

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

ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST THE BOND PROPOSITION

FOR:	AGAINST:
<p>The Cache County Board of Education has approved a \$139 million-dollar bond resolution to be placed on the November 21, 2023 Ballot to address growth and safety in the Cache County School District.</p> <p>The Cache County School District is the tenth largest school district in the State of Utah, with nearly 20,000 students. Over the last ten years, the District has grown by 4,197 students. Additionally, the State of Utah now provides funding for all-day kindergarten (ADK) as an option for parents. Due to growth and the demand for classroom space, the District is unable to fully provide ADK in six elementary schools and not at all in another five elementary schools.</p> <p>Before asking voters to approve a bond resolution, the District absorbs new growth in existing buildings and utilizes portable classrooms when growth exceeds building space. Once there are enough students to justify the cost of building and operating new schools, the Board considers a bond. With the rate of growth and addition of ADK, there are currently 11 elementary schools and one middle school operating above capacity and the District is utilizing 38 portable classrooms in those schools.</p> <p>In March 2022, the Cache County Board of Education formed a Building Task Force, composed of community members, to explore building needs for the District. This Task Force recommended and the Board approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Construction of new middle schools in Nibley and Hyde Park; 	<p>No argument against the bond proposition was submitted by an eligible voter.</p>

- Conversion of Spring Creek Middle School into an elementary school;
- Construction of a new elementary school in Hyde Park; and
- Safety and security enhancements in each school.

This would allow the District to move sixth grade back to the middle school environment, have four feeder middle schools for its four high schools, immediately relieve overcrowding in all 17 of the District’s elementary schools, and offer ADK for all 27 communities.

The Board of Education is sensitive to how this resolution would impact taxes as home valuations are increasing. This resolution will not increase the tax rate for the District’s debt service; rather, it would commit voters to additional years of debt service. This strategy allows the Board to meet the needs of the District while minimizing the annual impact on taxpayers. Currently, the debt service rate is at a 27-year low. In addition, wise restructuring of previous bonds has allowed the Board to save taxpayers nearly \$12 million and to pay off many of its previous bonds early.

The Board has kept its commitments to taxpayers when issuing bonds. All projects from the 2004 and 2013 bonds were completed on time and on budget without raising the debt service rate for the cost of construction.

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

The Board of Education of Cache County School District, Utah, will hold a public meeting during the Board meeting that begins at 5:30 p.m. (provided that the public meeting portion will be held at or after 6:00 p.m.), on November 2, 2023, at the regular meeting place of the Board located at 2035 North 1200 East, North Logan, Utah, for the presentation of the arguments in favor of and against the ballot proposition.