

# Argument in Favor of Bond

Jordan School District is expected to grow by more than 9,251 students over the next five years, according to an independent consultant specializing in projected student enrollments. We look forward to the opportunity to provide those additional students with a quality education. Even considering the fact that some parents may opt to choose other educational forums, by law we must provide every child within our boundaries an available seat in district classrooms. That means we must find a way to house these almost 10,000 additional children who are coming.

As a result, we have scoured our schools to make effective use of every classroom, we have added portables to schools which are already filled to capacity, and we have changed boundaries more than 15 times. But the District has reached a tipping point. We need new schools. However, building schools in these growth areas is not something current taxes can address. Jordan District has chosen bonding to finance new school construction because bonding has the least financial impact on taxpayers. Our current bond proposal is a carefully targeted plan focused on only our district's fast-paced growth areas, as they have the most critical population growth which needs to be addressed immediately.

Certainly, other areas have needs which the Board of Education is attempting to address with current taxes, but because the need to build additional schools is becoming so dire, those tax dollars for necessary upgrades and remodels at existing schools cannot stretch far enough to cover the district demands. That is why the Board of Education has unanimously chosen to ask voters to approve bonding. Other available options cost more due to higher interest rates charged and construction inflation. Many have asked why we don't use impact fees. In Utah, impact fees are illegal for school districts to collect, although school districts are required to pay them.

If approved, this bond will pay for six new schools which includes a rebuild of the 60 year-old West Jordan Middle School for safety. With the addition of these schools, boundaries can be realigned across the district to balance enrollments and benefit all communities. Furthermore, monies which are currently being used to address impacts created by overcrowding and upkeep projects at West Jordan Middle will be rendered unnecessary by that school's rebuild, and those monies can be redirected to address needs at existing schools--which means that each community in Jordan School District will benefit from this bond.

The bond will require taxes for bond payments to increase \$16.80 per year on the average home of \$300,000. For the price of one large pizza a year, every child and community in this District will be better served. As bonds are paid, taxes for bond payments will go down each year.

We unanimously and unitedly encourage you to vote for this bond. Let's serve the current and future students, let's better our existing schools, let's keep taxes low, let's grow together.

## Jordan Board of Education

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## Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Bond

None submitted.

# Argument Against Bond

None submitted.

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None submitted.

## Official Notice of Public Meeting

On October 25, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Jordan Academy of Technology and Careers South located at 12723 South Park Avenue, Riverton, Utah 84065, the Board of Education will hold a public meeting and continue the Public Hearing began on September 27, 2016. On October 25th, arguments for and against the bond will be heard. All members of the public are invited to attend and participate in the public meeting and this continuation of the Public Hearing. Prior to the continued Public Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the Board, to the attention of the Business Administrator, 7387 S. Campus View Drive, West Jordan, Utah 84084.