive for facilities is based upon lottery sales, that averages \$91,000/year. Plant facility funds are needed to keep schools well maintained while upgrading outdated systems. Roofs, windows and doors need to be replaced, parking lots, pathways and sometimes roads need paved and maintained, parking lots need to be expanded, paved and lighted. These projects are done through plant facility funds. Modular units and remodel-projects create additional classroom space.

Student and staff safety: areas like the high school baseball and softball field bleacher area for parents and spectators was dangerous as people were at risk from being hit by 'foul-balls'. From plant facility funds, a safety net system was installed that now prevents that from occurring. Safety barriers have been installed around propane tanks, walkways, fire hydrants and access areas that needed to be closed.

Technology for students and staff: school computer networks are now fiber based, with high speed Internet and Wi-Fi access points being set up in more schools. These funds have supported that work along with updating computers and devices in a timely manner, while we still average 8-10 years for student computers. An upgraded phone system was completed in 2015 in all schools and offices.

VOTING INFORMATION:

Early voting at the Teton County Courthouse, 150 Courthouse Drive, Driggs, room 208

Election date: TUESDAY, May 17, 2016
8:00 am to 8:00 pm at your usual polling place

Details are posted at:
tetoncountyyidaho.gov

Plant Facility Levy renewal information::

Go to our website: tsd401.org

Follow the links: District, Financial Reports, Levy & Bonds

Call: 208-228-5923 for any questions



Teton School District 401

\$420,000 Plant Facility Levy renewal information

TETON SCHOOL DISTRICT 401
P.O. BOX 775
DRIGGS, IDAHO 83422

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