

GARFIELD COUNTY

2011 COORDINATED ELECTION

Tuesday, November 1, 2011 • Mail Ballot Election Only

■ Ballots will be mailed to all Active Garfield County Voters between October 11 and October 16, 2011.

Check your voter status at www.govotecolorado.com

■ Inactive voters can reactivate and change an address if needed up to and including Election Day November 1, 2011

Contact the Garfield County Election Department at 970-384-3700 #2

■ Or e-mail elections@garfield-county.com for assistance

ATTENTION ELIGIBLE PROPERTY OWNERS

TO REQUEST A BALLOT AS A PROPERTY OWNER WHO RESIDES OUTSIDE OF THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR THE CARBONDALE & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT YOU MAY GO TO WWW.GARFIELD-COUNTY.COM HOMEPAGE FOR AN APPLICATION OR CONTACT THE GARFIELD COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT AT 970-384-3700 #2

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GLENWOOD SPGS, CO
PERMIT NO. 32



VOTE!
Garfield County Clerk & Recorder
JEAN ALBERICO
109 8th Street, Suite 200
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

2011 TABOR NOTICE:

INFORMATION ABOUT
LOCAL BALLOT ISSUES AND COORDINATED ELECTION

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE
OCTOBER 3, 2011
VERIFY AND UPDATE YOUR VOTER INFORMATION
IMMEDIATELY AT WWW.GOVOTECOLORADO.COM

PARTICIPATING ENTITIES IN THE 2011 COORDINATED ELECTION:

- DeBeque School District - Ballot Issue 3A
- Eagle County School District 50J - Ballot Issue 3B
- Garfield School District No. 16 - Ballot Issue 3D
- Garfield School District RE2 - Ballot Issue 3C
- Roaring Fork School District RE1 - Ballot Issue 3E
- Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District - Ballot Issue 4A

GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO NOTICE OF COORDINATED MAIL BALLOT ELECTION NOVEMBER 1, 2011

Election Date: Tuesday, November 1, 2011
Election Type: Mail Ballot Only
Election Hours: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Ballots will be mailed between October 11th and October 16th to all active registered voters. Eligible property owners residing outside the participating special district must request a property owner mail ballot from the Garfield County Election Department.

Voters who do not receive their ballots may request replacement ballots in person at the following Clerk and Recorder locations from October 11th through November 1st or by phone, fax, or e-mail. The last date to request that a ballot be mailed is October 25, 2011. After that date voters must appear in person at the County Clerk's office to request a ballot. Any voter may surrender their mail ballot and cast their vote on an ADA accessible electronic voting machine located at the Clerk's office in Glenwood Springs or Rifle during normal business hours and 7 am to 7 pm on Election Day.

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 5:00 pm 109 8th Street, Suite 200 Glenwood Springs, CO 970-384-3700 Option 2	Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 5:00 pm 144 E. 3rd Street Rifle, CO 970-625-0882
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If you will be away from home when the ballots are mailed out, please make a request for your mail ballot to be sent to an alternate address in writing. You must include your full name, date of birth, physical address, mailing address and your signature. Mail Ballot request forms are available by calling either of the County offices or online at www.garfield-county.com. The last day to request a Mail ballot be sent to an alternate mailing address is Tuesday, October 25, 2011.

Mail requests to: Garfield County Clerk and Recorder
109 8th Street, Suite 200
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
elections@garfield-county.com
Or
jalberico@garfield-county.com

E-mail:

Fax requests to: 970-947-1078

Return your ballot by mail with appropriate postage affixed (\$0.44 stamp) or you may hand deliver your ballot to one of the designated drop-office sites listed below. Remember postmarks do not count as a received date. Verify your voter registration information and track your ballot (sent and received) at www.govotecolorado.com.

