On Tuesday, **Nov. 7, 2023**, the Jackson School District is seeking voter approval for a **Special Question** to add needed positions.

What is a Special Question?

In order for a district to fund a special need, project or addition to its budget that cannot be funded through the General Fund, a SPECIAL QUESTION for voter approval must be put on the ballot.

WHY are we seeking approval for this?

We have lost \$18 million in state aid and 214 positions over the past six years and are at a point where we cannot sustain the educational experience we strive to provide for our students without asking for additional staff. Class sizes have grown to undesirable levels, students' counseling and special education needs and substance abuse concerns are increasing - all while we have endured devastating funding losses and price increases. We are asking the Jackson Community to help us solve a problem we did not create, but that needs to be solved.



WHAT IS ON THE NOV. 7 BALLOT?

To raise an additional \$4,035,000 for the General Fund for 2023-2024. If approved by voters, funds would be used exclusively to add the following positions:

6 Guidance Counselors

- We are seeing disturbing increases in mental health concerns for students and we want to have better student-to-counselor ratios.
- 2 Student Assistance Counselors
- Needed for increases we are experiencing in substance abuse

8 Interventionist Teachers

- Additional interventionists are needed to identify and work with students who are struggling to help them reach their education goals.
- Adding these positions will allow us to enhance enrichment/G&T programs

10 Elementary Teachers and 12 Secondary Teachers

 Needed to reduce class sizes - research shows smaller class size increases academic performance.

4 Child Study Team Members

 Many of our special education students and families need special resources and accommodations that are managed by the CST Case Managers. The caseloads of our CST members are high.

4 ESL (English as a Second Language) Teachers

 Needed for drastic increase (59% last year alone, 150% in past 6 years) in ESL student population to meet their instructional needs

1 Nonpublic Student Coordinator and 1 Nonpublic Secretary

 These positions are needed to manage the processing of mandated grant funds (e.g. Title I) the district must distribute by law to support the needs of Jackson nonpublic students.

2023 Tax Year Impact Avg. home in Jackson = Assessed at \$330,688.
The 2023 Tax Year impact for this average homeowner would be:

\$96 year

IF approved, this would result in a permanent increase to the tax base.

We want to be sure ALL of Jackson can make an INFORMED DECISION

Public Forum Wednesday, Oct. 18

6:30 p.m. Fine Arts Center of Jackson Memorial High School (During BOE Meeting)

Online Q&A Wednesday, Nov. 1

6 p.m. - See Link Online

Invite Us Over!

Ask us to join your community group or your friends for coffee or a chat!

We can present information, or we can just listen and answer your questions.

If You'd Like Us to Come to You, or if You Have Questions:

Email: jsd@jacksonsd.org Call: 732-833-4618

- Tax Impact Calculator
- FAQ
- Voter Registration Info
- How to Vote In Person
- How to Vote By Mail
- Polling Places

Polls are Open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.





