

SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

TO AUTHORIZE THE LEVY OF ADDITIONAL TAXES AND THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS

Notice is hereby given that a Special Election will be held on Thursday, June 6, 2024, in the Smyrna School District ("District") pursuant to resolutions duly adopted on March 20, 2024 by the Board of Education of said school district, in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 10 and 21 of Title 14 of the Delaware Code, in order to permit the voters of the District to vote either for or against the following:

Authority To Issue Bonds

- To access matching state funds afforded to school districts due to increased construction costs caused by market pressure, the Smyrna School District seeks authorization to issue bonds in the amount of \$4,162,286, to be financed through an increase in property taxes. The bonds will be used for the planning, construction and equipment of the new 600 student elementary school and the legal fees, architectural fees, contingencies and costs of supervision and auditing incidental to and accruing from said project. The bonds represent 23% of the total increase in cost of \$18,096,640. This Major Capital Project will address enrollment growth and capacity issues and include extraordinary site conditions.

To be funded as follows:

\$13,934,354 – State's Share
\$ 4,162,286 – District's Local Share
\$18,096,640 – Total

- If the District is authorized to issue bonds for the reasons stated above, the District shall levy and collect additional property taxes to provide for the payment of interest and principal on such bonds. Smyrna School District spans parts of New Castle County and Kent County. The amount of each annual tax increase that would be imposed in each county as a result of the proposed bond issuance, depending upon market conditions, is estimated as follows over the twenty years the bonds will amortize:

For New Castle County

Year	Fiscal Year	Amount of Annual Tax Increase as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Total Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Projected Increase / Decrease in Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Year	Fiscal Year	Amount of Annual Tax Increase as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Total Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Projected Increase / Decrease in Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match
1	2025	0.0376	0.2815	0.0564	11	2035	0.0281	0.1407	0.0000
2	2026	0.0423	0.2768	(0.0047)	12	2036	0.0282	0.1361	(0.0046)
3	2027	0.0328	0.2626	(0.0142)	13	2037	0.0235	0.1173	(0.0188)
4	2028	0.0234	0.2626	0.0000	14	2038	0.0188	0.1126	(0.0047)
5	2029	0.0328	0.2532	(0.0094)	15	2039	0.0282	0.1126	0.0000
6	2030	0.0234	0.1829	(0.0703)	16	2040	0.0235	0.1032	(0.0094)
7	2031	0.0328	0.1642	(0.0187)	17	2041	0.0235	0.1032	0.0000
8	2032	0.0305	0.1595	(0.0047)	18	2042	0.0235	0.0985	(0.0047)
9	2033	0.0281	0.1548	(0.0047)	19	2043	0.0212	0.0915	(0.0070)
10	2034	0.0281	0.1407	(0.0141)	20	2044	0.0234	0.0656	(0.0259)

For Kent County

Year	Fiscal Year	Amount of Annual Tax Increase as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Total Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Projected Increase / Decrease in Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Year	Fiscal Year	Amount of Annual Tax Increase as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Total Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match	Projected Increase / Decrease in Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Receive State Market Pressure Match
1	2025	0.0474	0.3539	0.0709	11	2035	0.0354	0.1769	0.0000
2	2026	0.0532	0.3480	(0.0059)	12	2036	0.0353	0.1710	(0.0059)
3	2027	0.0412	0.3301	(0.0179)	13	2037	0.0294	0.1474	(0.0236)
4	2028	0.0294	0.3301	0.0000	14	2038	0.0235	0.1415	(0.0059)
5	2029	0.0412	0.3183	(0.0118)	15	2039	0.0354	0.1415	0.0000
6	2030	0.0295	0.2300	(0.0883)	16	2040	0.0296	0.1298	(0.0117)
7	2031	0.0413	0.2064	(0.0236)	17	2041	0.0296	0.1298	0.0000
8	2032	0.0384	0.2005	(0.0059)	18	2042	0.0296	0.1239	(0.0059)
9	2033	0.0354	0.1946	(0.0059)	19	2043	0.0266	0.1150	(0.0089)
10	2034	0.0354	0.1769	(0.0177)	20	2044	0.0294	0.0825	(0.0325)

Notes regarding these tables: Estimated "Annual Tax Increase" amounts are rounded and are stated in Cents/\$100 of Assessed Value. The "Annual Tax Rate" is based on the District's current debt service rate (0.2251 per \$100 of assessed value in New Castle County, and 0.2830 per \$100 assessed value in Kent County) and several other factors including market interest rates. Retirement of existing debt will offset annual tax increases in future years. The calculations in the above table were prepared without regard to any future referenda that may be pursued by the District.