Drop-off sites for voted ballots:

Garfield County Clerk & Recorder
109 8th Street, Suite 200
Glenwood Springs, CO
Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 5:00 pm*
*(Can Use Secure East Entrance
Monday – Friday 7:30 am – 5:30 pm)
Election Day Open 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

New Castle Town Hall
450 W. Main Street
New Castle, CO
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Including Election Day

Parachute Town Hall
222 Grand Valley Way
Parachute, CO
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Including Election Day

Questions: 970-384-3700 Option 2

Coordinated Election Official:

Rifle Branch Office
144 E. 3rd Street
Rifle, CO
Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Election Day Open 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

Silt Town Hall
231 N. 7th Street
Silt, CO
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Including Election Day

Carbondale Town Hall
511 Colorado Ave.
Carbondale, CO
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Including Election Day

Jean M. Alberico,
Garfield County Clerk & Recorder

GENERAL INFORMATION

This notice is provided to all households with registered voters in Garfield County and all eligible property owners who own property in the Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District but reside outside the boundaries of that district. This Tabor (Taxpayer Bill Of Rights) Notice is required by law to be sent to all registered voters and eligible property owners at least 30 days prior to an election with local issues, either initiated or referred which increases taxes or increases debt or are believed to require notice pursuant to Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution.

Receipt of this notice does not necessarily mean that any resident of your household is registered to vote. Furthermore, you may not be eligible to vote on all issues presented. Your voter registration address will determine which questions will be on your ballot.

DEBEQUE SCHOOL DISTRICT 49 JT IN THE COUNTIES OF MESA AND GARFIELD, STATE OF COLORADO NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

ELECTION DATE: NOVEMBER 1, 2011
ELECTION HOURS: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Local Election Office Address And Phone Number:
Designated Election Official: Kelly Cheney, Designated Election Official;
P.O. Box 70
DeBeque, Colorado 81630;
Telephone number (970) 283-5418
Coordinated Election Official: Jean M. Alberico, Garfield County Clerk and Recorder;
109 8th Street, Suite 200,
Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601;
Telephone number (970) 384-3700, Opt. 2

BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT:

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3A:

SHALL DEBEQUE SCHOOL DISTRICT 49 JT'S TAXES BE INCREASED \$350,000 ANNUALLY OR SUCH LESSER AMOUNT AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY ANNUALLY DETERMINE, FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED SIX (6) YEARS, BY THE COLLECTION OF ADDITIONAL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE 2011-2012 BUDGET YEAR AND FOR EACH OF THE FIVE SUCCESSIVE BUDGET YEARS THEREAFTER TO AND INCLUDING THE 2016-2017 BUDGET YEAR, FOR DEPOSIT IN THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- EXPANDING CURRICULUM AND COURSE OFFERINGS;
- PURCHASING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY NEEDED TO IMPROVE INSTRUCTIONAL QUALITY AND OPPORTUNITIES;
- MAINTAINING PROGRAMS AND ACCEPTABLE CLASS SIZES BY ELIMINATING THE NEED FOR FURTHER STAFF REDUCTIONS;
- MAINTAINING BUDGET LEVELS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT;
- PERFORMING DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND FUNDING NECESSARY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS; AND
- ELIMINATING THE NEED FOR FURTHER BUDGET REDUCTIONS;

WITH SUCH TAXES TO BE IN EXCESS OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES THAT WOULD BE PROVIDED BY THE GENERAL FUND MILL LEVY PERMITTED UNDER STATE LAW WITHOUT SUCH INCREASE AND, TOGETHER WITH REVENUES FROM SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAXES ATTRIBUTABLE THERETO AND THE EARNINGS ON SUCH TAXES AND REVENUES, TO CONSTITUTE VOTER APPROVED REVENUE AND SPENDING CHANGES UNDER, TO BE COLLECTED AND SPENT EACH YEAR WITHOUT LIMITATION BY THE REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITS OF, AND WITHOUT AFFECTING THE DISTRICT'S ABILITY TO COLLECT AND SPEND OTHER REVENUES OR FUNDS UNDER, ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

ACTUAL HISTORICAL AND CURRENT ESTIMATED FISCAL YEAR SPENDING INFORMATION:

YEAR	FISCAL YEAR SPENDING *
2007-2008 (ACTUAL)	\$2,972,399
2008-2009 (ACTUAL)	\$2,314,281
2009-2010 (ACTUAL)	\$2,144,450
2010-2011 (ESTIMATED)	\$1,865,855
2011-2012 (ESTIMATED)	\$2,126,692

*Does not include payments on bonded debt of: \$2,514,342 for the fiscal year ending 06/30/08; \$306,208 for the fiscal year ending 06/30/09; \$264,638 for the fiscal year ending 06/30/10; \$269,763 for the fiscal year ending 06/30/11; and \$262,250 for the fiscal year ending 06/30/12.

