

TO THE VOTERS OF THE DISTRICT

On **Tuesday, September 13, 2005** the voters of Saddle Mountain Unified School District No. 90 ("District") will have the opportunity to help decide the level of expenditures in the District. Arizona law places some restrictions on how much a school district may increase its expenditures from one year to the next without procuring explicit approval of the District's voters in an election. Your task will be to indicate whether you think the District should operate within these limitations or be allowed to spend the additional amounts proposed.

Please note that if the special override election increase is approved, the increase will be added to school district budgets for the number of subsequent years as specified on the ballot.

Please study carefully the materials contained in this booklet so you will be ready to exercise your right to vote in an informed manner.

Sincerely,
SANDRA E. DOWLING, Ed.D. Superintendent
Maricopa County Schools

(Information Pamphlet publication is mandated by Arizona Revised Statutes, Sections 15-481. School districts are mandated to distribute information pamphlets to all households within the district in which a qualified elector resides.)

**SADDLE MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 90
K-3 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION
BUDGET OVERRIDE
ELECTION SEPTEMBER 13, 2005**

AMOUNT OF PROPOSED OVERRIDE: \$194,397

PURPOSE OF PROPOSED OVERRIDE:

The Governing Board of the Saddle Mountain Unified School District No. 90 called for a special override election to be held on September 13, 2005, to request voter authorization to exceed the District's revenue control limit to fund special programs designed to improve the academic achievement of low achieving pupils in Kindergarten through Third Grade. The ballot question will seek authority for the District to exceed its revenue control limit specified by statute by 5% of the revenue control limit attributable to weighted student count in preschool programs for children with disabilities, kindergarten programs and grades one through eight. The proposed increase will be in effect for a period of seven (7) years. **Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded from a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the District.**

The average cost to an owner of a home with a full cash value of \$80,344 would be approximately \$1.84 per year.

The proposed override monies will fund special programs designed to improve the academic achievement of low achieving pupils in kindergarten and grades one through three. The program to be funded with the override funds in the first year is:

- Full day kindergarten

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ASSESSED VALUATION AND ESTIMATED AMOUNTS

OF SECONDARY TAX BILLS PER A.R.S. § 15-481(B)(11)

Current 2005-2006 Aggregate Budget	\$4,428,747
Proposed 2006-2007 Alternate Aggregate Budget without budget override (a)	\$4,499,224
Proposed 2006-2007 Aggregate Budget with budget override (a)	\$4,693,621
Estimated Kindergarten through Third Grade Budget Override	\$194,397
Estimated Secondary Assessed Valuation (b)	\$847,554,222
Estimated Tax Rate Increase per \$100 of Secondary Assessed Valuation (c)	\$0.0229

	<u>Full Cash Value</u>	<u>Assessment Ratio</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>	<u>Override Tax Rate Increase (c)</u>	<u>Tax Amount</u>
A.R.S. § 15-481(8)(11)					
The assessed valuation and the estimated amount of the secondary tax bill if the proposed budget is adopted for each of the following:					
(a) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the average assessed valuation of property classified as class three for the current year in the school district	\$80,344	10%	\$8,034	\$0.229	\$1.84
(b) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half of the assessed valuation of the residence set forth in paragraph (a) above	\$40,172	10%	\$4,017	\$0.0229	\$0.92
(c) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the assessed valuation of the residence set forth in paragraph (a) above	\$160,689	10%	\$16,069	\$0.0229	\$3.69
(d) A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed valuation of property classified as class one for the current year in the school district.	\$548,404	25%	\$137,101	\$0.0229	\$31.45

(a) The proposed 2006-2007 budget represents the District's best estimate based on various assumptions relating to student growth and other factors affecting revenues and expenditures. The alternate budget will be adopted if the override is not approved. In adopting such budget, the Governing Board shall follow the procedures prescribed in A.R.S. Section 15-905 for adopting a budget that does not include any proposed increases not approved at the election.

(b) Estimate provided by the District

(c) Tax rate per \$100 of secondary assessed valuation required to fund proposed override amount of \$194,397.

**ARGUMENTS FOR THE SADDLE MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 90
K-3 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION
BUDGET OVERRIDE ELECTION**

Arguments represent the opinion of the Author(s)

The highest priority of the Saddle Mountain Unified School District is to promote an excellent education for all students. Currently the District funds full day kindergarten through the Maintenance and Operations budget. The District will not qualify for full day funding through the state until the 2009 Fiscal Year, due to the percentage of students participating in the free/reduced lunch program. If this override is approved, there will be very little change in taxes.