For a New Castle County property in the District assessed at \$47,000 (average market value is \$200,000) and for a Kent County property in the district assessed at \$37,400 (average market value is \$200,000), the increased debt service cost to the homeowner is as follows over the first five of the twenty years the bonds will amortize, and accounting for debt retirement:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
\$17.29	\$16.90	\$16.52	\$16.14	\$15.75

VOTER INFORMATION

Voters may only vote one time in this special election even if the voter has more than one child attending school in the Smyrna School District.

The polls for the Special Election will be open on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 7:00 AM and will remain open until 8:00 PM. Voters may vote in any of the following designated polling places, all of which are accessible to voters with disabilities:

Smyrna Elementary School
121 South School Lane, Smyrna

Kenton Ruritan Club
249 South Main Street, Kenton

Smyrna Middle School
700 Duck Creek Parkway, Smyrna

QUALIFICATIONS TO VOTE

- Must be a citizen of the United States and Delaware
- Must be a resident of the Smyrna School District
- Must be 18 years of age or older
- You do NOT have to be a registered voter for purposes of a general election

ABSENTEE BALLOT

You may vote by absentee ballot if you cannot vote at a polling place on the day of election for one of the following reasons:

- You are temporarily or permanently disabled;
- You are serving in the public service of the U.S. or the State of Delaware;
- You are the spouse or a dependent living with or accompanying a person serving the U.S. or the State of Delaware;
- The nature of your job or occupation does not permit you to go to the polls;
- You are sick;
- The tenets or teachings of your religion prevent you from voting on the days or times set for the election;
- You are incarcerated but otherwise eligible to vote;
- You are away on vacation;

- You are the caregiver to a parent, spouse or that person's child who is living at home and requires constant care due to illness or injury;
- You are temporarily living outside of the U.S.;
- You cannot go to the polls because of illness or injury received while serving in the Armed Forces;
- You serve in the Armed Forces, Red Cross, U.S.O., or the Merchant Marine; or
- You are authorized pursuant to the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) [42 U.S.C. § 1973ff et seq.], or any other federal law, to vote by absentee ballot.

To vote by absentee ballot:

- Download an Absentee Application from <https://de.gov/schabsapp>, request one by email at absenteekc@delaware.gov, or request one by phone at 302-739-4498.
- If you want an absentee ballot mailed to you, send a completed application so that it arrives at the Department of Elections, Kent County Office no later than 4 p.m., Friday, May 31, 2024. You may either email the completed application to absenteekc@delaware.gov, or mail it to PO Box 699 Dover, DE 19903.
- In order to be counted, voted absentee ballots must be received at the Department of Elections, Kent County Office, 100 Enterprise PI, Suite 5, Dover, DE 19904 no later than 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2024.
- Vote in person by absentee ballot at the Department of Elections, Kent County Office, Mon-Fri from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Tuesday, June 4, 2024, or from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5, 2024.
- NOTE: If you are a voter with a “permanent absentee status”, this status does not cover school elections. You will not automatically be mailed an absentee ballot. You must request one. Please follow instructions above to request an absentee ballot.

PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION AND ADDRESS

- Persons appearing to vote must present satisfactory proof of identity and address to the Election Officers at the Polling Place before being permitted to vote. Persons who do not present satisfactory proof of identity and address, may – upon majority vote of the Inspector and the two Judges – be permitted to vote.

Contact Smyrna School District at 302-653-8585 with any questions you may have regarding the referendum.

By Order of the SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Christopher Scuse, President
Dr. Susan Brown, Executive Secretary and Superintendent

Posted in accordance with Delaware Code, Title 14, Section 1074. Do not remove until June 7, 2024