OVERALL PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR SPENDING OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD FROM 2007-2008 THROUGH 2011-12: 28%

OVERALL DOLLAR CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR SPENDING OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD FROM 2007-2008 THROUGH 2011-12: -\$845,707

ESTIMATED 2011-12 FISCAL YEAR SPENDING WITHOUT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY ANY BALLOT ISSUE: \$1,776,692

ESTIMATED 2011-12 TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY BALLOT ISSUES 3A: \$350,000

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS FOR BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3A:

Passing of the mill levy override would allow for: the expansion and maintenance of vocational and online educational opportunities; future state budget cuts; maintaining current staff and the addition of staff as it becomes necessary; building and vehicle maintenance; maintaining a K-12 educational system; the expansion of our technology program; and the basic day to day operation of the school district.

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS AGAINST BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3A:

No comments against the proposal were received by the constitutional deadline.



TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

EAGLE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE50J EAGLE, GARFIELD AND ROUTT COUNTIES, COLORADO NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

Election Date: Tuesday, November 1, 2011
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:
Designated Election Official: Melissa Ford, Designated Election Official;
P.O. Box 740,
Eagle, Colorado 81631;
Telephone number (970) 328-4805
Coordinated Election Official: Jean M. Alberico, Garfield County Clerk and Recorder;
109 8th Street, Suite 200,
Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601;
Telephone number (970) 384-3700, Opt. 2

Ballot Title and Text:

BALLOT ISSUE 3B:

SHALL EAGLE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE50J TAXES BE INCREASED NO MORE THAN \$6,000,000 ANNUALLY (THE MAXIMUM ADDITIONAL AMOUNT WHICH MAY BE COLLECTED IN ANY YEAR BEGINNING IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2012) OR \$1,000 MULTIPLIED TIMES THE FUNDED PUPIL COUNT (AS DEFINED IN 22-54-103, C.R.S.), WHICHEVER IS LESS; SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF THE TAX INCREASE BE USED FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES:

- MITIGATING STATE FUNDING CUTS
- RETAINING QUALITY TEACHERS
- CONTINUING NECESSARY CLASSROOM SUPPORT FOR ALL STUDENTS
- MINIMIZING REDUCTIONS IN EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, ARTS AND ATHLETICS
- REPLACING BUSES AND COMPUTERS THAT HAVE EXCEEDED THEIR USEFUL LIFESPAN
- MAINTAINING BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS; AND

SHALL SUCH TAX INCREASE BE IMPLEMENTED BY AN ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LEVY AUTHORIZED FOR THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22-54-108, C.R.S.; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND ALL REVENUES FROM SUCH TAXES AND THE EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

Total District Fiscal Year Spending

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2011-2012 (estimated)	\$69,105,938
2010-2011 (actual)	\$71,353,719
2009-2010 (actual)	\$75,155,231
2008-2009 (actual)	\$68,337,440
2007-2008 (actual)	\$67,881,827

Overall percentage change from 2007-2008 to 2011-2012: 1.80%
Overall dollar change from 2007-2008 to 2011-2012: \$1,224,111

Proposed Tax Increase
 District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2012-2013 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):
 BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3B: \$6,000,000
 District Estimate of 2012-2013 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increases: \$66,547,352

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 3B:

Eagle County is a great place to live and raise a family. A large part of the reason for this is that we have a great school system that prepares our students to compete in college or the job world. This solid backbone of our strong sense of community is at risk because of the 4 years of cuts in state funding to our schools. We will not be able to maintain our current high quality school system if we are forced to make additional cuts in 2012 and beyond, unless we come together this November to support Issue 3B, a mill levy override to add \$6 million of local revenues to our schools.

The proceeds of Issue 3B would be used for educational purposes and allow the District to 1) mitigate state funding cuts, 2) retain quality teachers, 3) continue necessary classroom support for all students, 4) minimize reductions in extracurricular activities, arts and athletics, 5) replace buses and computers that have exceeded their useful lifespan and 6) maintain buildings and grounds.

