

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** What is the actual language on the ballot?

**A:** PROPOSITION VIKINGS Shall the Board of Education of the La Monte R-IV School District of Pettis County, Missouri, without an estimated increase in the current debt service property tax levy, borrow money in the amount of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) for the purpose of providing funds for the site development, construction, equipping and furnishing of a preschool addition; to construct secure entrances; to repair buildings District-wide; to the extent funds are available, complete other remodeling and repair improvements to the existing facilities of the District; and issue bonds for the payment thereof? If this proposition is approved, the adjusted debt service levy of the School District is estimated to remain unchanged at \$0.7623 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation of real and personal property. Q: What is a bond issue? A bond is an authorization for a school district to go into debt and to establish a tax rate to pay off the debt over time. The bond pays for capital projects like facilities and equipment, and may not be used for regular operational costs like salaries or supplies.

**Q:** Why is this no tax increase bond issue on the ballot?

**A:** The school district's debt service has been paid down enough to allow the Board to secure approximately \$2 million for facility improvements and repairs.

**Q:** How much is the bond issue and will it raise my taxes?

**A:** The bond issue is \$2 million and taxes for bond and interest will not increase.

**Q:** What does it take to pass a school bond issue?

**A:** A four sevenths (4/7) majority is needed to pass this proposition. This is about a 57% majority vote.

**Q:** How does the quality of the schools affect property values and the local economy?

**A:** Realtors agree that a good school system attracts buyers to an area. Many home buyers ask about the school district before making a decision. A new pre-school program in La Monte can be the deciding factor for many families to come to the community, which would lead to higher property values for all homeowners.

**Q:** What does the bond issue include?

**A:** Removing the modular building that currently houses the pre-school and replacing it with a structured building for preschool connecting it through the old gymnasium building.

“ A corridor for connecting the elementary building to the old gymnasium building for students to safely walk to other areas of the school (lunch, music, art, physical education, etc.) without going outside.

“ A secure entry for the elementary building for visitors limiting access to students.

“ Miscellaneous repairs to some windows, parking lots, and roof materials.

“ Technology upgrades to current systems that are about nine years old.

**Q:** How is it possible to issue bonds without a tax increase?

**A:** Thanks to good financial management by the Board of Education, the La Monte R-IV School District is in a position to ask for bonds without raising taxes. This is a result of aggressively paying off existing debts and refinancing for better rates. We will continue to carefully monitor our debt and interest rates in order to save taxpayer dollars.

**Q:** When is the election?

**A:** Tuesday, April 3, 2018