

**RETAIN.
REBUILD.
RESTORE.**

Working Together to Create Change

CHRISTINA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Capital and
Operating
Referendum**



TOWN HALL MAY 28

CAPITAL & OPERATING REFERENDUM **JUNE 9, 2020**



Residents of the Christina School District will be asked to vote “FOR” four proposals to help our district Retain, Rebuild and Restore programs, services, athletics, facilities and staff positions.



HOW WILL STUDENTS BENEFIT?



Continue ongoing programs (such as instructional supplies, materials and technology)



School safety and security initiatives, and new learning environments



Recruitment and retention of teachers and support staff



Keep up with rising operating costs such as funding for students, salaries, transportation and energy



NATIONALLY-AWARDED SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Christina is consistently awarded high performing schools of excellence, including cutting edge programs and focused pathways.

- Newark High School named 2020 Best High School by U.S. News & World Report
- National High Performing Blue Ribbon School (1 of 3 in the state)
- Top-Performing Middle School Honors Academy Continues to Grow
- Five DDOE Recognition Schools of Excellence (more than any other school district)
- Two National ESEA Distinguished Schools
- Three Delaware PBS Recognition Schools



WHY NOW?

State funding has not kept pace with inflation during the past decade.

More local funding is needed to maintain smaller class sizes to improve student performance.

Funding for students and educators makes a significant difference in educational outcomes, including test scores and graduation rates.

12 DAYS

The referendum has to be approved in June to allow the tax rate to be set and provided to New Castle County by the second Thursday in July to be collected for the 2020-21 school year.



WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT

Voters in Christina School District will be asked four questions regarding funding for our schools.

- Operating: Parts I and II
- Capital: Parts III and IV

Voting “FOR” all of the questions will allow students to continue to thrive while receiving a high-quality education.



CAPITAL REFERENDUM

Updating and replacing major building systems and addressing critical maintenance and facilities challenges in Christina schools.

Includes a major investment in our Early Education Center.

Last capital referendum was 2007.



CONCENTRATING FUNDING WHERE IT'S NEEDED MOST

\$10,080,500*

- Cost to taxpayers 1.2¢ (.6 + .6)
- Applies to Parts III & IV – Capital Funding

Christina Early Education Center

Mechanical and Electrical
Systems

Christiana High School

Science Lab Renovations

Downes Elementary School

Expansion of the facility for the
Chinese Immersion Program

Leasure Elementary School

New Heating, Ventilation &
Air Conditioning System

Marshall Elementary School

New Heating, Ventilation &
Air Conditioning System

Newark High School

Auditorium Renovation



MAXIMIZING EVERY DOLLAR TO OFFER EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

- We have reduced the number of administrators over the last 15 years.
- CSD has the lowest administrator to student ratio of any of the 5 traditional districts in New Castle County.
- Christina has the lowest student to teacher ratio in the state.





SUCCESSFUL REFERENDUM

RETAIN. REBUILD. RESTORE.

- Academic Programs
- Athletics
- Music and Arts
- Advanced Academic
- Teaching positions



PROVIDING FOR EVERY STUDENT

All CSD schools are needed to ensure students and teachers have everything they need to be successful.

Closing a school will increase class sizes.




HELP US CONTINUE TO BUILD STRONGER MINDS

For the average home in our school district, taxpayers are being asked to invest less than a dollar a day to be phased in over three years (29¢, 5¢, 5¢)*. The average assessed property value in our district is less than \$65K.

It allows our district to maintain programs, and keep the district from having to reduce supports for classrooms and increase class size.

**Applied to Part 1 – Operating Funding*



Less than a
dollar a day to
be phased in
over three
years.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Part I Operational: 29¢ (year 1)

Includes items such as instructional supplies and materials, discipline support programs, school safety, extracurricular activities and maintenance of facilities.

Part II Operational: 5¢

Includes curricular enhancements such as elementary English language arts.

Parts III and IV Capital: 1.2¢ (.6 +.6)

Includes required learning facility renovations and upgrades targeted for this referendum.

