ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-8 CITY AND COUNTY OF BROOMFIELD, COLORADO

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND TO INCREASE DEBT ON REFERRED MEASURES

Election date: November 6, 2012

Election hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local election office address and phone number:

Designated Election Official: Wendy Sarazen, 301 Reynolds Street, Fort Lupton, Colorado 80621; telephone number (303) 857-3200

Coordinated Election Official: Jim F. Candelarie, City and County of Broomfield Clerk and Recorder; One Descombes Drive, Broomfield, Colorado 80020; telephone number (303) 464-5857

Ballot title and text:

BALLOT ISSUE 3A: GENERAL FUND OVERRIDE EXTENSION

SHALL WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-8 (FORT LUPTON SCHOOLS) TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$1.4 MILLION ANNUALLY, THROUGH EXTENSION FOR AN ADDITIONAL SEVEN-YEAR PERIOD OF A 2006 ELECTOR AUTHORIZED TAX WHICH IS TO EXPIRE (WITH 2020 TO BE THE LAST COLLECTION YEAR FOR THE RENEWED SEVEN-YEAR TAX EXTENSION), TO BE DEPOSITED IN THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND FOR EDUCATION PURPOSES AND SUBJECT TO ANNUAL CITIZEN FINANCE COMMITTEE REVIEW AND MONITORING OF EXPENDITURES, TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO:

 ATTRACT, TRAIN AND RETAIN HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS, SUPPORT STAFF, AND EMPLOYEES IN ORDER TO BE COMPETITIVE WITH SURROUNDING SCHOOL DISTRICTS,

THROUGH A PROPERTY TAX TO BE LEVIED AT A RATE SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED ABOVE, WHICH TAXES SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO PROPERTY TAXES THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE LEVIED FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND SHALL CONSTITUTE A VOTERAPPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

BALLOT ISSUE 3B: FORT LUPTON SCHOOL FACILITY BONDS

SHALL WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-8 (FORT LUPTON SCHOOLS) DEBT BE INCREASED \$11,729,000, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$17,590,000, AND SHALL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY UP TO \$895,000 ANNUALLY, TO EXTEND THE USEFUL LIFE OF EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES AND REDUCE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE COSTS BY FINANCING THE COSTS OF:

- REPAIRING AND RENOVATING FORT LUPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL, \$5.5 MILLION OF THE COSTS OF WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO BE PAID FROM A CASH GRANT AWARD UNDER THE STATE OF COLORADO BUILDING EXCELLENT SCHOOLS TODAY (BEST) ACT, WHICH REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS INCLUDE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, FIRE SAFETY UPGRADES, SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM UPGRADES, WINDOW REPLACEMENT, FLOORING REPLACEMENT, HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT, RESTROOM UPGRADES AND AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) IMPROVEMENTS;

- REPAIRING AND RENOVATING BUTLER ELEMENTARY AND TWOMBLY ELEMENTARY, WHICH REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS INCLUDE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ROOF REPLACEMENT, HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEM UPGRADES, FLOORING REPLACEMENT, AND SCHOOL GROUNDS AND PARKING LOT REPAIRS;
- REPAIRING AND RENOVATING THE HIGH SCHOOL, WHICH REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS INCLUDE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEM UPGRADES, ROOF REPLACEMENT, FLOORING REPLACEMENT, SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM UPGRADES, AND ATHLETIC FACILITY UPGRADES INCLUDING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, FOOTBALL FIELD RENOVATION, TRACK AND TENNIS COURT RESURFACING AND GYM BLEACHER REPLACEMENTS;

AND TO THE EXTENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE AFTER PROVIDING FOR THE ABOVE COSTS, TO PAY OTHER COSTS OF IMPROVING AND EQUIPPING SCHOOL FACILITIES, BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, WHICH DEBT SHALL BEAR INTEREST, MATURE, BE SUBJECT TO REDEMPTION, WITH OR WITHOUT PREMIUM, AND BE ISSUED, DATED AND SOLD AT SUCH TIME OR TIMES, AT SUCH PRICES (AT, ABOVE OR BELOW PAR) AND IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT HEREWITH, AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY DETERMINE; AND SHALL AND SHALL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE LEVIED WITHOUT LIMIT AS TO THE MILL RATE TO PRODUCE AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT IN EACH YEAR TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT AND TO FUND ANY RESERVES FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF?

