What is a Bond? Bonds are loans made to the school district used to purchase capital items and make capital improvements to existing facilities, such as building or renovating a school or purchasing school buses. Bond funding is the only mechanism to begin to restore, repair & refurbish existing facilities.

Why is Pendergast Elementary School District calling upon local voters for a bond election? The State School Facilities Board has not provided funding for building maintenance and repair to maintain facilities up-to-standard. As a result, there has been a loss of more than $15 million over the past six years in capital revenue due to State budget reductions. The reality is, since the state budget has been significantly reduced in school districts, such as Pendergast, the district must go to the voters to ask for their support.

A $59.9 million Bond passed in 2016. Why is there need for additional money? As stewards of our taxpayer’s money, Pendergast District has ensured transparency and accountability for these funds and their expenditure. Many of the district buildings are aging and must be upgraded for health and safety standards to be met, as well as to ensure high quality teaching and learning environments. Additional information on the 2016 Bond fund expenditures can be found at this link. Although the district has been able to conduct a significant amount of work utilizing the 2016 funds, significant needs are present.

What will the Bond do for Pendergast District students? The Governing Board of Pendergast Elementary School District #92 has called this special bond election to address three areas:

1. The District has identified essential new construction projects to accommodate potential growth in student enrollment and construction projects including new classroom additions and renovations.

2. The 2021 Bond program will continue to provide improvements to the learning environment for students, staff and families at every school district site. The Bond will address three primary areas to help the district create a user-friendly technology system that provides:
   - Maintaining the 1 to 1 computer initiative for students in grades Kindergarten - 8th grade
   - Increasing wireless capabilities throughout the district
   - Improvements, replacements and upgrades in the districts technology infrastructure, including security, network capability, wireless applications, school and student computer access

3. The District is recommending that bond funds be used for safety upgrades, maintenance, replacements, and refurbishing of schools and district facilities such as:
   - Replacement of aging playground structures
   - Energy efficient interior and exterior lighting
   - Upgrading of fire alarms and security system cameras
   - Roof replacement
   - Replace worn tile and carpets
   - Improving school grounds
   - Renovations and improvements of district facilities
   - Replacement of outdated furniture and equipment
4. District is recommending that Bond funds be used for the replacement of aging buses and vehicle fleet.

**What amount is the Pendergast Elementary School District asking for the upcoming Bond election?**
The total Bond amount is for $53.5 million.

**How much will the bond cost the average taxpayer?** There would be no tax increase as a result of the successful passage of the Bond election. The cost is $2.15 per $100 of assessed valuation.

**How do I know the money will be spent as indicated?** The Pendergast District is committed to responsible stewardship of Bond funds. Arizona law requires the district to clearly identify how the Bonds will be spent in the voter information pamphlet. Additionally, school districts must hold public hearings annually to inform the public on the progress of how the Bond proceeds are spent. Communication on the Bond fund usage will be shared with stakeholders on a consistent basis on the PESD website located at [www.pesd92.org](http://www.pesd92.org) and though other channels. The school district will also have a Bond oversight committee consisting of various stakeholders interested in serving.

**When will the Bond be on the ballot?** The Bond election will be on the Tuesday, November 2, 2021 by mail-in ballot only. Early voting for this measure will start Thursday, October 6, 2021. Last day for voter registration is Monday, October 4, 2021. The last day to register to vote is Monday, October 4, 2021.