TAX CALCULATOR

For the average home in our district, the increase would be about \$18.81 per month or \$4.70 per week. The increase is phased in over 3 years.

- Average increase for approving Capital Referendum - \$0.65 per month.
- Average increase for approving Operating Referendum - \$18.16 per month

The most accurate way to determine the cost of the referendum in relation to your school taxes is to look up your property tax assessment on the New Castle County website www3.nccde.org/parcel/search/

Use our tax calculator at Christinak12.org/Vote.



Remember, your taxes are calculated on each \$100K of assessed value, which is different than your property value.

SAVE THE DATE



You can vote in the election if you:

- Live in the Christina School District
- Are at least 18-years old
- Are a USA and Delaware Citizen
- Show proof of identity and address (Driver's license or State I.D.)
- If you have some health concerns about going to the polls, including coronavirus, you can vote by absentee ballot.



**TUESDAY, JUNE 9
7AM – 8PM**



POLLING PLACES

- The Bancroft School
- The Bayard School
- Christiana High School
- Downes Elementary School
- Gallaher Elementary School
- Glasgow High School
- Keene Elementary School
- Leasure Elementary School
- Marshall Elementary School
- Newark High School
- Shue-Medill Middle School





- **Section 1:** FOR, or programs cannot be restored
- **Section 2:** FOR, or CSD cannot purchase a much needed Elementary English Language Arts curriculum
- **Section 3:** FOR, or CSD cannot replace old HVAC, mechanical, and electrical equipment at 3 schools
- **Section 4:** FOR, or CSD cannot implement the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Science, Medical Technology, and Performing Arts programs and expansion of Chinese Immersion program

OFFICIAL BALLOT - CHRISTINA SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERENDUM - JUNE 9, 2020

INSTRUCTIONS: There are four (4) questions on this ballot. Press one (1) box for your choice for each question.

T
Text Size

C
Contrast

?
Help

SECTION 1 - AUTHORITY TO LEVY ADDITIONAL TAX TO FUND CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES Vote for One (1)	SECTION 2 - AUTHORITY TO LEVY ADDITIONAL TAX TO FUND CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES Vote for One (1)	SECTION 3 - AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE BONDS Vote for One (1)	SECTION 4 - AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE BONDS Vote for One (1)
<p>This item asks for your approval for the Christina School District to raise local school taxes for current operating expenses, and operating funds following students to Charter and Choice Schools, by an additional 29 cents per \$100 assessed value (to raise an additional \$16,131,091) effective July 1, 2020; an increase of 5 cents per \$100 of assessed value (to raise an additional \$2,781,223) effective July 1, 2021; an increase of 5 cents per \$100 of assessed value (to raise an additional \$2,781,223) effective July 1, 2022 and thereafter.</p> <p>For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$64,100 (Christina School District average assessment), the increased current expense cost to the homeowner will be \$185.89 per year, effective July 1, 2020, plus an increase of \$32.05 effective July 1, 2021, plus an increase of \$32.05 effective July 1, 2022.</p> <p>This increase is to provide funding for programs such as, but not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore budget reductions and reduce class sizes • Continue ongoing programs (textbooks, instructional supplies and materials, discipline support programs, maintenance of facilities) • Upgrade and maintain technology • Upgrade and maintain extracurricular activities • Recruit and retain highly qualified staff • Necessary operating expenses (energy costs, general inflation, contracted services). <p>Sustain operations affected by reductions in state funding.</p>	<p>Section 1 must be approved by the majority of votes in order for Section 2 to be approvable.</p> <p>This item asks for your approval for the Christina School District to raise local school taxes for current operating expenses by an additional 5 cents per \$100 of assessed value (to raise an additional \$2,781,223) effective July 1, 2020 and thereafter.</p> <p>For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$64, 100 (Christina School District average assessment), the increased current expense cost to the homeowner will be \$32.05 effective July 1, 2020 and thereafter.</p> <p>This increase is to provide funding for the Elementary English Language Arts curriculum.</p>	<p>This item asks for your approval for the Christina School District to issue bonds in the amount of \$4,548,600 to be used for planning, constructing, and equipping the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renovations to Mechanical and Electrical systems at Christina Early Education Center - Renovations to HVAC system at Marshall Elementary School - Renovations to HVAC system at Leasure Elementary School. <p>The bonds represent \$4,548,600 or 40% (Christina School District Share) of the total Cost of \$11,371,300 for the three projects listed above.</p> <p>For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$64,100 (Christina School District average assessment) the increased debt service cost to the homeowner is estimated to be \$3.54 per year.</p>	<p>In the event the majority of votes cast in Section 3 is for a bond issue, which bond would you prefer? Section 3 must be approved by the majority of votes in order for Section 4 to be approvable.</p> <p>To address needed capital improvements, the Christina School District is seeking authority to issue bonds in the amount of \$5,531,900 to be used for planning, constructing, and equipping the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Renovate Science Labs, Health Science & Agri-Science Classrooms at Christiana High School. Project cost is \$2,249,000. -Construction of four new classrooms for the Chinese Immersion Program at Downes Elementary School. Project cost is \$2,239,000. - Renovate the Auditorium as part of the School of the Arts at Newark High School. Project cost is \$1,043,900. <p>The three items above represent 100% of the total cost of the projects, which is \$5,531,900.</p> <p>For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$64,100 (Christina School District average assessment) the increased debt service cost to the homeowner for capital improvements in Section 4 is estimated at \$4.30 per year. The increased debt service cost to the homeowner for both Section 3 (Renovation) and Section 4 (Capital Improvements) is estimated to be \$7.84 per year.</p>
FOR additional tax to fund current operating expenses.	FOR additional tax to fund current operating expenses.	FOR a bond issue at this time.	FOR the bond issue in the amount of \$5,531,900 as recommended by the School Board.
AGAINST additional tax to fund current operating expenses.	AGAINST additional tax to fund current operating expenses.	AGAINST a bond issue at this time.	FOR the bond issue in the amount of \$0 as determined from the standard formula by the Department of Education.

