

Registration Information

How to update your address:

- Online at votewa.gov
- In-Person at the Jefferson County Auditor's Office, 1820 Jefferson Street, Rm. 170., Port Townsend, WA 98368
- Complete a Washington State Voter Registration form and return in the mail. Registration forms are available on our website. You may also contact us to have a form mailed to you, if time allows.

Registration Deadlines:

- April 18, 2022 (8 days prior to Election) Deadline to register or update your registration online or by mail.
- April 19- 26, 2022 Visit our office in-person to register to vote or update your registration.

How to Obtain a Ballot

In-Person Voting Center for Election Services April 6 – April 26, 2022

- The Auditor's Office is here to help you! Please call or email us before you visit in-person. If possible, we may save you a trip!
- Services available:
 - o Register to vote
 - o Update an existing registration
 - o Replacement Ballot
 - o Accessible Voting Unit

Returning Your Ballot

Mail: Ballots must be postmarked by Election Day.

Return envelope is postage paid. **No stamp required.**

Deposit (Ballot Drop Box): Drop boxes are open 24 hours a day. For availability and locations please visit: co.jefferson.wa.us/Elections

Replacement Ballots

- If you lost or damaged your ballot, replacement ballots are available.
- To get a replacement ballot:
 - o By email: elections@co.jefferson.wa.us
 - o Online: VoteWA.gov
 - o By phone: (360)385-9119
 - o In-Person: Jefferson County Auditor's Office, 1820 Jefferson Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Official Local Voters' Pamphlet JEFFERSON COUNTY



Special Election, April 26, 2022

Quilcene School District No. 48

Proposition No. 1 – Bonds to Construct School Facilities and Improve Athletic Facilities and Fields

Published by the Jefferson County Auditor's Office
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Introduction to Local Measure

For the measure in the Local Voters' Pamphlet the legislative authority of that jurisdiction is required to formally appoint committees to prepare statements advocating the approval and rejection of the measure. If the jurisdiction is unable to make such appointments, the Jefferson County

Auditor advertises for such appointments. The Auditor's Office encourages you to review all statements and seek additional information from the jurisdictions, the appointed citizens' committees and local media.

Quilcene School District No. 48

Proposition No. 1 Bonds to Construct School Facilities and Improve Athletic Facilities and Fields

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Quilcene School District No. 48 adopted Resolution No. 4: 2021-2022, concerning a proposition to improve educational opportunities and outdated school facilities. This proposition would authorize the District to: construct a new grade school building to replace the existing Quilcene Grade School building; construct a new Career and Technical Education Building; make athletic facilities and field improvements; issue no more than \$12,300,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 25 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, all as provided in Resolution No. 4: 2021-2022. Should this proposition be:

Approved
Rejected

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would authorize Quilcene School District to issue no more than \$12,300,000 of bonds to construct a new grade school building to replace the existing Quilcene Grade School building, construct a new Career and Technical Education Building, and make athletic facilities and field improvements. The School Board determined that these projects were necessary to improve educational opportunities and address aging and educationally outdated school facilities. Further information is available at <https://www.qsd48.org/>.

The bonds will be repaid from annual excess property taxes over a period of approximately 25 years. The District estimates a tax rate for the bonds of \$1.76 per \$1,000 of assessed value, or \$44 per month for a \$297,000 home. This anticipated tax rate is expected to be at or below what taxpayers have paid since 2021 because the District's capital projects levy will expire after 2022. Consequently, the District anticipates no additional tax rate increase with passage of this new bond proposition. Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the Jefferson County Assessor at (360)427-9670, Ext: 491.

Statement For

Yes! QSD48 Bond Campaign Statement for Approval of Resolution

Vote Yes! to replace an unsafe, inefficient elementary school building, create a shop/career and technical education space, and repair sport fields at Quilcene School, *all without an increase in your current local school tax bill.*

Why? Our brick elementary school has been rated structurally unsafe, and requires a seismic upgrade. It costs a lot to heat and keep the boiler going. The classrooms can't support standard technology with the outdated electrical wiring. Currently vocational classes are crammed into the old bus barn. The sports fields need thorough upgrades to keep them playable. Reconfiguration will keep us league compliant, allowing for simultaneous team use.

Options? The school board carefully considered many options to offer a plan designed to contain costs while providing essential upgrades *without an increase in your current local school tax bill.* They researched grant opportunities: the elementary building is not eligible for state funding or grants because it would cost more to fix than to build new. Architectural plans are site specific and cannot be "borrowed." Recycling elementary school materials will help save on constructing an expanded shop space, providing adequate room for more classes and community use.

Why now? Borrowing rates are still low but bond rates are rising. All material costs are going ever higher. Earthquakes are a constant risk. The need for all improvements will not go away and each special election costs the district. *Together, we can do this! Vote Yes!*

Statement For prepared by:

Kathleen Kler, YES.QSD48.Bond@gmail.com, 360.765.0935

Rebuttal of Statement For

Pro statement overlooks solutions addressing inadequate educational performance, rather a sentimental, emotional plea for \$12.3 million. Earthquakes can be catastrophic for every structure. Taxes may not increase; they will be stretched for 20 years. All buildings and homes in Quilcene could use a seismic upgrade, cost \$ to heat, need \$ to keep heater serviced, have dated electrical wiring, and may be unsafe and inefficient. Solutions not emotions, tell the School Board, yet again. No

Statement Disclaimer:

Statements For and Against are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for factual or grammatical accuracy by the Auditor's Office.

Statement Against

Upon rejection of Proposition 1, Quilcene school board immediately filed for a special election without assessing why Quilcene electorate rejected it. Obviously, no respect for community vote.

Quantitative data provided by Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction ranks Quilcene schools (K-12) 805 out of 1107. This is a 200-point improvement with on-line learning during *Covid*. In 2020-2021, the average standardized test scores for English-Language-Arts, Mathematics, and Science were 33.3, 15.4, 42.4, respectively, out of 100. These scores are the lowest for all Olympic peninsula school districts. Ask yourself, how does a new weight room, an improved athletic field, and a new "tech" center improve core academic performance? It does not

Property taxes are due the same time we vote, again. The *School District #48 Cap Project* levy expires this 2022 tax cycle. The school board wants to replace the levy with a 20-year bond. The school board has been ambivalent, at best, on the actual project cost and/or details; language in their proposal enables discretionary spending and they have not determined what type of bond would be issued.

Average Quilcene property value is near \$200,000. Tax rate of \$1.74/100k is \$348 annually and at 20 years, you will pay \$6960. Do you really want your money used for an ill-defined project with unspecified costs, no-control over expenditures, and loaded with frills? Give students the tools to be successful first. Frills can come at later. Tell the School Board to resubmit this Proposal with your no vote

Statement Against prepared by:

Roger Sorensen, 4rogersorensen@gmail.com, 541.460.3430

Rebuttal of Statement Against

59.4% said Yes to the QSD bond, a "landslide" just 5 votes short of the required 60%. Based on community response, limited election calendar dates and requests to act, the board chose to avoid inevitable inflationary price increases with this April vote. All costs are capped by the bond amount in this frills-free project which includes community participation in planning. *Vote Yes!* for safe, necessary and cost-cutting school improvements. Our kids deserve it.