

Ballot Issue 3A



Greeley-Evans
WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 6

2016 Ballot Issue 3A Fact Sheet

For more than two decades, state budget cuts have shifted the financial support of school districts and has forced school districts to seek local funding. After years of local cuts, including a substantial decrease in administrative cuts, funding has become crucial. District 6 is the largest school district in Colorado without a mill levy override to collect additional property taxes above what is allowed by the state. Wages for support staff have fallen below market value, and crucial positions cannot be filled. Maintaining wages for teachers and administrators is no longer possible. Class sizes have grown.

In November 2015, the Board of Education asked Superintendent Dr. Deirdre Pilch to explore a ballot measure for November 2016. After official polling showed positive support for a ballot measure, a Citizens Advisory Committee was convened in March, with more than 30 members representing parents, teachers, business leaders, administrators and community members. This group studied the needs of District 6 in areas such as staffing, curriculum, technology and transportation. Other public input from public forums, an online survey and telephone town hall was also gathered.

In June 2016, the board gathered all the public input, and voted to place a 10.34 mills, or approximately \$12 million, mill levy override on the November 2016 ballot. The issue is now known as 3A. Here is what additional revenue from the Ballot Issue 3A would fund:

- **\$3 million to retain and recruit quality staff:**
 - \$2 million to bring support staff salaries up to minimum market pay
 - \$1 million to maintain competitive salaries and retain teachers; maintain class size
- **\$2 million for safety and security:**
 - Monitoring cameras at high schools
 - Critical maintenance and repairs, including school buses
- **\$4.2 million for personalized learning and increasing student achievement:**
 - Upgrade technology infrastructure and replace old computers
 - Expand blended learning
 - Replace and update learning materials, textbooks and online content
 - Increase support for all learners
 - Expand summer school
 - College and career readiness
 - College courses while still in high school
 - Expand career shadowing and internship experiences
- **\$2.8 million to fund charter school priorities:**
 - Charter schools will receive an equal share on a per pupil basis
 - All charter schools have agreed to participate in the mill levy override and have submitted written plans for how they would use the money

The mill levy override will also sunset, or end, in 2022. District 6 has committed to complete transparency to monitor spending of the additional revenues from the mill levy override, and will establish a dedicated page on its website to listing expenditures associated with this revenue source.