When it comes to attracting new companies and good paying jobs to our community, retaining and growing existing businesses, training our future workforce and strengthening our property values, strong-performing schools are not an option—they're a necessity.

With more than \$9 million already cut from the school district's budget over the past two years—and the inability to further rely on reserve funds—future cuts will mean cutting more classroom teachers and programs. It will mean dramatically increasing class size. It will mean losing quality teachers to Aspen, Summit and Front Range school districts. It will mean choosing between keeping outdated busses on the road or keeping teachers and manageable class sizes. It will also mean that our students are forced to use obsolete computers in the classroom.

Watch what happens to property values when neighborhood schools close. Watch what happens to property values when our school district can no longer offer a quality education. We'll lose an even greater number of young families, professionals and businesses, putting even more pressure on an already soft real estate market.

The monthly investment of \$1.58 per \$100,000 of a home's market value—about \$7.86 a month for a \$500,000 home—is a reasonable and fair investment given the significant benefits. And 100% of the monies stay within our school district. Not a dime goes to Denver. This is truly an opportunity to utilize our votes to show our support for Eagle County Schools and keep our school system strong, despite what the legislature may decide to do next year.

Our world is changing, jobs are evolving and our children face a new level of competition. Now is not the time to give up on our kids, our schools, our community and our future. Please join me in supporting Issue 3B, to keep Eagle County Schools strong and a great part of the lifestyle we all share.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 3B:

Don't be Fooled! Despite the deceptive language of this Mill Levy Override ballot proposal, this is a permanent PROPERTY TAX INCREASE!

- 1 - The Eagle County School District RE 50J is proposing a permanent Property TAX INCREASE titled Resolution 3B, Mill Levy override.
- 2 - NOTHING in the Ballot Language GUARANTEES that this additional tax money will be used to pay our teachers more money!
- 3 - The Eagle County School District currently has \$230 Million Dollars in long term School Bond Debt the taxpayer is currently responsible to pay off.
- 4 - Due to current Eagle County economic conditions families have been moving out of Eagle County to find work elsewhere. The number of students the School District is responsible to educate in Eagle County is reduced because of this fact.
- 5 - Your Property Taxes have increased, on average, at least 40% since 2007.



ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**GARFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-2
 GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO
 NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES
 ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

Election by Mail Ballot

Deadline for receipt of ballots: November 1, 2011 7:00 p.m.

Local election office address and phone number:

Designated Election Official: Sharon Donohoue, Designated Election Official; 839 Whiteriver Avenue, Rifle, Colorado 81650; Telephone number (970) 665-7605

Coordinated Election Official: Jean M. Alberico, Garfield County Clerk and Recorder; 109 8th Street, Suite 200, Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601; Telephone number (970) 384-3700, Opt. 2

Ballot title and text:

BALLOT ISSUE 3C

SHALL GARFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-2 TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$3 MILLION ANNUALLY (\$3,000,000) THROUGH A PROPERTY TAX OVERRIDE MILL LEVY IMPOSED AT A RATE SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED ABOVE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF, AMONG OTHER THINGS,

- ATTRACTING AND RETAINING QUALIFIED TEACHERS, AND PROVIDING STAFF FOR ESSENTIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS,
- MAINTAINING LOWER STUDENT TEACHER RATIOS THAN ARE OTHERWISE POSSIBLE DUE TO REDUCTIONS IN STATE FUNDING, AND
- ELIMINATING POTENTIAL SCHOOL CLOSURES THAT MAY BE NECESSARY DUE TO REDUCTIONS TO DATE IN STATE FUNDING,

WHICH TAXES SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE DISTRICT, SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTY TAXES THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE LEVIED FOR THE GENERAL FUND, AND SHALL CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Fiscal Year Spending¹</u>
2007-2008 (actual)	\$38,694,793
2008-2009 (actual)	40,459,767
2009-2010 (actual)	43,766,308
2010-2011 (actual)	39,718,143
2011-2012 (current year estimated)	36,993,518

¹ Fiscal year spending excludes amounts expended by the District for bonded debt service.

