



FOWLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 45

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Capital Outlay Override Election

Fowler Elementary School District appreciates your interest in our district and the upcoming Capital Outlay Budget Override election. The following is information pertaining to the district election.

Q: What is a capital override?

A: School district capital outlay budgets are limited by state law. With voter approval, state law allows a school district to override or exceed its school capital outlay budget to purchase items such as computers, upgrade technology systems, furniture, equipment, textbooks, etc. In November 2003 voters approved a \$500,000 capital override.

Q: Why does the school district need its override continued?

A: Under the students first capital funding system, Fowler Elementary School District is entitled to State monies for building renewal, new construction and renovation of school buildings in accordance with State law. Fowler Elementary School District has not received State monies for building renewal, new construction and renovation of school buildings since fiscal year 2007-2008. The district does not anticipate receiving State monies from these sources in the near future due to the State budget shortfall.

The override will allow the district to continue to upgrade computers and technology infrastructure so students do not lose access to these educational programs. The district anticipates receiving reduced State monies for these programs due to the state budget crisis.

Q.: How will the override funds be used?

A:

- Purchase new computers and continue to replace outdated computer systems
- Upgrade our technology infrastructure so that our staff and students have access to a world-class education
- Update furniture and equipment in existing schools
- Purchase textbooks and instructional aids for the classroom

Q: Will my taxes increase?

A: NO. This is not a new tax, but rather a request to continue an existing tax. The average homeowner in our district pays \$22.10 per year for the capital outlay override. The 2010-2011 capital outlay budget override represents no change over the alternate budget since the existing budget override authority of \$500,000 will be replaced by the proposed budget override authority.

Q: How long are override funds good for?

A: Fowler Elementary School District's capital outlay override election provides funding to the district for seven years. Voters must reauthorize the override by the seventh year or the district no longer receives the override funding.

Q: What is Fowler Elementary School District's history of overrides?

A: Fowler Elementary School District has successfully passed override elections, enabling the district to provide a higher standard of education for students. Thanks to the support of community members, Fowler Elementary School District students do exceptionally well academically.

Q: What happens if the override is not renewed?

A: If the override is not renewed, based on the current fiscal year, the district will have to cut \$500,000 from its budget.

For more election information, log on to the Maricopa County Records Office at <http://recorder.maricopa.gov/web/elections.aspx>