



Pendergast District Override Renewal Passes with Healthy Margin of YES Votes!

District will use funds to benefit students and classrooms

November 4, 2015 (Phoenix, Arizona) – The Pendergast District community passed its Override Renewal Election on November 3, 2015 by a healthy margin of 55 percent yes votes. As this was a renewal election, taxes will remain the same and students and staff will benefit in the following ways:

- Maintain an average teacher-pupil ratio of approximately 27 students to 1 teacher, including current teaching positions supported by the existing override. The override will also enable the District to add new teaching positions as enrollment increases.
- Maintain a critical focus on student learning during their early years by providing free full day kindergarten at all sites and/or the staff resources to support teachers in the areas of reading (phonics) and math instruction.
- Enhance student learning opportunities and enrichment activities for all District children. The current override provides programs in music, art and physical education.
- Support programs in counseling, health and wellness and library services.

According to Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux, Pendergast District Superintendent, “We are thrilled with the election results and thank our community for its full support. We see this as a vote of confidence for the work our staff is doing both in and out of the classrooms. The bottom line is that students will benefit from the services offered we will be able to maintain and to increase making their educational experience the very best. We know that so many people believe in Pendergast and our voters have shown us that they value the wonderful education we are providing daily for our students and families.”

Governing Board President Susan Serin echoes Dr. DeBlieux’ sentiments and shares on behalf of the Board, “The passage of the Bond will enable the Governing Board and the District to implement the necessary support systems to make Pendergast the premier district in the West Valley. With the significant cuts to educational funding in the past five years, districts such as Pendergast have had to rely on voter support to provide excellence in educational experiences. We are grateful to our voters for their continuous support and confidence.”

Brian Mee, Chief Financial Officer for PESD states, “The District is committed to responsible stewardship of the Override funds and is fully accountable on how these voter approved funds are spent. Arizona law requires the District to comply with what was listed in the Voter Pamphlet or be in violation of Arizona state law. We will continue to update the community on the positive impact of the Override and we invite everyone to connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and through our [Website](#) as well as to attend our numerous community events to see firsthand how outstanding our education is in the Pendergast District.”