



MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
JOHN KAUFFMAN, DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS
1040 SE MORRISON ST
PORTLAND, OREGON 97214
(503) 988-3720 Phone / (503) 988-3719 Fax
Web Site: www.mcelections.org

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DIANE LINN • CHAIR OF THE BOARD
MARIA ROJO de STEFFEY • DISTRICT 1 COMMISSIONER
SERENA CRUZ • DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER
LISA NAITO • DISTRICT 3 COMMISSIONER
LONNIE ROBERTS • DISTRICT 4 COMMISSIONER

Dear Riverdale School District Voter:

The November 8, 2005 Special Election is here, and there are a few things you should know:

- The only issue on your ballot is a Local Option Measure put on the ballot by Riverdale School District.
- Voted ballots **MUST** be received at our office or an official drop site location by **8:00 PM, Tuesday, November 8, 2005** to be counted.
- Our website includes helpful information such as links to other election and media sites: www.mcelections.org.
- At 8:00 PM on election night we will have election results posted on our website and we will update that site throughout the evening.
- If a ballot was delivered to your residence for someone who should no longer be receiving a ballot at your address, please write "RETURN" on the envelope and place it back in your mailbox. If a ballot was sent to someone who is deceased, please write "DECEASED" on the envelope and place it back in your mailbox.
- If you make a mistake or change your mind while marking your ballot, you may request a replacement ballot from the Elections Office. If there is not enough time before the election to receive AND return a replacement ballot, you may make your changes on the ballot but it is critical that you make your choice obvious because election workers will inspect each ballot to make sure voter intent is understood and the ballot is counted correctly.
- If you lose your ballot, accidentally destroy it, or did not receive a ballot and you are a registered voter, please let us know immediately so we may issue a replacement ballot in time for you to vote.
- Telephone assistance for the hearing impaired to call our office is: 1-800-735-2900 (TTY) or 711.
 - Language assistance is available by calling 503-988-3720.
 - Bipartisan assistance is available in our office. For such assistance in your home, please call our office and allow ample time for us to respond.
 - Multnomah County Elections provides two parking spaces at 1040 SE Morrison Street for voters with disabilities. Please call to make advance arrangements for curbside assistance.

If you have any questions you can contact our office at: 503-988-3720 or fax 503-988-3719.

Sincerely,

John Kauffman
Director of Elections
john.kauffman@co.multnomah.or.us

RIVERDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT 51J

Measure No. 26-75

BALLOT TITLE

FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION TAX FOR DISTRICT OPERATIONS

QUESTION: Shall the District levy \$1.07 per \$1000 of assessed value each year for five years beginning 2006-2007 for operations?

SUMMARY: This measure may be passed only at an election with at least a 50 percent voter turnout. This measure authorizes Riverdale School District No. 51J, Multnomah and Clackamas Counties, Oregon, to levy a property tax in the amount of \$1.07 per \$1000 of assessed value each year for five years. The taxes would be used to help finance District operations. Without the additional revenue, the District will have to reduce staff and services.

An estimate of the total amount to be raised each fiscal year is: \$460,000 in 2006-2007; \$460,000 in 2007-2008; \$460,000 in 2008-2009; \$460,000 in 2009-2010; and \$460,000 in 2010-2011.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

What is this Local Option measure?

- A renewal of the existing Local Option levy approved by Riverdale School District voters in 2000 and an increase in the levy rate as allowed by the State Legislature.

Why does the Riverdale School District need Local Option revenues?

- Measures 5 and 50 and the shift from local to State funding of school districts in the 1990s reduced the amount of money our school District receives for each student.
- Nine years ago Riverdale received \$7,467 per student, and this year we will receive approximately \$5,000 per student.
- To distribute the cost of a Riverdale education to all property owners in our community, as we all benefit from the existence of exceptional neighborhood schools.

What will the renewal of this measure do?

- Provides a predictable, stable source of dollars to support our five-year financial plan.
- Generates approximately \$460,000 per year over five years, 100% of which will be used for our kids.
- Allows our neighborhood to fund programs and services that are no longer feasible with the current State School funding formula.
- Allows our entire neighborhood to support excellence in our staffing, programs, and services, as our exceptional schools benefit the entire community.

- Allows the District to offset a portion of the loss of nearly \$500,000 from the expiration of the Multnomah County Income Tax (I-Tax) in the spring of 2006.