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2007-2008 through 2011-2012: (4.40)%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2007-2008 through 2011-2012: \$(1,701,275)

Estimated 2011-2012 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3C: \$36,993,518

Estimated 2011-2012 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3C: \$3,000,000

Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3C:

Due to the recession, revenue collections are down in the state budget, resulting in hundreds of millions cut from public school budgets over the last two years. During that time, Garfield Re-2's state per-student funding has been cut by \$2.9 million, or \$715 per student.

The reductions in state funding have forced Garfield Re-2 to operate at 2007-08 funding levels, while maintaining facilities and services at 2011-12 costs. Energy and fuel costs have increased. State mandated expenditures continue to mount, and supply costs continue to rise.

Over the last two years, Garfield Re-2 has taken many steps to continue providing quality education and student services as budgets are reduced. Some of those steps are:

- Eliminated 23 teaching, administrative and paraprofessional positions saving \$1.13 million;
· Increased class sizes for the 2011-12 school year to up to 25 students per classroom at the elementary level;
· Frozen salaries for the last three years;
· Eliminated summer school and only offering summer instruction through programs paid for by grants saving about \$47,000.

The Garfield Re-2 School Board is asking the voters to pass a mill levy override to replace funds lost from the state. This is locally generated revenue that stays locally. This money would help Garfield Re-2 continue providing educational services at current levels.

If local taxpayers vote to restore the \$2.9 million that the State has reduced from the District's budget, three things happen in the near future:

- Each school in Garfield Re-2 will remain distinct and separate, rather than being combined or consolidated;
· Garfield Re-2 will be able to keep and attract highly qualified teachers and staff members and continue to provide the current level of classes, athletic/activity opportunities, and academic programming at all grade levels;
· Garfield Re-2 will be able to keep the current level of teachers and staff to maintain smaller class sizes.

The proposed mill levy override would cost residential taxpayers \$18 per year on \$100,000 of assessed valuation (a \$300,000 home would cost \$54).

Local residents receive a great value for their money. Garfield Re-2 is the 32nd largest district of 178 Colorado school districts, while the mill levy rate is the 16th lowest in the state.

A yes vote on 3C means strong schools and strong communities!

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons

AGAINST Ballot Issue 3C:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.



ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

GARFIELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16
GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO
NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES
ON A REFERRED MEASURE

Election by Mail Ballot

Deadline for receipt of ballots: November 1, 2011 7:00 p.m.

Local election office address and phone number:

Designated Election Official: Marilyn Mondragon, Designated Election Official; P.O. Box 68, Parachute, Colorado 81635; Telephone number (970) 285-5701

Coordinated Election Official:

Jean M. Alberico, Garfield County Clerk and Recorder; 109 8th Street, Suite 200, Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601; Telephone number (970) 384-3700, Opt. 2

Ballot title and text:

BALLOT ISSUE 3D

SHALL GARFIELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16 TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$4,808,064 ANNUALLY (A PORTION OF WHICH INCREASE SUNSETS), FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES,

· \$1,204,026 OF ADDITIONAL TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION AS PERMITTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-54-108, C.R.S.,

· \$583,103 OF ADDITIONAL REVENUE AUTHORIZATION FOR FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN AS PERMITTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-54-108.5, C.R.S., AND

· \$3,020,935 OF SPECIAL BUILDING AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORIZATION (WHICH AUTHORIZATION IS FOR A LIMITED THREE-YEAR PERIOD, FOR COLLECTION IN 2012 THROUGH 2014, AND TERMINATES THEREAFTER) AS PERMITTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-40-102(1.5), C.R.S.,

THROUGH ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAXES LEVIED AT ANNUAL RATES SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE THE AMOUNTS SPECIFIED ABOVE (PROVIDED THAT THE RATE OF LEVY FOR THE SPECIAL BUILDING AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORIZATION SHALL IN NO EVENT EXCEED THREE MILLS), WHICH TAXES SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTY TAXES THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE LEVIED BY THE DISTRICT AND SHALL CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Fiscal Year Spending. Data includes 2007-2008 (actual) \$15,817,174, 2008-2009 (actual) 17,047,060, 2009-2010 (actual) 17,022,396, 2010-2011 (actual) 15,625,783, 2011-2012 (current year estimated) 14,938,358.

