

2016 BOND & DISTRICT FACTS

- ◆ St. Vrain Valley Schools' annual enrollment is increasing significantly each year, with total enrollment currently exceeding 32,000 PK-12 students. It is projected that more than half of the district's school buildings will be operating beyond capacity within the next five years. This includes some schools that would be operating at more than 140 percent capacity.
- ◆ The bond measure would fund the following facility needs:
 - Additional classrooms, science labs and other instructional space to address student enrollment growth in schools district-wide
 - Construction of three new schools in areas with rapid enrollment growth
 - A districtwide Innovation Center located in Longmont to further enhance core programs and curriculum, including the district's science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) program
 - School safety and security improvements, including the installation of interior and exterior security cameras at elementary schools districtwide and improvements to the entrances of numerous elementary school buildings
 - Replacement of outdated heating, ventilation and air conditioning, electrical systems, roofing, plumbing, doors and hardware to extend the useful life of existing school buildings and improve energy efficiency
- ◆ Approximately 68 percent of the bond funds would go toward providing additional classroom space. The remaining 32 percent of the funds would address school safety and security upgrades, repairs and renovations to existing school facilities.
- ◆ The District Finance and Audit Committee, comprised of financial professionals from local businesses, will provide ongoing review and assessment of the projects.
- ◆ The last time St. Vrain Valley Schools asked voters to fund school building improvements was in 2008. These bond projects were completed in a timely manner and within budget.
- ◆ Over 95 percent of K-12 aged children living in the St. Vrain Valley attend a public school.
- ◆ St. Vrain Valley Schools is comprised of 55 schools, including: 23 Elementary, 8 Middle, 1 Middle/Senior, 9 High School Programs, 1 K-8, 1 PK-8, 1 Spark! Discovery Preschool, 3 Homeschool Enrichment Programs, 1 Main Street Special Education Center, 1 Career Development Center and 6 Charter Schools.
- ◆ Since 2010, St. Vrain Valley Schools has refinanced bonds to lower interest rates, saving taxpayers more than \$32 million over the life of the bonds. Bond spending is overseen by a public accountability committee that includes members of the community and district administration.

PEOPLE WHO OPPOSE THIS BOND MEASURE SAY:

- We can just increase class sizes to accommodate new growth.
- The community needs to explore more options to create additional capacity to accommodate continued enrollment growth that would not involve building new schools.
- Property values are going up in our area, resulting in higher property taxes. With the passage of this bond, our taxes will be even higher.
- The district seems to be enjoying a lot of success with their current level of resources, so they do not need more.
- Schools should be fully funded by the state, not by local property taxes.