

**RETAIN.
REBUILD.
RESTORE.**

Working Together to Create Change

CHRISTINA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Capital and
Operating
Referendum**





CAPITAL & OPERATING REFERENDUM JUNE 9, 2020

This is a very important date for all children in our community, whether they attend a Christina school, a charter school or a school in another district.



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



WHAT SETS CHRISTINA APART

- 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)
- Three National PTA Schools of Excellence
- Top-Performing Middle School Honors Academy Continues to Grow
- Cutting-Edge High Schools with Focused Pathways and Enhanced Programs
- Students Competing Nationally for Scholastic Art Awards
- Five DDOE Recognition Schools of Excellence (more than any other school district)
- First-ever DIAA/Special Olympics Unified Basketball State Champions
- Two National ESEA Distinguished Schools
- National Digital Principal of the Year
- Three Delaware PBS Recognition Schools
- 50% of Christina's Teachers have Master's Degrees

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL FUNDING

The portion of school taxes that is used for the daily operations of a school district, including funds that follow students to charter schools, cannot be increased in Delaware without a successful referendum.





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





OPERATING REFERENDUM

Funds day-to-day operations including funding for students, instructional supplies and high-quality educators.

Christina has the lowest student to teacher ratio in the state.


Christina has the highest number of students to administrators.

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.



FISCAL MANAGEMENT

In 2016, after two unsuccessful referendums, we asked for support that would provide funding for 2 years. We have been able to stretch the funding to last 4 years.

Christina School District has reduced spending by more than \$5M over the last 3 years.



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.

REFERENDUM DATES

NEW CASTLE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

	Appoquinimink	Brandywine	Christina	Colonial	Red Clay
2019	December 17 - pass		April 30 - fail		
2018					
2017				June 6 - pass February 28 - fail	
2016	December 20 - pass	May 17 - pass March 23 - fail	March 23 - pass		
2015			May 27 - fail February 24 - fail		February 24 - pass
2014					
2013	May 9 - pass February 28 - fail			June 4 - pass February 28 - fail	
2012		March 28 - pass			February 28 - pass
2011				May 10 - fail	
2010			May 25 - pass		
2009	December 8 - pass				
2008					February 28 - pass
2007		June 4 - pass April 24 - fail	November 6 - pass		May 17 - fail
2006	December 12 - pass		January 26 - fail		
2005		May 24 - pass		September 27 - pass	
2004					February 26 - pass
2003	November 12 - pass		April 10 - pass		
2002		April 23 - pass	April 18 - pass		March 6 - pass
2001		May 31 - pass	April 3 - fail		April 10 - fail
2000	May 9 - pass				



WHAT WILL IT COST?

Part I: Operational	29¢/\$100 assessed value*
Part II: Operational	5¢/\$100 assessed value
Part III: Capital	0.6¢/\$100 assessed value (estimate)
Part IV: Capital	0.6¢/\$100 assessed value (estimate)
Total First Year	34¢/\$100 assessed value

**Proposed additional increase of 5¢ in each of the following two years*

This represents the cost if all funding is approved.



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



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 your absentee ballot affidavit by **May 27**. 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.

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?



Failure will result in budget cuts to student programs and staffing.

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