1 Fiscal year spending excludes amounts expended by the District for bonded debt service.

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2007-2008 through 2011-2012: (5.56)%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2007-2008 through 2011-2012: \$(878,816)

Estimated 2011-2012 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3D: \$14,938,358

Estimated 2011-2012 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3D: \$4,808,064

Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3D:

Please join me in supporting Issue 3D (mill levy override for Garfield 16) on this November's ballot to ensure that we are able to keep our schools strong, despite the decreased funding from the State of Colorado that has been declining drastically for the last 4 years.

Over the last 12 years, our school district's tax base has grown from less than \$80 Million to over \$2 Billion in 2009, due almost entirely to the value of natural gas drilling. Although the valuation will settle out around \$1.376 Billion for 2012, we still have a great resource to rely upon. Unfortunately, this growth has not increased revenues for the school district. What it has done is allow us to build nice facilities at low cost to taxpayers and also to have one of the lowest school mill levies in Colorado. In fact, at fewer than 8 mills total, Garfield 16 ranks third in the State for lowest school levy, out of 178 districts, with only Aspen and De Beque lower.

Unfortunately, this growth has not been able to assist the District with the cost of running schools and keeping good teachers and offering excellent educational opportunities. In fact, funding has declined by \$1.1 million dollars over the last few years, as a result of state cuts. To keep our schools open and running smoothly, we need to reverse the trend and put our local funds to work, with 94% of the cost covered by energy companies.

Issue 3D will provide much needed revenue to the district for operational needs, for retaining quality teachers, upgraded technology, and for making critical repairs and facility improvements to our school buildings. It will help to reduce the impact of future state funding cuts and allow us to keep our schools open and providing a high quality education. The cost is reasonable as well, with an impact of \$2.32 per month for each \$100,000 of your home's value. After 3 years, the largest piece of the authorization drops off, which will reduce the ongoing cost to 86 cents per month per \$100,000 of home value.

The District has tried to reduce the impact to parents and the impact of reduced property values when we pay our taxes next year. Passage of Issue 3D will allow the District to drop athletic and activity

fees to largely offset the tax impact of the mill levy override. Additionally, because home values have been appraised lower by the assessor's office, total tax bills are likely to drop in 2012, which will likely reduce the impact of Issue 3D.

I know that this is a tough time to ask for a tax increase, but the school district has studied the issue and put a reasonable proposal in front of voters. Please weigh the small cost against the potential property value loss to our homes if we are required to close schools and drop educational offerings due to decreased funding. Let's keep our schools moving forward!

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 3D:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.



ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**ROARING FORK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-1
GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES
ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

Election by Mail Ballot

Deadline for receipt of ballots: November 1, 2011 7:00 p.m.

Local election office address and phone number:

Designated Election Official: Cyndy Hallford, Designated Election Official;
1405 Grand Avenue,
Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601;
Telephone number (970) 384-6000
Jean M. Alberico,
Garfield County Clerk and Recorder;
109 8th Street, Suite 200,
Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601;
Telephone number (970) 384-3700, Opt. 2

Coordinated Election Official:

Ballot title and text:

BALLOT ISSUE 3E

SHALL ROARING FORK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-1 TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$4.8 MILLION ANNUALLY THROUGH A PROPERTY TAX OVERRIDE MILL LEVY IMPOSED AT A RATE SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED ABOVE, TO MITIGATE CURRENT AND FUTURE BUDGET CUTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING TO PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION THAT HELPS PREPARE STUDENTS FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL BY,

- PRESERVING SMALL CLASS SIZES,
- ATTRACTING AND RETAINING QUALITY STAFF,
- PROVIDING QUALITY TEXTS, TECHNOLOGY FOR LEARNING, AND MATERIALS, AND
- PRESERVING SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR KIDS,

WHICH TAXES SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE DISTRICT, SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTY TAXES THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE LEVIED FOR THE GENERAL FUND, AND SHALL CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

Year	Fiscal Year Spending¹
2007-2008 (actual)	\$50,694,053
2008-2009 (actual)	51,326,430
2009-2010 (actual)	53,617,465
2010-2011 (actual)	50,832,776
2011-2012 (current year estimated)	49,407,071

¹Fiscal year spending includes amounts expended by the District for bonded debt service.

