

Ballot Issue 5C

FACTUAL SUMMARY

What is Ballot Issue 5C (Mill Levy Override)?



Generates \$27 million
(\$689 additional per student, each year)

for ongoing needs such as continued investment in high-quality teachers and staff, instructional programs and classroom resources



Voter-approved

property tax increase



All funds stay local

in Adams 12 Five Star Schools



Last override passed in 2008,

before the recession and funding cuts from the state

What is the tax impact of Ballot Issue 5C?



\$6.48/month

per \$100,000
in home value



\$24.87/month

for the average home value (\$383,533) in the Five Star District

How would schools use the additional revenue?

New funds from Ballot Issue 5C would be used to invest in the community's priorities as outlined in the district's new strategic plan - ELEVATE. Key investments include:

- Attract and retain high-quality teachers and staff by allowing the district to offer competitive, market-value wages
- Improve safety by securing school buildings, entryways and classrooms
- Expand vocational, job-training, and career-focused programs
- Allow the district to reduce class sizes and manage growth
- Expand course offerings in specialized programs like science, technology, engineering, and math, as well as Advanced Placement and other courses
- Update textbooks and learning materials that are outdated or don't meet current academic standards

Is there an accountability measure built into Ballot Issue 5C?

Yes. The ballot language states that all funds from Ballot Issue 5C are "... subject to state laws, regulations and district policies for accountability and transparency."

Didn't we pass something in 2016?

YES! The 2016 Bond Program

What's the difference between a bond and an override?



Bonds = Buildings

Bonds can only be used for capital needs such as building repairs or new schools. Bonds are not included in the district general fund and cannot be used for operating costs such as salaries and benefits.



Overrides = Operations

Overrides cover operating expenses such as recruiting and retaining excellent teachers and investing in educational programming. Our last override was in 2008.

Arguments FOR Ballot Issue 5C

The mill levy override is a sound investment in a prepared workforce, safe and healthy communities and a vibrant economy. Adams 12 Five Star Schools has seen tremendous success over the past several years - the highest graduation rate since 2010, accredited as a Performance District and home to two Colorado Distinguished Principals of the Year.

This investment plan comes from the community. Over 7,000 people participated in developing the district's new strategic plan and the investments needed to elevate student success to an even higher level.

This measure will allow the district to address outdated instructional materials that do not support new standards and are lacking online interactive components; reduce class size averages that have grown up to 8 students in some high school subjects; and stay competitive in hiring high-quality teachers by increasing new teacher salaries which are currently in the bottom third compared to districts in the greater Denver area.

Arguments AGAINST Ballot Issue 5C

The state has defunded education in the Five Star District and rather than put the burden on local communities to fund their schools, the state should pay its fair share.

A property tax increase hurts those with a higher-valued home the most since property taxes are based on the value of a home.

Colorado's booming economy has the value of homes going up and that means homeowners are paying more in property taxes. Any further increase in the tax rate means they'll pay even more.