

# Notice of District Measure Election

26-121

## SEL 803

rev 01/10: ORS 250.035,  
250.041, 255.145, 255.345

### District and Notice Information

Notice is hereby given on January 6, 20 11, that a measure election will be held in Portland Public Schools, District 1J  
 located in Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties County, Oregon on May 17, 20 11.  
Name of County or Counties Name of District Date of Election

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the district's voters:

**Caption** 10 words

See attached

**Question** 20 words

See attached

**Summary** 175 words

See attached

2011 JAN -6 AM 9:57  
 DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

The following authorized district official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and complete.



01/06/11

**Signature of Authorized District Official** not required to be notarized

**Date Signed** mm/dd/yy

Carole Smith

Superintendent

**Printed Name of Authorized District Official**

**Title**

**CAPTION:**

**PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BONDS TO UPDATE, RENOVATE LOCAL SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

**QUESTION:**

Shall PPS update, rebuild, increase safety at public schools; retire debt; issue \$548 million in general obligation bonds, audit spending? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**SUMMARY:**

Portland Public Schools buildings average 65 years old. Safety, security, classrooms and technology are out of date in nearly every building.

Bond funds support capital projects at 95 schools:

- 86 schools receive updates such as:
  - Fire and life safety;
  - Electrical, plumbing, lighting, roofing, heating, security;
  - Earthquake safety, handicapped accessibility;
  - Modern science classrooms;
  - Classroom teaching technology;
  - School grounds, exteriors, fields.

- 9 schools rebuilt:
  - N/NE Portland: Roosevelt High; Faubion, Rigler, Laurelhurst
  - SE Portland: Cleveland High; Marysville
  - West Portland: Markham Elementary, East Sylvan on West Sylvan campus
  - Middle College Program with Portland Community College at Jefferson High.
  
- Planning, design to prepare for rebuilding Lincoln High.

Bond funds will retire existing school projects debt.

Citizen oversight and annual audits of bond projects and expenditures are required.

Most bonds mature in 1 - 3 years to minimize interest expense. Cost estimated to be approximately \$2 per \$1,000 assessed property value for six years, then reduced. Median homeowner pays \$300 annually for six years, reduced to approximately \$22 annually.

# MEASURE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

## Required for all Measures Submitted with Multnomah County Elections

ELECTION DATE 05/17/2011	MEASURE NUMBER 26-121	
BALLOT TITLE CAPTION Portland Public Schools Bonds to Update, Renovate Local School Buildings		
NAME OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT Carole Smith, Superintendent		
NAME OF JURISDICTION PERSON REPRESENTS Portland Public Schools, District 1J		
E-MAIL csmith1@pps.k12.or.us	TELEPHONE NUMBER 503-916-3200	FAX NUMBER 503-916-3110

*Please use space below or attach text on a separate sheet of paper.*

See attached.

2011 JUN -6 AM 9:57  
 DIRECTOR OF PPS

WORD NUMBER OF MEASURE (word/number limit) 500  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE 1-6-11

## **Explanatory Statement:**

Portland Public Schools is the largest public school district in Oregon, with 95 school buildings and over 47,000 students.

PPS buildings average 65 years in age; most were built in the 1920's, 40's and 50's. Only two schools have been built in the last 30 years. A dozen schools have been closed in the last ten years.

Years of tight budgets have deferred major school repairs in order to direct funds to teachers and learning materials.

As a result, the schools face multiple issues:

- Schools need updated plumbing, electrical wiring, heating and ventilation, fire alarms, lighting, and more;
- Classrooms, science labs and libraries are out of date and cannot support modern educational programs;
- Buildings need additional earthquake safety, handicapped accessibility, and safety in stage areas;
- School grounds, fields and exteriors need repair or replacement.

The proposed bond measure funds capital projects for school and classroom needs to extend their use, including:

- Increasing school safety;
- Renovating and updating school building systems, classrooms and grounds;
- Rebuilding or comprehensively renovating schools located across Portland for which it's more cost effective to do so;
- Retiring existing school projects debt; and

### **Increase school safety:**

- Safety updates such as fire and security systems; replacing electrical wiring, plumbing and lighting; replacing deteriorated outdoor play areas; installing exterior security; replacing unsafe school stage rigging.

### **Renovate and update school facilities buildings, classrooms, grounds, including:**

- Modernize heating systems with more efficient and lower-maintenance fuel source;
- Replace leaking roofing;
- Upgrade or create some science labs for grades 6-12 needed to support a modern science program including equipment, sinks, outlets, lab benches, burners and more;
- Provide up-to-date classroom teaching technology for every school;
- Refurbish school grounds, exteriors, and fields to reduce injury, and increase security and safety.

### **Rebuild schools not cost-effective to repair piecemeal, including:**

- Rebuild Roosevelt and Cleveland High Schools, Rigler, Faubion, Laurelhurst, Marysville K-8 schools, Markham Elementary, and East Sylvan on West Sylvan campus;
- Conduct planning and design to prepare for Lincoln High rebuild in the next phase of school modernization;

- Establish Middle College Program open to all PPS students, with Portland Community College, at rebuilt Jefferson High

**Debt retirement and oversight for bond expenditures**

- Pay off approximately \$33 million in school projects debt including Rosa Parks School;

Citizen oversight and annual audits to review bond projects and expenditures are required.

**Bonds funded through a 'pay-as-you-go' system**

Bonds would mature primarily in 1,2 or 3 years, saving interest payments of over \$200 million. Remaining bonds would be issued over 20 years or less.

The bonds' principal amount cannot exceed \$548 million.

Bond cost for six years is estimated at approximately \$2.00 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, reduced to an estimated fifteen cents per \$1,000 for not to exceed 20 years.

The median assessed home value in the school district is \$147,000. Median homeowner would pay approximately \$300 annually for 6 years then reduced to \$22 per year.