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2007-2008 through 2011-2012: (2.54)%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2007-2008 through 2011-2012: \$(1,286,982)

Estimated 2011-2012 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3E: \$49,407,071

Estimated 2011-2012 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3E: \$4,800,000

Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3E:

The children in the Roaring Fork School District are an investment in our community's future. Strong schools create educated citizens, students prepared for college or the workforce, increased property values and vital communities. A yes vote on 3E will restore essential funding to:

- Preserve small class size
- Prevent more teacher's jobs from being eliminated
- Attract and retain quality staff
- Provide up to date textbooks, technology and learning tools
- Maintain our facilities

A yes vote on 3E will allow us to maintain the level of education that makes our students competitive with some of the best school districts in the state, with no increase in residential property taxes. Without these funds, we are concerned that we may no longer be able to maintain a quality education for our children.

The passage of Ballot Issue 3E will restore \$4.8 million of the \$5.1 million reduction in state funding. Overall, RFSD property taxes will drop almost \$9 million due to lower property values. The district is asking to keep \$4.8 million of this decrease in taxes in order to preserve strong schools in our communities and restore a portion of the funding reductions from the state. The district has already eliminated 80 full and part time positions including teachers, and support staff from the district office, custodial, maintenance, health services, technology, and transportation. Additional cuts were made to school and district supply and/or materials budgets, staff development, and a number of athletic programs were eliminated or consolidated. Instructional days for students were reduced by two. Staff salaries have been frozen for the past three years and for 2011-2012, salaries have been reduced for all staff.

Because of state law, a mill levy override is the only means by which local voters can support the need for restoring lost funding from the state. Our funding from the state, already very low when compared with other states, has dramatically decreased over the last two years. During the two years of budget cuts, the district made a decision to keep those cuts as far from classrooms as possible. They also made a decision not to go to the voters for more money until they absolutely had no other choice. Because of this philosophy, and looking to the dismal future of funding for education in Colorado, if 3E does not pass, the district's only choices for further budget cuts will impact our children in many ways. Large class sizes, the loss of experienced teachers, outdated materials and facilities that won't receive the care and maintenance needed are only the beginning. Other areas that will be impacted will include transportation, programs involving the arts and athletics, college prep courses and student instructional time. An economic downturn should not be allowed to have a life-long impact on our children.

Please vote yes on Ballot Issue 3E and show that we as a community will rally to support and value the best possible education for our kids.

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 3E:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.



ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**CARBONDALE & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
GARFIELD, GUNNISON AND PITKIN COUNTIES, COLORADO
NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES
ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

Election by Mail Ballot

Deadline for receipt of ballots: November 1, 2011 7:00 p.m.

Local election office address and phone number:

Designated Election Official: Jenny Cutright, Designated Election Official;
300 Meadowood Drive,
Carbondale, Colorado 81623;
Telephone number (970) 963-2491
Jean M. Alberico,
Garfield County Clerk and Recorder;
109 8th Street, Suite 200,
Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601;
Telephone number (970) 384-3700, Opt. 2

Coordinated Election Official:

Ballot title and text: 4A

CARBONDALE & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION 4A

SHALL CARBONDALE & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$775,236 ANNUALLY FOR A LIMITED TWO YEAR PERIOD, BEGINNING IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2012, CONTINUING EACH YEAR THROUGH TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2013 AND TERMINATING THEREAFTER, WITH SUCH INCREASE TO BE DEPOSITED IN THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE COSTS OF, AMONG OTHER THINGS: MAINTAINING CURRENT LEVELS OF ESSENTIAL FIRE FIGHTING AND PARAMEDIC SERVICES BY AN ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX TO BE LEVIED AT A RATE SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE \$775,236 (SUCH MILL LEVY TO BE IN ADDITION TO THE MILL LEVY CURRENTLY IMPOSED BY THE DISTRICT) AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND AUTHORIZATION TO EXCEED THE LIMITATION CONTAINED IN SECTION 29-1-301 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES?