YES!

**YOU CAN
VOTE
ABSENTEE!**



ivote.de.gov

OPTIONS & DEADLINES

- **Easiest Way:** Complete your request for an absentee ballot online.
- Download the affidavit from our website and send it back by email, fax or mail.
- Return the voted ballot to the Dept. of Elections before 8 p.m. on **June 9**.
- You can vote at the Dept. of Elections before 12 Noon the day before June 9.

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT - CHRISTINA SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERENDUM - JUNE 9, 2020

SECTION 1 - AUTHORITY TO LEVY ADDITIONAL TAX TO FUND CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES Vote for One (1)	SECTION 2 - AUTHORITY TO LEVY ADDITIONAL TAX TO FUND CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES Vote for One (1)	SECTION 3 - AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE BONDS Vote for One (1)	SECTION 4 - AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE BONDS Vote for One (1)
<p>21 This item asks for your approval for the Christina School District to raise local school taxes for current operating expenses, and operating funds following students to Charter and Choice Schools, by an additional 29 cents per \$100 assessed value (to raise an additional \$16,131,091) effective July 1, 2020; an increase of 5 cents per \$100 or assessed value (to raise an additional \$2,781,223) effective July 1, 2021; an increase of 5 cents per \$100 of assessed value (to raise an additional \$2,781,223) effective July 1, 2022 and thereafter.</p> <p>40 For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$64,100 (Christina School District average assessment), the increased current expense cost to the homeowner will be \$185.89 per year, effective July 1, 2020, plus an increase of \$32.05 effective July 1, 2021, plus an increase of \$32.05 effective July 1, 2022.</p> <p>41 This increase is to provide funding for programs such as, but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore budget reductions and reduce class sizes • Continue ongoing programs (textbooks, instructional supplies and materials, discipline support programs, maintenance of facilities) • Upgrade and maintain technology • Upgrade and maintain extracurricular activities • Recruit and retain highly qualified staff • Necessary operating expenses (energy costs, general inflation, contracted services). <p>Sustain operations affected by reductions in state funding.</p>	<p>Section 1 must be approved by the majority of votes in order for Section 2 to be approvable.</p> <p>This item asks for your approval for the Christina School District to raise local school taxes for current operating expenses by an additional 5 cents per \$100 of assessed value (to raise an additional \$2,781,223) effective July 1, 2020 and thereafter.</p> <p>For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$64,100 (Christina School District average assessment), the increased current expense cost to the homeowner will be \$32.05 effective July 1, 2020 and thereafter.</p> <p>This increase is to provide funding for the Elementary English Language Arts curriculum.</p>	<p>This item asks for your approval for the Christina School District to issue bonds in the amount of \$4,548,600 to be used for planning, constructing, and equipping the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renovations to Mechanical and Electrical systems at Christina Early Education Center - Renovations to HVAC system at Marshall Elementary School - Renovations to HVAC system at Leisure Elementary School. <p>The bonds represent \$4,548,600 or 40% (Christina School District Share) of the total Cost of \$11,371,300 for the three projects listed above.</p> <p>For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$64,100 (Christina School District average assessment) the increased debt service cost to the homeowner is estimated to be \$3.54 per year.</p>	<p>In the event the majority of votes cast in Section 3 is for a bond issue, which bond would you prefer? Section 3 must be approved by the majority of votes in order for Section 4 to be approvable.