Fiscal Year Spending¹

\$895,000

\$17.590.000

Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

Year

Maximum annual repayment cost:

Maximum total repayment cost:

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2008-2009 (actual) 2009-2010 (actual) 2010-2011 (actual) 2011-2012 (actual) 2012-2013 (current year estimated)	\$22,874,757 21,995,204 20,436,330 22,389,926 26,127,710	
Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2008-2009 through 2012-2013:		14.22%
Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2008-2009 through 2012-2013:		\$3,252,953
Estimated 2012-2013 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3A or 3B:		\$26,127,710
Estimated 2012-2013 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3A:		\$1,400,000
Estimated 2012-2013 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3B:		\$895,000
Information regarding bonded debt proposed by	Ballot Issue 3B:	
Principal amount:		\$11,729,000

¹ Fiscal year spending includes amounts expended by the District for bonded debt service.

Information regarding current bonded debt:

Principal balance: \$7,740,000
Maximum annual repayment cost: \$995,265
Maximum remaining total repayment cost: \$9,361,883

Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3A:

Issue 3A is a continuation of a mill levy override passed by our voters in 2006, with the funds raised dedicated to recruiting, training and retaining high-performing teachers. The Board of Education is asking voters to extend this tax for an additional seven years, to maintain this dedicated fund for teacher quality.

A YES vote on 3A will not increase taxes on homeowners or businesses. In fact, given the increased assessed value in the district, primarily from oil and gas growth in the area, the individual tax cost will go down.

On Colorado Standardized Tests (CSAP/TCAP), Weld Re-8 has seen higher achievement in reading and writing. Improvement in mathematics has been most noteworthy: the number of students scoring Proficient or Advanced in CSAP/TCAP increased 18% from 2006 to 2011.

Few people, if any, question the direct impact of teachers on student achievement. To continue to improve, the district must be able to attract and retain high-performing teachers with advanced instructional skills and provide research-based in-service for the district's continuing teachers. High turnover of teachers impacts student learning and disrupts educational continuity. Student success and graduation rates are improved when we can recruit the best performing teachers and retain them. Prior to 2006, the district could not compete with the salaries and benefits offered by surrounding school districts. Since the 2006 passage of the original Mil Levy Override, the district has:

- become more competitive in teacher hires;
- improved teacher retention;
- provided meaningful training to new and continuing teachers; and
- increased student achievement.

3A is not an issue only for those parents who have students in school; rather, it is a community wide concern. Its passage will benefit all sectors of the community. Over the course of the last 5 years, our community has seen growth in oil and gas production, alternative energy, agriculture, technology and health services. All aspects of our economy will prosper with better educated graduates who seek higher education or employment.

3A is a future strategy - not just for the benefit of the students, the teachers, or the district, but rather the entire community's economic and social future.

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 3A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3B:

A YES vote on 3B is about improving the learning environment in Weld Re-8 Schools and preserving the historical value and culture of Fort Lupton Middle School. Funds generated through issue 3B will allow the district to complete a major renovation at the Middle School, modernization of heating/cooling systems, replace leaking roofs, upgrade athletic facilities, and improve the safety and security of our buildings.

Weld County School District Re-8 has secured a State of Colorado Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant in the amount of \$5.5 million for infrastructure repairs and safety upgrades at Fort Lupton Middle School. The grant must be matched at the local level in the amount of \$5.1 million. Issue 3B provides this required match and additional dollars for improvements not covered by the grant for the Middle School, Twombly Elementary, Butler Elementary and Fort Lupton High School. The cost? Only \$14.65 a year for a \$100,000 home – that's less than \$1.22 a month, a nickel a day!

The projected activities supported by the BEST grant and issue 3B will address:

- building security and student safety;
- modernization and updating both infrastructure (heating, cooling, roofs, fire alarms/sprinklers, drainage) and learning environments (classrooms);
- improvements to athletic grounds and playgrounds so that we can once again host events and have safe facilities for public use:
- preservation of the historical and cultural importance of Fort Lupton Middle School; and
- completion of deferred maintenance projects which have been delayed during the last few years of budget cuts.

Your YES vote on 3B will provide a benefit that can't be measured in simple statistics. The Middle School, built in 1932 and having been through several renovations, has significant historical and social significance for the Fort Lupton community. It looks great on the outside but is hurting on the inside! Issue 3B will preserve the historical value of the middle school while making the necessary physical improvements to assure the safety of our students in a great learning environment. It's Best for Us!

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 3B:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.