How will Local Option dollars be used?

- To maintain our current exceptional core academic programs and services.
- To help maintain our low student-to-staff ratio.

What would happen if this levy fails?

- Loss of approximately \$460,000 per year (\$278,000 current levy + \$182,000 levy increase).
- The inevitable loss of \$500,000 from the expiration of the I-Tax in 2006 combined with the loss of levy revenues will result in an overall loss to the district of \$778,000 (\$278,000 current levy + \$500,000 I-Tax).
- A reduction of staff, programs, and services. A \$460,000 loss is the equivalent of 6 certified teachers (i.e. programs).

How much is the continuation of the levy expected to cost?

- This measure will impact property owners within the school District boundaries.
- Property owners can find their current Local Option costs by looking at the "Riverdale SD #51 Loc Opt" line on their property tax statement. This renewal will moderately increase this amount.
- The current levy rate is \$0.655 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The renewal and increase will result in a levy rate of \$1.07 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
- The exact amount varies from property to property, based on Ballot Measure 5 limitations. For a home assessed at \$750,000 and taxed at the maximum Local Option tax rate of \$1.07 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the cost would be approximately \$802.50 a year.

Submitted by:
Dr. Thomas Hagerman
Superintendent
Riverdale School District 51J

No arguments AGAINST this measure were filed.

RIVERDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT 51J

Measure No. 26-75

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Riverdale School District 51J is renowned for providing an exceptional, state- and federally-recognized program of academic studies at the elementary and secondary levels.

Riverdale's success is attracting many families to Dunthorpe, making it one of the most desirable neighborhoods in Oregon. The schools' outstanding academic reputation has contributed to a substantial elevation in the property value of neighborhood homes.

A tradition of community support has helped Riverdale maintain its program of academic excellence even as state support has declined. Nine years ago Riverdale received roughly \$7,500 per student; today, Riverdale receives just \$5,000 per student.

To maintain high quality educational programs, Riverdale is seeking to renew the Local Option approved by Riverdale School District voters in 2000, with a small increase in the levy rate, as allowed by law.

Your support for the Local Option levy will generate \$460,000 per year over the next five years, with 100 percent of community resources staying in Riverdale to maintain educational services. This support is critical given the expiration of the Multnomah County I-Tax in 2005, which provides Riverdale \$500,000 per year. Passage of the Local Option levy will offset a portion of this loss. Since the Local Option levy is a renewal, its passage will add only a modest amount to your tax bill.

Exceptional schools are essential not only for the kids who attend them, but also for the community. Exceptional schools also lead to a stable community and increased property values.

We believe that a strong Riverdale School District benefits all of us, and we join the School Board in supporting Measure 26-75.

Please support your community: Keep Riverdale Schools Exceptional.

Please vote YES for the Riverdale School District 51J Local Option.

Phil/Gainor Arzt	Douglas/Selby Key
Robert/Shirley Berselli	Gerry/Kim Langelier
William/Susan Bourque	Jean Stoll
Brent/Barbara Chalmers	Peter/Tracy Stoloff
Paul Duden	Ron Vandehey
Sylvia Breed Gates	Robert/Barbara Coit Yeager
Steve/Stephanie Jewell	Mark Zusman
Steven/Kathryn Johnson	

(This information furnished by Marybeth Van Buren, Committee for Riverdale Schools)



**WHEN YOU ARE
FINISHED WITH THIS
VOTERS' PAMPHLET
PLEASE RECYCLE IT.**

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Multnomah County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY BALLOT DROP SITES

Voted ballots may be delivered to the following Drop Sites through 8:00 PM on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2005.

Remember! You can return your ballot by dropping it off at any County Elections Office or designated drop site in the State of Oregon through 8:00 PM on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2005.

LIBRARY

Sellwood-Moreland Library -7860 SE 13th Avenue, Portland

Sunday:	Noon	-	5:00 PM
Monday:	10:00 AM	-	6:00 PM
Tuesday & Wednesday:	Noon	-	8:00 PM
Thursday – Saturday:	10:00 AM	-	6:00 PM

24 HOUR BALLOT DROP BOX

A-BOY SUPPLY

7365 SW Barbur Boulevard, Portland



MULTNOMAH COUNTY ELECTIONS

1040 SE Morrison Street, Portland, Oregon

Office hours are 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday through Friday
(A slot in the door is available after hours and on weekends.)