</p> <p>To address needed capital improvements, the Christina School District is seeking authority to issue bonds in the amount of \$5,531,900 to be used for planning, constructing, and equipping the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Renovate Science Labs, Health Science & Agri-Science Classrooms at Christina High School. Project cost is \$2,249,000. -Construction of four new classrooms for the Chinese Immersion Program at Downes Elementary School. Project cost is \$2,239,000. - Renovate the Auditorium as part of the School of the Arts at Newark High School. Project cost is \$1,043,900. <p>The three items above represent 100% of the total cost of the projects, which is \$5,531,900.</p> <p>For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$64,100 (Christina School District average assessment) the increased debt service cost to the homeowner for capital improvements in Section 4 is estimated at \$4.30 per year. The increased debt service cost to the homeowner for both Section 3 (Renovation) and Section 4 (Capital Improvements) is estimated to be \$7.84 per year.</p>
<p>FOR additional tax to fund current operating expenses. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>FOR additional tax to fund current operating expenses. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>FOR a bond issue at this time. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>FOR the bond issue in the amount of \$5,531,900 as recommended by the School Board. <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>AGAINST additional tax to fund current operating expenses. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>AGAINST additional tax to fund current operating expenses. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>AGAINST a bond issue at this time. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>FOR the bond issue in the amount of \$0 as determined from the standard formula by the Department of Education. <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>FOR additional tax to fund current operating expenses. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>FOR additional tax to fund current operating expenses. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>FOR a bond issue at this time. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>FOR the bond issue in the amount of \$5,531,900 as recommended by the School Board. <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>AGAINST additional tax to fund current operating expenses. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>AGAINST additional tax to fund current operating expenses. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>AGAINST a bond issue at this time. <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>FOR the bond issue in the amount of \$0 as determined from the standard formula by the Department of Education. <input type="radio"/></p>

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

1

Inform your network about the Referendum and ask them to vote.

2

Make sure the community has the right information.

3

Make sure people know we're asking **BOTH PARENTS** to vote.

CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?



TOWN HALL

Additional questions not covered in the presentation.

1. Can Christina cut transportation costs instead of programs?
2. How can we find out more about Christina's budget and expenses?
3. Considering the pandemic, how will Christina handle less students in classrooms?
4. What is the deciding vote, is it 50.1%?
5. When are changes effective once referendum passes?
6. Will you publish all questions submitted to this event regardless if you intend to answer them in order to role model transparency and respect for all submissions received?



Responses provided with all questions received for the Town Hall Meeting. Questions will be posted on Monday.

LEARN MORE

Visit our referendum website for FAQs, and for a look at all of our recent success in Christina schools, polling places, voter information, and much more!



www.Christinak12.org/Vote

THANK YOU!

SEE YOU AT THE POLLS

