

February Bond Election

Submitted by Barbara Petersen, Valle Vista ES
Discussion Item –December 1, 2009
Action Item –January 5, 2010

Whereas, voters will be asked on February 2, 2010 to approve a \$617 million mill levy and bond package for much-needed school construction projects—with no tax increase involved; and,

Whereas, APS has built 11 schools over the past four years; and,

Whereas, now that overcrowding is no longer the issue it once was, passing this bond will allow APS to focus on upgrading some of the older school buildings since the average age of an APS school building is 42.5 years; and,

Whereas, teacher working environments and student learning environments are one in the same and, as such, optimal teaching and learning conditions depend on appropriate, well-maintained facilities; and,

Whereas, the proposed additions and improvements to schools will benefit APS students and educators now and into the future; and,

Whereas, updating older schools is an important green initiative that will save energy; and,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Albuquerque Teachers Federation (ATF) recommends approval of the February 2, 2010 mill levy and bond package; and

Be it further resolved, that ATF encourages all APS employees, their family members and friends and all registered voters to vote “YES” on February 2, 2010.

Be it further resolved, that ATF supports amending the current statute to support funding of charter schools facilities through the capital master plan, rather than funding by member.

Mill Levy Question:

"Shall the Albuquerque Public School District continue to impose a property tax of \$3.874 for residential property and \$4.344 for non-residential property per each \$1,000.00 of net taxable value of property allocated to the Albuquerque Public School District for the property tax years 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 for the purpose of (1) erecting, remodeling, making additions to, providing equipment for or furnishing public school buildings; (2) payments made pursuant to a financing agreement for the leasing of a building or other real property with an option to purchase for a price that is reduced according to payments made; (3) purchasing or improving public school grounds; (4) administering the projects undertaken pursuant to sections 1 and 3 above, including expenditures for facility maintenance software, project management software, project oversight and district personnel specifically related to administration of projects funded by the Public School Buildings Act provided that expenditures pursuant to this section shall not exceed five percent of the total project cost?"

Section 3. There shall be submitted to all qualified registered electors of the District at the special school district election to be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2010, the following question:

General Obligation Bond Question:

"Shall the Albuquerque Public School District issue \$225,000,000 of general obligation bonds to erect, remodel, make additions to and furnish school buildings within the district, to purchase or improve school grounds, to purchase computer software and hardware for student use in public schools, and to provide matching funds for capital outlay projects funded pursuant to the Public School Capital Outlay Act?"