ACTUAL HISTORICAL AND CURRENT ESTIMATED FISCAL YEAR SPENDING INFORMATION:

Fiscal Year	
2007 (actual)	\$ 5,602,828
2008 (actual)	\$ 3,529,954
2009 (actual)	\$ 3,531,906
2010 (actual)	\$ 3,502,164
2011 (estimated)	\$ 3,923,613

Overall Percentage Change In Fiscal Year Spending Over the 5 Year Period from 2007 through 2011: -30%

Overall Dollar Change To Fiscal Year Spending Over the 5 Year Period From 2007 through 2011: -\$1,679,215

Estimated First Full Fiscal Year Maximum Dollar Amount of Increase for Ballot Question 4A: \$775,236

Estimated 2012 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$3,225,023

Summaries of Written Comments Filed With the Election Officer for Ballot Question 4A:

The Purpose of this Ballot Question is to allow the Fire District to preserve its property tax revenues at 2011 levels to continue to rapidly respond to medical emergencies, wildfires, rescue calls and building fires 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

What happens without this mill levy override?

- Fire District revenue will be reduced by \$775,000.
- The Fire District will cut 25% of paid staff (\$400,000)
- Training and Programs will be reduced (\$375,000)
- Medical Services will be reduced – immediate response of fully certified paramedic services will not be sustainable on all shifts.
- Fire insurance premiums will be increased.

The Situation: Falling property values will have an impact on your Fire District. Since the last property tax assessment in 2008 property values have fallen 28%. The primary revenue source for your Fire District is property tax. With the 2010 property tax reassessment the Fire District calculates a \$775,000 loss of revenue. The entire Fire District budget is only \$3,000,000 annually.

Maintaining the Existing Fire District Budget: Voting yes on this question will allow the Fire District to maintain its existing budget, not increase it, not lower it, just maintain it.

Your Taxes: In 2012 property tax bills will reflect 2010's lower assessments and as a result your property tax bill will be lower than last year. The Fire District is only a small portion of your overall property tax bill.

Override of the Tax Reduction for your Fire District: The Fire District is asking voters to forgo the reduction in their taxes for the Fire District portion only. The amount of property tax reduction that an owner will forgo equals \$14 per year for every \$100,000 of property valuation.

Two-Year Request Only: The Fire District is requesting this mill levy override for 2012 and 2013 only. The reason for this request of two-years is due to the uncertainty of the economy.

Fire District Facts:

- 1,100 Emergency Calls in 2010
- 325 square mile district and a permanent population of 15,000
- 6 Fire Stations
- 4 Advanced Life Support Ambulances
- 12 Fire Trucks
- 95 personnel – 75 volunteers and 20 paid staff

- Fire and Ambulance Services
- 6,138 volunteer hours annually
- 9,000 hours of training annually (medical and fire)
- 29 cardiac calls in 2010
- The Fire District has Fully Certified Paramedic level response 24/7
- 900 hours of training is required for each Fully Certified Paramedic
- Average turn-out time for ambulance is 4-minutes
- Fire insurance for property owners is based on the Fire District's ability to respond calls for service. Currently in our Fire District, our fire insurance rating is low, which means lower fire insurance premiums.

Please Vote "Yes" for Ballot Question 4A

Summaries of Written Comments Filed With the Election Officer Against Ballot Question 4A:

No comments were filed by the statutory deadline.

■ I, Jean Alberico, Garfield County Clerk & Recorder certify that the information contained in this notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide pro and con summaries and fiscal information about ballot issues. The ballot issue notice is complete as submitted by the political subdivisions participating in this election.

■ You might wonder, why is Garfield County sending a Tabor Notice for the 2011 Coordinated Election when I don't live in that county? The Garfield County Assessor's records indicate that someone in your household is a property owner and eligible to vote on the Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District ballot issue. You will not automatically be sent a ballot. You must request a property owner ballot in order to vote on this ballot issue.

Some households may receive more than one of these Tabor Notices from Garfield County or an additional notice from another county because a member of your household might be a registered voter in Garfield County and own property in a special district that you don't reside in. A ballot will be mailed with all applicable questions for the address where you are registered to vote. However, if you want a property owner ballot, you must request a property owner ballot from the County Clerk's office where your property is located.

An application for a property owner ballot is available on the Garfield County website homepage at www.garfield-county.com or contact the Garfield County Election Department at 970-384-3700#2. The last day a ballot can be mailed is Tuesday, Oct 25, 2011. Ballots may be obtained in person at the County Clerk's office after that date during normal business hours and 7 am to 7 pm on Election Day, Tuesday November 1, 2011.

- NOTES -