Passage of the override election would:

> Fund Full Day Kindergarten

A YES vote will continue this community's desire for quality education
In the event the override is not approved, the elimination, reduction or redesign of the following may result:

> Student/Teacher ratio - larger class sizes

Please support OUR children with a YES vote.

GOVERNING BOARD - SADDLE MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 90

Ann Hollenstein, President
Dan Blackson, Member
Gary Burton, Member
Kenneth Blackson, Member
Kathy Torres, Member

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE
SADDLE MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 90
K-3 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION
BUDGET OVERRIDE ELECTION**

(None were submitted)

BALLOT FORMAT / SAMPLE BALLOT
SADDLE MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 90
SPECIAL ELECTION SEPTEMBER 13, 2005
COUNTY OF MARICOPA STATE OF ARIZONA

QUESTION

Shall the Governing Board of Saddle Mountain Unified School District No. 90 of Maricopa County, Arizona, adopt a budget which exceeds the District's revenue control limit specified by statute by five percent for fiscal year 2006-2007 and for six subsequent years as described below, in order to fund special improvement programs for students in kindergarten through third grade?

The amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget for fiscal year 2006-2007 is estimated to be approximately \$194,397. In fiscal years 2006-2007 through 2010-2011 the amount of the proposed increase will be five percent of the District's revenue control limit attributable to the weighted student count in preschool programs for children with disabilities, kindergarten programs and grades one (1) through eight (8) in each of such years, as provided in Section 15-481 (Q) of the Arizona Revised Statutes. In fiscal years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 the amount of the proposed increase will be three and one-third percent and one and two-thirds percent, respectively, of the District's revenue control limit in each of such years, as provided in Section 15-481 (Q) of the Arizona Revised Statutes.

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within this school district for the year for which adopted and for six subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in Article IX, Section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on an estimate of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, the portion of the proposed increase in the school district's budget over that allowed by law which will be funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within this school district would result in an estimated increase in the school district's tax rate of \$0.0229 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate that will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

BUDGET INCREASE, YES <

BUDGET INCREASE, NO <

GENERAL VOTING INFORMATION

A special election will be held in Saddle Mountain Unified School District No. 90 of Maricopa County, Arizona, on September 13, 2005. The electors residing within the following County election precincts will vote at the polling place indicated on the back of this pamphlet

Polling place maps and driving directions can be found on the Internet at the following site:
<http://recorder.maricopa.gov/PollingPlace/Select.asp>

POLLING PLACE

#1 Ruth Fisher Elementary School
38201 W Indian School Rd
Tonopah, AZ 85354

PRECINCT

0224 MARTIN
0365 HARQUAHALA
0937 TONOPAH
0948 TUTHILL
1009 SALOME
1019 WHITE TANK

VOTER INFORMATION

1. Any voter may be accompanied into the voting booth by a person of their choice for the purpose of assisting in casting their ballot.
2. Sample ballots may be brought to the voting place and may be taken into the voting booth on the day of the elections.
3. Any qualified voter who at 7:00 p.m. is in the line of waiting voters shall be allowed to prepare and cast their ballot.
4. The polls are open on election day from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

QUALIFICATIONS TO VOTE

In order to vote in this Special Election, you must have been registered in a precinct within the boundaries of the school district on or before midnight, Monday, August 15, 2005. If you do not know if you are qualified to vote, you should contact the Maricopa County Recorder's Office at (602) 506-1511.

For information about voting assistance for voters with disabilities
please call: 602-506-1511 or 602-506-2348 (TDD)

EARLY VOTING

Individuals who are eligible to vote in this election and who wish to vote an early ballot in person may appear at any of the County Recorder Offices located at 111 S. 3rd Ave., 510 S. 3rd Ave., Phoenix, or 222 E. Javelina, Mesa, beginning **Thursday, August 11, 2005**. In person voting can be done until 5:00 p.m. on **September 9, 2005** the Friday prior to the election.

Requests for a mail ballot can be made by calling the Maricopa County Elections Department at 602-506-1511 or 602-506-2348 (TOO). Written requests may be sent to the Maricopa County Elections Department, P.O. Box 2681, Phoenix, 85036-0681 and Internet requests can be made at the following site: (<http://recorder.maricopa.gov/absentee.htm>). **Written, Phone or Internet requests must be received by the Office of the County Recorder no later than 5:00 p.m., on the second Friday preceding the election (September 2, 2005). Written requests should include:**

- 1) Name and residence address;
- 2) Birthdate;
- 3) Election for which the ballot is requested;
- 4) Address where the ballot is to be mailed if different than residence address; 5) Signature of requestor;

In order to be valid and counted, the mailed ballot and Affidavit must be received by the Office of the County Recorder or other officer in charge of elections or deposited at any polling place in the county no later than 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, **September 13, 2005**.